

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN DR. SMITHIES AND DR. SNAPE 5.1.87.

TJS: Thank you for ringing back. Did you have a pleasant Christmas?

AS: Very pleasant, thank you, yes.

TJS: That's good. I had a phone call this morning from Bob Perry and as you can imagine as a result of the case in Glasgow there is a fair amount of spotlight on them at PFC. He's anxious that PFC should be seen to be adopting the same kind of line or at least not a contradictory line to the one that BPL is adopting. Would you have any objections if I were to send to Bob a copy of that draft Parliamentary Question and Answer or is it still not firm.

AS: Gosh, I only came back in today. I know that that was agreed by Tony Newton though I am fairly certain that that is what it is but I don't really feel that it is for you to send it, if you see what I mean. There hasn't been time to get the Hansard that's why I sent you what was a draft, but I wouldn't have sent it to you unless I'd known that Tony Newton said okay. I think it would be sensible if we try to get him a copy of the Hansard itself, and I imagine the Administrator's will have it. Shall we put it in the post to him.

TJS: That would be enormously helpful. I was a bit surprised because he had not seen or heard of the August Parliamentary Question and Answer either. That is in Hansard, and obviously I can send him a copy of that, but he seemed to feel that if that was any indication then he would probably be a long time receiving via formal channels the more recent one. If you could arrange for that to go to him that would be very helpful, I think he would appreciate that.

AS: I'm just thinking if that's the way to play it.

TJS: It would presumably go to the CSA wouldn't it?

AS: It is really not for me to do it, it is for you to do it, but what I think I'd better do is make quite certain that it is in Hansard as quoted on your draft and then what you could do is... don't send him a copy of what I've sent you.. you can write it out or something can't you or type it in a letter. Would you do that? Otherwise, you know FSHT might take offence. It is better if I'm not involved.

TJS: That was my original thought in fact that you might prefer me to do it as one colleague to another.

AS: I think you're right. On the other hand, I had better just make certain that it is in Hansard now. I'll try and catch the Administrator before they go to lunch, if I don't, it may not be until early afternoon that I give you a ring, Terry.

TJS: Have you had a chance to read my letter?

AS: I'm afraid I haven't. I saw it there and since then the telephone has been ringing at the rate of every five minutes with this Scotland business.

TJS: I can well imagine.

AS: I have been trying to get hold of people and so on. I don't know whether you have seen the Daily Mail and what John Dawson has been saying. Well, if you have casual sex, don't be a blood donor.

TJS: Oh my God.

AS: So that kind of hasn't helped things. I have been fairly busy today, but I will be looking at it sometime this afternoon and maybe I can look before I ring you.

TJS: If you do do that, perhaps you could also tell me whether you would mind if I sent a copy of that to Bob as well, because essentially that outlines what I would see as being BPL policy, it's the most concise statement of policy that I could put together. If you would rather that I didn't send that then what I'll do is I'll extract the salient points from it and simply send him that.

AS: Yes, I think on principle I don't know that I'd be particularly happy about him having a copy of a letter that came to me.

TJS: Why don't I simply do an abstract of the points and I'll do the same with the draft Question and Answer and they'll hang together then as a separate text.

AS: O.K. Now if I can find out I'll get somebody to ring you back right away, otherwise it won't be until after 2. Are you going to be around?

TJS: I'm around all day.

AS: O.K. Thanks. I don't think I've said Happy New Year, did I.....

Dr. Smithies which he might have written out.

TJS He didn't, he probably wrote it up for himself, he read something to me.

Dr. Smithies It's not far different from that. I don't know if I will be able to put my hand on it immediately, Terry. I actually really feel that I ought to get it confirmed by the Department that it has gone out. As far as I know, it's okay and that it is better really to have got it into Hansard?? or that it's getting in. Can I just put the phone down a minute. Terry, I am going to have to try and ring you back on that one. I can't see where the heck I put it.

TJS Let me tell you what Richard suggested I do. He was also very keen that we shouldn't move until there was something in Hansard and suggested that when something was available I should ask you to let me have a copy, then write to you on the basis of my understanding with details of precisely how we were interpreting it.

Dr. Smithies. I think that's absolutely right in view of what has been happening.

TJS So although I am not in next week, at least I'm in on Monday then I'm away for two weeks, is there likely to be anything in Hansard by Monday?

Dr. Smithies Yes, there is.

TJS If it would be possible to FAX a copy or to have someone FAX a copy over to me then I could start framing a letter and try to get it off to you late on Monday

Dr. Smithies Okay. I'm going to be away the week after Christmas. Basically, it's still the..... Factor VIII and Factor IX. The line is that clinical trials are continuing on batches of stock of Factor VIII and Factor IX made from unscreened donations and that previous references because it's known to be safe due to vigorous heat-treatment, so that is the line and whether or not that will cover those 2,000 units that Charles Rizza is concerned with is open to interpretation.

TJS I think and I can find a way for us to proceed on that.