

Council of Medical Research sought the opinion of the Solicitor General's office. It is said that the Solicitor General's office has given an opinion that Sec. 14 of the rule takes precedence over Sec. 17. Therefore, the rules under Sec. 17 cannot be used to hamper animal experimentation. This means that the role of CPCSEA

becomes recommendatory and not regulatory.

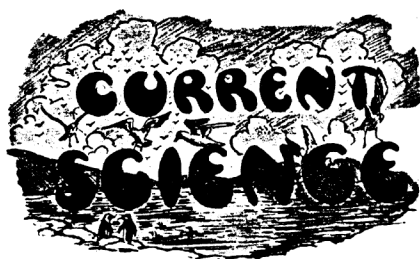
Considering the urgency and importance of the whole issue of animal experimentation, the least policy-makers could do is consider some of the reforms so that there is no further derailment of scientific research.

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1. Basu, Saionton, *Curr. Sci.*, 2002, **83**, 800–802.
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## FROM THE ARCHIVES



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### Europa Angustia

... The evolution of modern Europe is virtually the evolution of war technology, and it is not therefore surprising that nations regret that their genius has not been sufficiently harnessed for the invention of more formidable and more destructive engines, than are those employed in the present conflict. When in 1919 the statesmen of the victorious countries sat at the table in the Court of Versailles to draw up the instruments for implementing their war-born political faith of making the world safe for democracy, one could have almost heard the hoarse laughter of that spirit, whose name is unmentionable in polite society, at their un-

consciously sowing seeds for a second European conflagration. . . .

The present conflict differs fundamentally from its classical predecessors. The reproach that wars generally place a premium on the uneugenic propagation of the race is now practically removed. We can hardly recollect any period in the history of mankind, when even the most savage enemy selected old men, women, children, schools, churches, hospitals, and art treasures as special targets for destruction, with the object either of creating confusion among the civil population or of breaking the spirit of Government's resistance. In the previous wars the flower of manhood and the excellent traits of national military character may have perished on the battle field, but they reappeared in the succeeding generation, because they are qualities more or less inherent in the national chromosomes. In the wholly indefensible and absurd slaughter of children, we might lose potential Newtons and Darwins; the favourable genes for producing them do not occur with the periodic frequency of planets in the Heavens. Nothing is more senseless than wars, and nothing is more easily or more carelessly provoked. Our religion is

war-minded. Our culture is war-based. Our civilization is a war-product. Our mentality is war-tinged. We talk the language of peace, but tread the path of war.

... Modern technological civilization and its by-product, Imperialism, have become sociophagous. It is no wonder therefore that, in the circumstances in which the international relations subsist to-day, wars are the inevitable arbiters of disputes provoked by economic rivalries and political jealousies, which are inseparable from the maladjustment of social organisations. The world must develop the spirit of the Eskimo or of the Mahatma, before it can even dream of universal and perpetual peace, love, goodwill and contentment. Dr Nansen wrote of the Eskimo that "his peacefulness even goes so far that when anything is stolen from him, which seldom happens, he does not as a rule reclaim it, even if he knows who has taken it". . . .

... Our labours of successive civilizations have been like those of Sisyphus, and the history of political progress has been a circuitous folly. We have to place the wheels of human advancement on a new track, before we can hope to have peace for a reasonable term of our existence.