

"An Animal Is Something That Happens."

Tuning in again for ideas on education, we find Philip Kinsley still on the air. This time he gives you excerpts from the new syllabus of the biological sciences to be used in the current experiment at the University of Chicago. He leads off with our caption. Then he finds the syllabus explaining the difference between the "more accurate" and the "less accurate" in science, saying: "Science is most accurate, it is explained, when dealing with large groups or units. The text goes on: 'In dealing with an individual, however, whether it be the electron in the physician's hand, the radium atom in the chemist's, the cell or organism in the biologists, much greater uncertainty exists in our knowledge.'"

But these biologists almost talk themselves out of a job, for if there is no difference between life and non-life, there is no such thing as life. And the syllabus tells us that "most biologists today are convinced that there is no real gap or any new force involved in the transition from non-living to living."

The Poor Fish.

"The human body bears its history indelibly stamped upon it. Many of its parts have been profoundly altered during the long history of vertebrate development; many structures have completely changed their functions. Gill supports have become jaws, and then accessory organs of hearing; gill pouches have become glands of internal secretion; a balancing organ has become the human hand; a receptor for smell has become the seat of our highest mental faculties."

The Little Monkeys.

"When we follow the human embryo through its development we find that at first it closely parallels the other animals but that it shares its later stages with only the higher primates. At the time of birth it is surprisingly like the young of the anthropoids, and even in adult life the differences between man and the anthropoids are differences of degree and not of kind. Blood tests likewise testify to the fact that these forms are closely related...."

Animal Trainers?

Religion is included in the humanities in the new experiment at the University of Chicago (we don't find philosophy in the list, unless it is "psychology" under the heading of both the social and biological sciences). We await with breathless interest Philip Kinsley's review of these, for we want to know whether or not man has a soul. Until we find that out we can't tell whether to classify the University of Chicago professors as educators or as animal trainers.

Education is a wonderful thing - but what is it? We are still listening.

Don't Neglect Brother Cyprian.

For the first time in fifty-two years, Brother Cyprian is not teaching this fall. He suffered a shock this summer which left him in ill health; complications since then have brought on severe pain. He will appreciate your prayers, which should be given in generous measure. The seven o'clock Mass next Sunday will be offered for him, and you should offer Holy Communion at that Mass in union with the intentions of the celebrant.

Oct. 3 is the feast of St. Therese, the Little Flower. A Novena to her should begin not later than Thursday, September 24.