

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

VIRUS LABORATORY
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

January 11, 1957

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Many thanks for your comments on our manuscript. Unfortunately, I had already sent our article to J. Bact.; it was almost ready to go when you visited. You may receive it as a referee, and I see no harm in that. Your comments are well taken: I shall insert modifications along the lines you suggest the next time the paper comes into my hands. However, I do wish to publish at this time. The paper is quite lengthy as it stands, and contains a lot of new information on the effects of penicillin, most of which strengthens the arguments supported by your work; i.e., that the primary lethal action is to damage cell barriers, rather than by attack on protein or nucleic acid metabolism, etc., as previously suggested by others. The next problems--the exact barrier attacked, and by what means--will require considerable time and effort to elucidate. I think my statements in the paper make it clear that I believe this problem is not settled, and I see no harm in other people being aware of this uncertainty until it is resolved.

It was a real pleasure to talk with you and Mrs. Lederberg, and I hope the opportunity to do so again will arise in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur B. Pardee

Arthur B. Pardee

ABP/ma

PARDEE, A.B.