

thrive on the famed antibiotic, but it also may have a "partial dependency" on streptomycin for growth.

This startling effect is believed to have been discovered for the first time in human TB at the Veterans Administration Hospital (Lawson) at Atlanta, Ga. The case is reported in the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS (Sept. 3) of the U. S. Public Health Service by Drs. George A. Spendlove and Martin M. Cummings of the Public Health Service Tuberculosis Evaluation Laboratory; and Drs. William B. Fackler, Jr., and Max

Michael, Jr., of the hospital and the Emory University School of Medicine.

A patient was treated with penicillin for tuberculosis of the lungs at the VA hospital. He improved, but his saliva was still positive for TB germs. Streptomycin treatment was begun. After four months, the physicians described his course as "down-hill."

They made laboratory tests with the strain of TB which the patient had. This kind of TB germs had its growth "markedly enhanced" by the antibiotic.

Science News Letter, October 2, 1948

## Letters To The Editor

### Molds Development

Subscribing to SNL has been an important formative force in molding the development of my son now in high school and helping him direct and find himself.

Congratulations on this multiplied, I hope, one hundred thousand times throughout the youth of our great and scientific-hungry country.—M. M. Boston, Mass.

Besides Science News Letter and the other two personal subscription services, CHEMISTRY (monthly) and THINGS of science (monthly), Science Service offers every science teacher free affiliation of her science club or group with Science Clubs of America. This brings all the material necessary for a successful hobby study of sciences in or out of the classroom. We hope readers will encourage teachers, particularly in the high schools, to take advantage of this cooperation.

### Cain and Abel Version

I read your interpretation of the Cain and Abel incident (SNL, July 31). I have heard a somewhat different version and thought you might be interested in it.

Cain was the farmer. He had just broken the soil and found that agriculture on soil

that had not been tilled before was rather difficult. As a result, his crops were small; and his sacrifice was also small.

His brother, on the other hand, remained a shepherd and made a rather comfortable living from the good grazing lands. His large sacrifice was acceptable.

We can perhaps imagine Abel taunting his brother about his failure to please the Lord. Cain, who had worked harder and given more in proportion to his income than his brother, became angry and slew his brother.

Perhaps a moral for this day can well be drawn from the story. "Abel, where is thy brother, Cain?" has more meaning for us today than perhaps the traditional phraseology.—Bill Jackson, Madison, Wis.

*There seem to be a number of such amplifications of the rather scanty account in Genesis. Another, from a California correspondent, is that Abel drove a flock of his sheep across Cain's field, ruining his crop—and the fight was on. Whether this actually happened long ago, somewhere just west of Eden, there is no doubt it has happened often enough elsewhere—with results as originally described in Genesis.*

### Well Balanced in Sciences

Science News Letter is an excellent publication and one that I would like to save. The content is well balanced with respect to various sciences and there is always something of interest to me. The Books of the Week section has become indispensable.—Robert Misch, Whiting, Ind.

### Good Reference Source

Science News Letter is a timely, well prepared magazine, which any man of science, layman or amateur, would be pleased to read and keep permanently for a reference source.—Capt. Walter White, Jr., 351 Infantry Communication Officer.

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