December 18, 1951

Dr. Jean Dufrency U. Calif., College of Phæmaay San Francisco 22, California

Dear Dr. Dufrenoy:

Your paper with Dr. Pratt on cepharantine (J. Bact. 59:310-311) was recalled to my attention recently. The morphogenetic effect on E. coli is of some interest, because we have encountered the vesicular forms in a pleomorphic E. coli which we are studying for the possible genetic implications.

I realize that you quote a commercial source in Japan, but I wonder if I can still ask the favor of a small sample (10-20 mg) for some preliminary experiments. If you can give me any further information that would facilitate securing this alkaloid through commercial channels, I would appreciate this too.

Has this study been continued beyond the cited note?

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg Associate Frofessor of Genetics

P.S. Have youbtried staining the vesicles with tetrazolium? The vesicles of our strain give a very interesting picture.