May 18th, 1942

My dear Taylor,

You have probably by now seen my letter of May 13th, but I think the suggestion made therein could be improved by using whole blood from the umbilical cord in all cases, and keep this in the frigidaire until dispatched to Cambridge. The same, I think, should be done with the blood samples from the mothers.

For these last it will be most valuable to titrate the serum, and the reaction of the cells will only be of value as confirmation of what can be found in the serum.

The cases of the infant blood is somewhat different, as for these the reaction of the cells may be all there is to go by in determining the blood group. Perhaps for this purpose you may have some preferable suggestion, e.g., cold storage after dilution in glucose citrate.

In any case, since the proportion of stillbirths and deaths in infancy will be small, it is important to take umbilical blood samples from all children, and, if the cells cannot be kept in good enough condition for grouping, to have those born on inconvenient days grouped in Oxford.

Yours sincerely,

p.t.o.
P.S. If you could possibly manage to get over here to lunch with us, say on Saturday week, May 30th. I should hope to get Ford over later in the day. As he has found a co-operative hospital, the whole thing seems to be an opportunity not to be missed at any price.