April 24, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Stanford, Calif.

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

We thought you would be interested in the attached booklet which points up the small amounts currently being spent by various agencies for medical research to save our lives as compared with other expenditures by the Federal Government, and our people for their pleasure and enjoyment of life.

We feel that the amounts spent for medical research remain relatively small because of our lack of awareness of the great benefits to be derived from expanded research and training programs. These programs can bring us the knowledge we need to conquer the killing and crippling diseases.

Medical research has paid off in lives and dollars. Some of these pay-offs are illustrated in the brochure -- many of them possible or aided through programs supported by the National Institutes of Health of the U.S. Public Health Service.

The answers to our major health problems - the improved treatments and methods of prevention we must have to eliminate cancer, arteriosclerosis, mental illness and the other leading killers and cripplers - depend on our research investment now.

Whenever you have the opportunity, won't you urge more funds for medical research from voluntary organizations, city, state and the Federal governments to help hasten the breakthroughs which will make the Nation more productive and prolong the prime of life for everyone?

With all best wishes,

Cordially,

Mrs. Albert D. Lasker, Chairman

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