October 21, 1958

Honorable George Mahon
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear George:

The substance of your letter of September 19th has been brought to the attention of Dr. Shannon and his staff at the National Institutes of Health. They inform me that a recent memorandum concerning the status of leukemia research was prepared by Dr. Heller, Director of the National Cancer Institute, for the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service for transmission to you. Probably by this time you have this memorandum and it seems to me to set forth the current situation as viewed by the National Institutes of Health.

As you are aware, I am intensely interested in accelerating research in cancer and from all I learn, there is real hope in the next few years for a breakthrough in knowledge of the cause and treatment of leukemia. At the same time however, we must be prepared to expect that research in this area will require the utmost in patience, effort and imagination before we can expect to have answers which can be translated in terms of saving human lives.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

John E. Fogarty