[illegible] Edwards

Decatur Ga
May 7, 1957

My dear Esther and Joshua — I'm off to Missouri in the morning and wanted to write you before I left. The Missouri trip has been all foulded up — reservations cancelled and remade with difficulty, failure of teaching materials to arrive in Jefferson City, inability to find out what was expected of me or how much time I would be alloted, etc. Finally, I found out in Detroit that I was expected to conduct a whole day long workshop. Had I known earlier I could have planned it much better. They will just have to take it as it comes out without much preparation. I trust it will not be too bad.

The meetings were quite stimulating. I had quite satisfactory conversations with M.P. Starr in re enterics & soft rot organisms, with L.V.C. Eveland anent fluorescent antibody in stool examinations and with Uetake about phages & O antigens. I have more work in mind than I can ever get done. We have some interesting results with Ca gluconate and the rapidly liquefying NP+ bugs. Too soon to say what they mean. I'm sending them to Starr for comparison with soft rot types.

The serums which we discussed will be ready in about 1 week. After we have done absorptions I'll send them along provided the fractions are strong. If they are not we will have to figure out something else. I've not yet had an opportunity to look over the groups B + D for monophasics and nonmotiles but will as soon as I return.

I want to thank you once more for all your kindnesses and to apologize for having taken so much of your time. About this I feel rather guilty. I cannot tell you how very much I enjoyed my visit both personally and from the standpoint of our talks about bugs. I feel that I now have a much clearer idea of what is going on in your labs.

Again, many thanks for everything and kindest regards and best wishes to both of you

As ever Phil

P.S. I had an opportunity to spend some time with Russia last week and I suppose you are right — I had misjudged him. On better acquaintance he seems quite a nice fellow.