

Central Public Health Laboratory,
Colindale Avenue,
London, N.W.9.

22 February 1958

Dear Josh,

Thank you for your recent letter. I am most grateful for the various efforts which you are making on my behalf. I have, for the present, decided not to proceed any further with the Kansas appointment.

Since my last letter to you I have had a letter from Dr. Morris Shaffer of Tulane. He writes that he is trying to obtain funds to open some research and teaching programmes in enteric bacteriology and that he wonders whether I might be interested. Although he does not provide much detail - I have written to ask for more - there are some attractive facets to the appointment. Against this, however, must be set the fact that neither Helen nor myself have a great desire to settle in the south.

There is one insertion to be made in the curriculum vitae which you sent. The date 1945 should be put after the MRCS, LRCP entry. Does one include 'in press' papers on these things? If so, there should be entered 'A new phage type of Salm. paratyphi B responsible for a large outbreak of food-poisoning' Mon. Bull. Min. Hlth. I was rather interested to see this curriculum because the term was virtually unknown to me until very recently - it is not used in England - and I was wondering just what one was supposed to put in them.

I have an interesting little phage problem at the moment. It has arisen out of purely routine international reference work. There is a new typhi type determining (converting) phage serologically indistinguishable from one of the earliest described (dl) but it has the interesting property of determining two different Vi-phage resistance patterns in a lysogenised host depending on the temperature. At present I am trying to define the critical temperature region closely but it appears to lie between 36° and 39°. Until I have this more clearly worked out I cannot go on to trying to elucidate the possible mechanisms involved.

Best wishes to Esther and yourself from Helen,

Yours sincerely,

A Leck