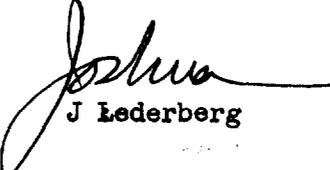


May 1, 1952

Dear Cavalli:

Correction! The "L-forms" I wrote about in my last letter have turned out to be an artefact. Although they were not to be found in the first controls I looked at, I have since seen them several times in uninoculated plates of the semi-solid agar. Their occurrence in controls is irregular, whereas they appeared every time in association with *S. typhi* growth. I suspect they represent some sort of protein or agar precipitation, which may be assisted by bacterial metabolic products or pH change, etc. The error is not entirely un-instructive. What bearing this has on the literature on "large bodies" I do not know, but these artefacts would certainly help to confuse the analysis of an already very difficult problem.

  
J Lederberg

FOLD SIDES OVER  
NO OTHER