

A Science Service Publication  
Volume 127, No. 23, June 8, 1985

E. G. Sherburne Jr.	Publisher
Joel Greenberg	Editor
Dietrick E. Thomsen	Senior Editor/ Physical Sciences
Laurie Jackson Phillips	Managing Editor
Wendy McCarren	Production/Design Director
Bruce Bower	Behavioral Sciences
Joanne Silberner	Biomedicine
Stefi Weisburd	Earth Sciences
Julie Ann Miller	Life Sciences
Janet Raloff	Policy/Technology
Ivars Peterson	
Jonathan Eberhart	Space Sciences
Susan Welch Gilday	Assistant to the Editor
Dawn D. Bennett	Science Writer Intern
Jane M. Livermore	Books
Donald R. Harless	Business Manager
Scherago Associates	Advertising
Fred Dieffenbach	Sales Director
1515 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10036	

Copyright © 1985 by Science Service, Inc.,  
Editorial and Business Offices,  
1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036.  
Republication of any portion of SCIENCE NEWS  
without written permission of the publisher is  
prohibited.

Subscription Department  
231 West Center Street, Marion, Ohio 43305

Subscription rate: 1 yr., \$27.50; 2 yrs., \$47.50;  
3 yrs., \$67.00. (Foreign postage \$5.00 additional per  
year.) Change of address: Four to six weeks' notice  
is required. Please state exactly how magazine  
is to be addressed. Include zip code. For new  
subscriptions only call (1) 800-247-2160. Printed in  
U.S.A. Second class postage paid at Washington,  
D. C. Title registered as trademark U. S. and  
Canadian Patent Offices. Published every Saturday  
by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc. 1719 N St., N.W.,  
Washington, D. C. 20036. (202-785-2255)  
ISSN 0036-8423

## Letters

### Sounds fishy

Modern men and woman find themselves in a catch-22 when they try to heed such dietary advice as that offered in "Heart disease: Let them eat fish" (SN: 5/11/85, p. 291). Do we eat fish and chance PCBs, dioxin and methyl mercury, or take our chances with red meat and poultry with their added antibiotics?

The medical community must start to become concerned about these "food additives."  
*Barbara McElgunn*  
West Hill, Ontario

### Out of their realm?

With regard to "Standby storage for nuclear waste" (SN: 5/4/85, p. 277), what expertise do congressmen have to decide between the tech-

## This Week

- 356 The Sophisticated Sounds of Simians
- 356 Dissection of the inebriated brain
- 357 Beyond the limits of protein building
- 357 Tracing disease to trace minerals
- 358 A new look at arthritis origins
- 359 A fresh start at Three Mile Island?
- 359 Court blocks Army testing laboratory

## Research Notes

- 360 AAAS
- 361 Biomedicine

## Articles

### 363 A Fault of Youth

Cover: Scientists never expected to find a young, surface-breaking fault east of the Rocky Mountains, but there it was, the Meers fault, young and active in southwestern Oklahoma. Here, geologist D. Burton Stemmmons measures the height of a scarp—a steplike slope created when the fault last moved—that extends from the foreground past the tree and beyond the horizon. The fault itself runs along the base of the scarp, just to the right of the tree. (Photo: Brocoum/NRC)



## Departments

- 355 Letters
- 362 Books

Science Service Institution for the public understanding of science founded 1921; a nonprofit corporation.  
Board of Trustees—President, Glenn T. Seaborg; Vice President, Gerald F. Tape; Treasurer, Willis Harlow Shapley; Secretary, Julius Duscha; Joseph W. Berg Jr.; Edward Bliss Jr.; Bowen C. Dees; David A. Goslin; Milton Harris; Hilleary F. Hoskinson; O. W. Riegel; H. Guyford Stever; John Troan; Deborah P. Wolfe.  
Director: E. G. Sherburne Jr.; Assistant Director: Dorothy Schriver; Business Manager: Donald R. Harless.

nical merits of "six combinations of design and site" for the high-level nuclear waste monitored retrievable storage facility? Surely this is a decision that should be made on technical merit, not political.

*Richard A. Steenblik*  
Stone Mountain, Ga.

### Instilling an obsession

In "Examining the world of obsessive teens" (SN: 4/20/85, p. 245), B. Bower refers to one case with the words: "For instance, one girl in the study—although she functions well otherwise—gets up early every Saturday morning to clean her room meticulously and wash the walls."

Obviously he looks upon this behavior as a mental quirk, and probably harmful. I look on it

somewhat differently.

I have a stepdaughter living with me whose room has long been so messy that it makes the infamous Love Canal seem like an unpolluted vacation spot by comparison. I live in fear that the county health department might one day inspect my house. The old Neanderthal caves must have looked something like her room.

Could Mr. Bower please run another article with step-by-step instructions for instilling the above obsession?

*Howard J. Hanson*  
Federal Way, Wash.

*Correction: In "Unwanted formaldehyde 'breakthrough'" (SN: 5/11/85, p. 297), the thickness of the best-performing neoprene glove should have read 0.25 mm.*