

June 15, 1953

Dear Bill:

Thanked very much for your letter and the ms. (returned herewith). The details are very helpful in programming our work.

Could I press you anbit further on just one point. The published details (table V) would support the idea that the typing phages are related to XII, very much like our own PLT-22. But the text mentions that cultures in two other somatic groups have also been found to be susceptible. Could you give me the details on this? (They might also strengthen your argument on the irrelevance of V to the typing).

Do you suppose there is any possibility of categorizing PLT-22 as related to one of the typing phages, or using it for further subdivision, despite its ultimate origin from typhimurium? (On the chance of evoking your interest, I'll send you a sample of PLT-22, adapted to and grown on PB SW-666 [Jersey], which you can toss out if you'd as soon not bother).

Your Thomastille-TM phage is probably very similar to PLT-22, and has a transducing efficiency similar to the latter (according to L.S. Baron). In view of the similarity in host ranges, I'll probably not go into this one, but some of the others might be very useful indeed.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

Dr. W. B. Cherry
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Chamblee, Ga.

P.S. Could you give me a word about the heat stability of the phages?