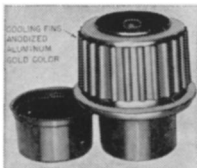


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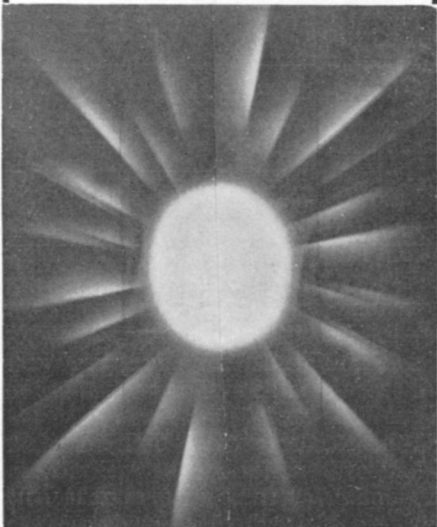
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LETTERS

to the editor

Lab-bred or feral

Your quotation from me (SN: 2/8, p. 145) is accurate. However, the implication that I believe an inbred animal is necessarily a poor animal for research is incorrect. Wild and domestic strains (inbred or not inbred) are indeed different behaviorally and physiologically. I should like to see more work done on feral animals and am glad to see that some is being done. However, selection for living in a laboratory is not necessarily bad for producing an animal to be used in a laboratory. Many research projects require the genetic control made possible by inbreeding. There is a place for feral and for domesticated stocks in research. Comparisons between the two may be enlightening.

John L. Fuller
Senior Staff Scientist
The Jackson Laboratory
Bar Harbor, Me.

Poverty and progress

The item on Michael Harrington's comments on poverty (SN: 2/15, p. 167) is titled "Progress and Poverty." This was the title of a book by the American economist Henry George. He sought to solve the problem of poverty—specifically, why poverty persists as society progresses—and he did so, noting that the only effective way to cure a malady is to remove its cause. Progress and Poverty is worth looking into.

Robert Clancy, editor
International Union Newsletter
Jackson Heights, N. Y.

Sandrats

In the article on diabetic sandrats (SN: 2/15, p. 172), Robinson's material presentation is excellent, since the language is appropriate for all levels of readers, whether they be students or engaged in biomedical research.

Samuel M. Poiley, Head
Mammalian Genetics and
Animal Production Section
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National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Md.

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