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**LETTERS** 

# To the Editor

## From a Student

Sir:

I would like to express my admiration for the fine variety, reporting and brevity of the articles in SCIENCE NEWS. Since I am an honor student and am carrying a 20-credit hour program, I do not have much spare reading time, and your magazine is a godsend to the collegian trying to keep abreast of the latest scientific events. The Life Sciences department is a welcome addition, since my major is biology.

Monica Barron, Detroit, Mich.

#### Nauseated

Sir

Congratulations to you and to him or her (Faye Marley) who wrote the article "Inroads in the Meat Jungles" (SN: 8/5).

I got nauseated and sick to my stomach reading it.

It is unbelievable that in this day and age such abominable conditions could still exist in some intrastate abattoirs.

It takes a lot of courage to expose such low standards in Public Health inspection and regulation where perhaps vested interests and dirty politics are in cahoots (see p. 239).

If it is possible I would like to get another copy of the Aug. 5th issue, as I gave my copy to a doctor friend.

Joseph W. Miller M.D.

Miami, Fla.

(A copy has been sent. Ed.)

### Earth's Water Balance

Sir:

I am sure that you do not know that you embarrassed me, a teacher of general science. Here's what you did:

In an article (SN: 10/1/66) you state:

"One of the great wonders of this planet is . . . the total water supply has neither diminished nor increased . . ."

I keep telling my students that new water is being made daily through the combustion of hydrocarbon fuels. In fact, the Ethyl Corporation says that, for every gallon of gasoline that is burned, a gallon of water (liquid) is formed. My own estimate is that over 110 billion gallons of new water is made every year by this means.

I am ready to admit that this 110 (See p. 224)

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