FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

IN REPLYING, ADDRESS THE

Aug. 25, 1951

Dear Joshua,

Thanks for the information. an stripes!

I'd like to test all possible aromatic ~~strains~~, single or multiple, + would welcome any contributions. Please don't send them until after Labor Day. Incidentally, did you get the Ps. fluor. mutants by the penicillin method? Somewhere I picked up the idea that this bug is very resistant to the drug. For extending our search for intermediates it would be good to use an organism not closely related to the Enterobact. we've been working with.

Unless you feel there'd be no point in testing a resistant mutant derived by multiple steps, I'll be glad to try to make one from one of your stocks when I get back. I must admit the pattern of increasing degrees of specific sulfonamide resistance (not crossing c̄ PNBA) on successive mutations makes me swallow hard in explaining it as an enzyme of increasingly altered configuration, due presumably to successive allelic mutations, for one might expect a single step also to provide a big distortion in the enzyme, resulting in high resistance.

Yet we know so little about this process that the interpretation of the advanced [illegible] hardly be given [illegible] basis [illegible].

Congratulations on the indirect selection of $S^r$ & $V_1^r$ clones. I simply cannot take Harry's stuff seriously at the present time, & have been sufficiently convinced by the L&D & Newcombe expts so that I would have been amazed at any conflicting results. But it's good to get further direct evidence, & I'm glad my fears about the small size of the clones of these rare mutants were not realized.

Sorry I won't be in Minneapolis — am on the ACS program at their Sept. jamboree, & think that's enough meeting for a while. Have a good time. Since the bacteriologists learned last year that they have to be careful about what they eat at their convention, I trust you'll use appropriate discretion when the geneticists get together.

Best,

Bernice