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If you feel qualified for one or more of these editorial opportunities, send an outline of your background and interests to Mr. Roy Willis, Dept. 824-C2, Science Research Associates, 259 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois. SRA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



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LETTERS

To the Editor

The Value of Vitamins

Dear Sir:

Your article in "Science News" for Feb. 11, 1967, page 146, entitled "Money Wasted on Unneeded Vitamins," by Barbara J. Culliton, is very disturbing.

The fact is that more money is wasted on tranquilizers and diuretics. Properly used, vitamins, minerals and amino acids would make it unnecessary to use the avalanche of tranquilizers and diuretics which have monopolized the prescription market. Vitamins and minerals are the only materials in the entire medical armamentarium that make a person better for taking something. Tranquilizers and diuretics will leave him worse.

Most physicians scoff at the idea of using vitamins and minerals, which gives Dr. Goddard the courage to carry on his ill-understood campaign against the best medication the medical profession has ever had.

Cooked food, no matter how good it is to start with, produces some type of nutritional deficiency. We have not yet answered completely what this depletion is, and until we do, scientific exploration should not be shrouded in political and governmental controversy and controls.

John A. Meyers, M.D. Baltimore, Md.

On Subviral Infectious Agents

Dear Sir:

I do congratulate Mrs. Marley on assimilating this complex story (SN: 2/18; p. 169), in such a readable fashion. We seem to have reached an interesting cross-roads. Now we must try to ask the right questions and to devise experiments that will give us the critical answers.

I am so glad she consulted my good friends in the States—Dr. Alpers, Dr. Gibbs, Dr. Leader and Dr. Abinanti. Most worthwhile problems are solved by examining them from every point of view.

Iain H. Pattison Head, Department of Pathology Institute for Research on Animal Diseases Compton, Berkshire, England

A Dissenting Voice

Dear Sir:

I was interested to note the difference in format between the last issue and the new issue. You seem to have gone more "in-depth" on certain topics and are also discussing policy. This is probably a good idea, as policy does affect science.

My complaint, however, is with your "in-depth" articles. I find it is extremely difficult to get information from them. Instead of saying "how it works" the articles tend to talk around the subject, giving opinions, criticisms and comparisons without telling what the subject is.
Your style is sort of "Time Magazine-ish"—fun to read,

but useless for facts.

It would make reading much simpler if you would put facts first, discussion later.

Since I read to extract information, it would be very advantageous to know if I'm interested in an article without having to read every last word of it.

> Robert Parvin Bechtel Corp. San Francisco, Calif.