

NOV 10 1969

DATE:

To : Dean Glaser

FROM : *Joshua Lederberg*

SUBJECT: Science Policy/ Health

Note, e.g., the myth promulgated and accepted by Repr. Flood that 20 years of strong NIH research has now given us all we need to know; now we need merely "deliver the services".

In fact we are ignorant everywhere.

My own greatest alarm concerns viruses -- both as sources of new lethal pandemics, and the slowness of our vaccines.

We are fumbling in our reactions to environmental deterioration. \*

We are on the verge of important insights into the etiology of leukemia.

Nutrition is still a demi-science.

Do we understand drug-reactions well enough to put drugs in the hands of paramedics even less well trained than our present MD's?

Mental health.....

\* additives; lead, nickel, smog from exhausts;  
 cardiovascular disease etiology  
 sources of allergic disease (it is not just a coincidence that this is becoming everyone's nuisance problem, and  
 water pollution -- nitrates -> <sup>worse...</sup> nitrosamines (as carcinogens).  
 what are proper standards of radiation health? pesticide exposure?  
 every new and most existing technology is grossly under-known.