

government. The permit process, that legislated gauntlet to be run in order for any large endeavor to be translated from concept to construction, is a typical example of this polarized attitude. In most instances, the academic sector provides ammunition for both sides.

It is essential that we begin to regard society's needs as matters for a different procedure—not adversary, but selective. A common need must be met by a concerted effort to find the best of many alternatives. None of these will be perfect, nor will all possible questions ever be answered. We must rewrite the National Environmental Policy Act in a positive vein and try to find the best alternative rather than attempting to avoid all evil.

Only in that way will we discover how to meet the challenge of international competition in all arenas.

EUGENE H. HARLOW

*PRC Harris, Inc.,
4151 Southwest Freeway, Suite 395,
Houston, Texas 77027*

Antinuclear Activism

Constance Holden's informative article of 12 February (News and Comment, p. 878) bears the title "Antinuclear movement gains momentum," yet it deals entirely with antinuclear war activism in the United States.

The distinction between the two is hardly trivial. As George Kistiakowsky recently said:

[W]e have problems in trying to redirect the public fear of nuclear plants into fear of nuclear war. When you get emotional about nuclear plants and don't care about nuclear war, it's worrying about a pimple on your cheek when you have a goodly case of cancer.

WILLIAM SPINDEL

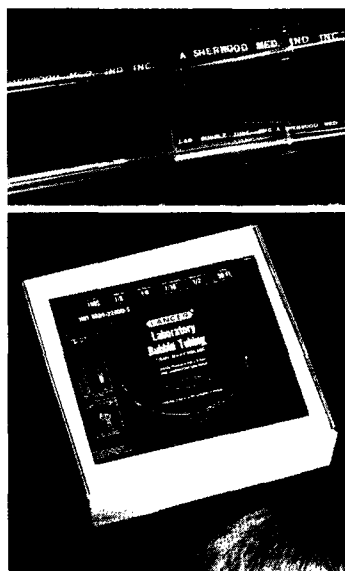
*Office of Chemistry and Chemical
Technology, National Research
Council, Washington, D.C. 20418*

Correction

An article reporting a congressional hearing on the National Cancer Institute (NCI) (News and Comment, 20 Nov., p. 887) incorrectly states that the institute allowed an unnamed individual to produce a preparation called "Jim's Juice" under what is known as a "compassionate investigational new drug" permit. The NCI, which does not have authority to issue such IND's, was not involved in the matter.

The article also refers to an internal memo written by an NCI researcher about the alleged misuse of an experimental drug called Mitoxantrone. The drug in question was one known as M-AMSA, a new agent against acute leukemia.

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