

October 16, 1952

Dear Dr. Ray:

I am glad my letter finally did catch up with you. The reprint was sent from Seattle.

Just the other day, Dr. Raper mentioned that you might be joining him here for your fellowship. I shall be looking forward to seeing you on campus for closer discussions.

*Salmonella typhimurium* is a primary parasite of rodents, but is also the most frequent agent of *Salmonella* food poisonings. It is not regarded as a serious pathogen for man, but ordinary precautions against accidental ingestion should be taken-- such things as plugging pipettes, autoclaving discarded cultures and, above all, washing your hands. I hope this does not sound too imposing, though it might require an undesirable change of routine. If you would like the cultures now, I will be happy to send them immediately. As you will be coming to Wisconsin yourself, however, perhaps you would prefer to wait until you get here and we can discuss the possibilities more closely. By then, we may have some *E. coli* material that would be nearly, but not quite, comparable to the *Salmonella*.

*Salmonella* is likely to grow on the same routine media you are already using. Its nutritional behavior is essentially identical with that of *E. coli*; that is, in contrast to *Pseudomonas*, it has a mixed aerobic and glycolytic utilization of sugars, with no special growth factor requirements.

Are ingested bacteria completely destroyed? Is there any chance of bacteria surviving in the protected environment of an amebic cyst? This is a question rather parallel to the survival of phage in spores of lysogenic bacteria,

If you will answer affirmatively, I'll send the *Salmonellae* by return mail. They will include, as labelled, a non-flagellated, a paralysed and a motile culture. The motility of the cultures should be checked from time to time, from broth, but their genetic stability is quite good and should withstand anything but the most drastic selection for motility.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg