

Hitler have done? Or, tomorrow, what might Zhirinovsky do if he comes to power? This is not a matter for gratification of scientific curiosity, or for melancholy musings over the last jewel on Earth. Where might a Commander of the Faith, a Dr. Strangelove, or a lowly technician, concerned about population explosion or his loneliness, have the power to kill or disfigure 500 million people by the simple act of infecting one single person (himself?) with smallpox virus? Who knows? The person most ready to do further studies with it might be the first to die.

This is not a matter for debate. Destroy the virus, now.

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If it is decided to destroy the smallpox virus stocks, I propose that it be done on 14 May 1996, the 200th anniversary of Edward Jenner's immunization of Jim Phipps. I believe that Jenner's experiment has led to the saving of more lives than any other single event in the history of humankind!

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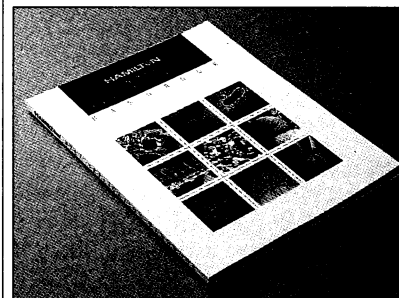
Corrections and Clarifications

In the Random Samples item "HHMI cuts cardiologist loose" (26 Nov., p. 1369), press reports of the controversy surrounding Bernardo Nadal-Ginard, chief of cardiology at Boston's Children's Hospital, were inaccurately summarized. There has been no accusation that \$4 to \$5 million is "missing" from a retirement fund he oversaw. According to press reports, the state probe into the fund resulted because colleagues of Nadal-Ginard thought he had cashed out an unusually large amount from the fund in 1992.

The name of co-author T. Tsuda was misspelled in the 28 January technical comment "Alzheimer's disease and possible gene interaction" by P. St George-Hyslop *et al.* (p. 537) and on page 447 of the table of contents in the same issue.

In the Random Samples item "Processing the new Coke fiasco" (3 Sept., p. 1271), Samuel Leven's name was misspelled.

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