

August 2, 1933

Mr. G. M. Cruickshank, Bacteriologist
Department of Agriculture and Conservation
State House, Providence, R. I.

Dear Mr. Cruickshank:

In further reply to your letter of July 15th, although I have talked to Dr. Aldrich I have been unable to obtain any additional information concerning the herd of Mr. Peterson. Consequently, I shall have to answer your letter only on the basis of its contents.

I notice that the reports from the different laboratories varied considerably. This is, of course, most disconcerting. Indeed, upon doing these tests over a second time we obtained results which, for some unknown reason, were not the same as those obtained on the first examination.

You are, I think, entirely right in saying that there should be co-operation between the various laboratories performing these tests. In this laboratory, we have made an almost perfect score with the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the testing of unknown specimens. This is probably due to the fact that we received our original cultures from this division and have used them ever since. Some years ago we were ourselves very much interested in their specificity in these tests and accordingly made studies of them, coming to the conclusion that the strains were essentially satisfactory. It is my opinion, therefore, that it would be of considerable advantage to you to secure these strains. The ones which are being used here are:

H. H. Testus
#18
#400

We shall of course be happy to send
back and forth with you, as you have suggested. It would

-2-

perhaps be better if you would let us know, from time to time,
a few days before that you would expect these particular
strains.

Very truly yours,

William A. Hinton, M. D., Chief
Bacteriologic Laboratory

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