

May 1, 1952

Dear Dr. Nobel:

CORRECTION! In my letter of a few days ago, I mentioned "L-forms" in semi-solid agar. These have turned out to be an artefact of some sort. Although they are consistently associated with bacterial growth, they are found (somewhat less regularly) in uninoculated, and indeed freshly poured plates, I suspect they are some sort of agar or protein precipitation which can occur spontaneously, and may be assisted as a side effect of bacterial metabolism. The error is not completely un-instructive.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg