

think that what I see on page 1180 of the 21 May Book Issue (at the top of column 3) is something different, perhaps a "failure of communication."

The writer, Marvin T. Smith, refers to "viral infections [such] as some forms of herpes, hepatitis, poliomyelitis, pertussis, rhinoviral and tick-borne fevers, rabies, sylvatic plague, tularemia, giardiasis, and amoebic dysentery." (I have emphasized the strangers in the woodpile.)

To the best of my knowledge, pertussis is still ascribed to *Bordetella pertussis*, a coccobacillus; sylvatic plague is still ascribed to *Yersinia (Pasteurella) pestis*, a short bacillus; tularemia is still ascribed to *Francisella tularensis*, a small bacillus; giardiasis is still ascribed to *Giardia lamblia*, a flagellated protozoan; and amoebic dysentery is still ascribed to *Entamoeba histolytica*, a protozoan.

W. J. Mathey
470 Higos Way,
Nipomo, CA 93444

Response: I thank Mathey for correcting an unfortunate error in my review. The mistake resulted from my attempt to combine two sentences in writing about the chapter

by Stodder and Martin in *Disease and Demography in the Americas* [John W. Verrano and Douglas H. Ubelaker, Eds. (Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC, 1992)]. Stodder and Martin did not include sylvatic plague, tularemia, giardiasis, and amoebic dysentery in a group of viral infections, although they did include pertussis.

Marvin T. Smith
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A Path Not Taken

The illustration of the children's sorting game described in the article "Turning higher mathematics into kids' stuff" (News & Comment, 23 Apr., p. 484) contained some errors that prompted me to the following poetry.

When Input Six met Input Three,
The Three went south, that's clear to see.

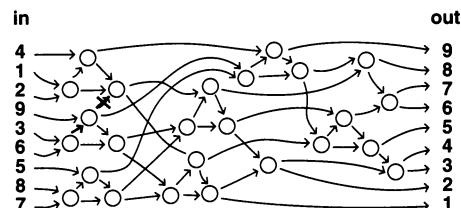
But where, I ask, did Six go thence?
It disappeared, I knew not whence.

Now look at greedy Nine, not nice.
It came in once, but went out thrice.

I think Nine's arrow heading north
Should go to Six to venture forth.

Dorothy Odell Teasley
DOT Data Inc.,
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Response: An arrow's flight led us to woe.
Corrected path is shown below.—Eds.



Corrections and Clarifications

The photographs accompanying the Research News article "New Alzheimer's therapy suggested" by Jim Schnabel (18 June, p. 1719) were printed incorrectly so that their order was reversed. Joe Rogers appeared at the top, and Patrick McGeer below.

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