107 Harlingham Rd
London SW6
17-2-65

Dear Josh & Esther, How are you all, and how is your Ocean-side cottage? – We are all more or less well (i.e. girls have usual coughs & colds) – Josh When I saw you last you told me I could consult you if I ever seriously contemplated moving to U.S. – in particular W coast – I would like to take you up on this – I had been considering possible advantages of moving from here later when Bill H goes moves to Edinburgh – in 2-3 years time – if I could get Med Res Council to back me in unit to succeed his, at Hammersmith – yesterday I had letter from Bob Boantree, out of the blue, saying they have money for third full Professor in Med. Microbiol. at Stanford – and inviting me to say if I would like to come – I, and Jane even more perhaps, felt very much tempted, if no serious snags (one is that he talks of getting me there by Sept – but I have commitments, to students etc – which would make that impracticable) – especially by hearing what a nice place Stanford is – and the people. I have written off for more details – including the important one of what they would pay me! What I would very much like to have from you would be your ~~unpre~~ opinion of the job, and whether you think it's one I could do reasonably well in and enjoy – and of the Department, and if there are any non-obvious snags (such as feuds, or serious difficulty over getting funds etc). From what Bob R tells me the amount of teaching does not sound too onerous and as I remember you found the med.

students a bright lot — I don't know, though, whether the amount of administration etc would take up a great deal of time (the snag about most teaching jobs in U.K.). — On the face of it it sounds to me about as good a job as I can hope to be offered in your part of the world, and so one I should take if I can — as I like living in U.S., in place like Stanford, as much as England and should be able to ~~make~~ do a good job I think — we feel fairly happy about bringing up the girls in Calif. — and the advantages for Jane, especially climate (our winters get her down!), sort of house, and, I expect, effectively larger salary, would be very considerable — and we have good friends including you there! So maybe I should conquer my inertia (or laziness) — and reluctance to leave London and the Lights — and friends here — but maybe not, if there are strings. Snags I don't know about in the job or Dept.! All very unsettling! Work going well. Jane sends lots of love. As Bruce