A M Diamond

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Avery's neurotic reluctance.

I think you've hit that just right.

I hope you've seen Dubos' book.

May I add that Avery - a microbiologist and biochemist - was very reluctant to comment on genetics, especially when his main consultant was Dobzhansky - the person who best fits McCarty's attribution.

Had he talked to Muller, Avery would have had much more encouragement! Few geneticists had the training to do much with the chemical ideas; a few dabbled in cytochemistry or had the eclecticism of and E B Wilson.

It is a pleasure to hear from an economist in this field. Where you interest?

Sincerely

Maclyn McCarty