Pasadena, Dec 18, 1954

Dear Joshua,

I am sorry I have not yet found time for writing you or Esther, if nothing else to thank you for your very kind hospitality in the last three months. We have enjoyed our stay greatly, and I am very pleased I have eventually had an opportunity of knowing you personally. I wish to express you my admiration, and tell you how much I appreciate your person and work, more so now that I have had a chance of direct experience. I hope we can go on keeping as close, or closer a contact than before.

Our journey is being very pleasant. California is wonderful, and we have had such a nice reception everywhere - even here, according to your predictions. The only trouble was that my "stiffneck" turned out to be, according to a San Francisco doctor a "pneumonia", and got worse than so that I was forced to stay a day at home. Still now I can not coughing normal. I wait until I shall train Esther or in New York, to see what is wrong with it.

thank you very much for all of your working work for me. We shall leave tomorrow for a short trip in the surroundings. Adriano has left for Italy where he will spend Xmas and we are travelling with his car. We have visited, though hurriedly, almost all we wanted: Berkeley and Stanford (where Tatum was very kind), Monterey Los Angeles and La Jolla, and we shall leave for Chicago just after Xmas, ~~being~~ arriving therefore on the morning of the 29th (8.15 am), subject to confirmation, then leaving again for Washington on the afternoon of the same day. We wanted to send a few Vivaldi records to Esther for Xmas but we have not found them, so we shall have to send them as a delayed x-mas bonbon from New York. As to your question: 2658 A is independent from 2658 B, and has a different pattern of Gal-Sm behaviour, A being more closely related with Sm than B. 2658 B has been obtained after the 4th enrichment and should therefore be comparable with the resistant mutant obtained by indirect selection, of which it is a fairly close relative. Hoping to see you before we leave and all the best for Christmas from Alba + myself to you and Esther

Yours Luca.