MH13 P1

Aug 29-35

Dear Michael —

I have read with absorbing interest the paper you were good enough to send me — The work is excellent, bristles with ideas, and is clearly presented — The new concepts cannot, I believe, be had only as a result of your methods of quantitative analysis.

The quantitative theory of the precipitin reaction seems to me to be beautifully substantiated by the experimental results. It appears well for your concept that the course of the precipitin reaction can be predicted for an unknown serum by a few preliminary chemical analyses & calculations. I rejoice to see the mysteries of immunological phenomena yielding so beautifully to the laws of classical chemistry —

The variations of union, the varying composition of the precipitates, and the combining ratios are clarified by the concept of the multivalence of antigen & antibody with varying numbers of reaction groupings in each. The

demonstration of the progressive changes in the bind avidity of antibody during repeated courses of immunization is most significant. The demonstration of low grade residual antibody simply sparkles with implications.

Michael I'm delighted with your work, & can only express my admiration of the splendid way you have perfected a difficult problem, & of the conservative but stimulating interpretation you have placed on the results of the quantitative studies.

Now as to the Preparation Note on the Specific Polysaccharides, I appreciate your gracious consideration of us & the spirit which prompted it. However, I feel that you ought by all means to publish a preliminary note in the Oct. proceedings. That will make it possible for us to go ahead & support some of our observations with quantitative data as you already have. So please publish, for I am eager to have this newer knowledge appear in print before some one outside our own circle tries to tell us something we already know.

Many thanks & best to all — Faithfully Tess —