

August 30, 1955

Professor Sydney D. Rubbo
School of Microbiology
University of Melbourne
Vic., Australia

Dear Syd:

Thank you for your letter of the 11th. Our reply is unfortunately delayed, as we were visiting Denver. I showed your letter (in part) to Gardner Middlebrook, by the way, and he was enthusiastically excited. He considered that some of the derivatives you had worked on should, theoretically, not lead to the development of resistant strains (presumably by their peroxide-stability); I anticipate he would be disappointed. He may possibly write you further.

As to visiting Australia in '57, Esther and I think this would be a fine idea. June-September is OK too. We are primarily concerned about recouping our travel expense. If possible, we probably would like to fly one way, sail the other, but this need not be gone into now. If I remember correctly, you were willing to promise that we could get satisfactory housing. The answer to all your questions, a, b, and c is "yes". As you will understand, this is not a definite commitment, as other plans might supervene, but I do not think we are misleading you in encouraging you to proceed with the application formalities.

In regard to a program, in addition to any reasonable schedule of lectures, do you think the following would be feasible to present to the Foundation. I have had no experience in animal virus work myself, but have followed Burnet's studies with very deep interest. You mentioned him as co-sponsor. On the research side, would be possible for me to work at the Hall Institute, if the genetic studies on flu are continuing? For Esther's part, she would probably prefer to join your work on yeast over trying to transport her program here.

We will get off the cultures you asked for pdq.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg

P.S. The numbers are:

"58-161" F+	W-6
F-	W-2163
Y-10 F-	Y-10* W-1802
W-677 F-	W-677

P.P.S. Esther ~~asks~~ reminds me to ask you what other lines of work may be going on in your department that may be an appropriate basis for her possible application for fellowships here.