

THE WALTER AND ELIZA HALL INSTITUTE
OF
MEDICAL RESEARCH

DIRECTOR
SIR MACFARLANE BURNET F.R.S.

C/o ROYAL MELBOURNE
HOSPITAL POST OFFICE,
MELBOURNE,
VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

26th February, 1958.

Professor Joshua Lederberg,
Genetics Building
Department of Medical Genetics,
School of Medicine,
University of Wisconsin,
MADISON 6.

Dear Joshua,

Your letter of February 18 arrived this morning and both Gordon and I think it extremely kind of you to remember our needs and problems. We are trying out Feldman's medium right away although I have tried previously a very similar formula without result. We are still considerably hampered by the high base level in the medium we have been using so if we can make this work it will help us a lot. I am enclosing a reprint of our note published last June. We have your suggestion for chemically defined inducers very much in mind and Dr. Gottschalk is preparing for his own work some synthetic neuraminic acid derivatives and has kindly offered to make small quantities of these available to us. Also we are pushing on with the identification of the active factor in bovine colostrum.

From a large batch of crude RDE Gordon Ada has succeeded in obtaining a preparation which has two components, the greater of which is inactive. He is hoping to get rid of this fraction and then perhaps he will be able to crystallize the enzyme.

I am most upset that you have not apparently received the ampoules of RDE which I despatched to you last December. There is a likelihood the parcel was sent surface mail and it may yet turn up. In any case I am sending you forthwith by registered air mail two more ampoules each containing 100,000 units of RDE. I hope these arrive and the enzyme is of use to you. Please let me know if you require any more.

With kindest regards and best wishes to you and again many thanks for your interest in our problem.

Sincerely yours,



ERIC L. FRENCH.

Enc.