

November 6, 1958

Dr. Philip D. McMaster  
Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research  
66th and York  
New York 21, New York

Dear Dr. McMaster:

I have been attempting a genetic approach to hypotheses of antibody formation and induced tolerance and of course the problem of persistence of antigens is important. Could you spare reprints of your papers dealing with this question? I have read one account of long persistence of antigenic material in the liver of mice and rabbits; have I overlooked comparable trials on persistence in other tissues such as the spleen and lymph nodes, investigated by similar immunological techniques?

The main point is to justify the assertion that the maintenance of immune tolerance requires unexpectedly long persistence of the antigen (cf enclosure). Dr. Richard Smith's recent paper in J. Exp. Med. is most encouraging.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Medical Genetics

Enc: 78A  
JL/jp

McMASTER, P. D.