# **CHEMISTRY**





CFC smugglers exposed, p709



'Anti-virus viruses' could halt AIDS, p714



### 708 LETTERS

### **709 NEWS**

- ◆ French pharmaceutical industry in trouble
- ♦ Malnutrition strikes US children
- ◆ Monsanto plans gene food adverts
- ♦ US approves thalidomide drug

# 715 BIOTECHNOLOGY

### Norse code holds key to genomics

Why is Iceland the best place to look for genetics that cause human diseases? Graham Lawton reports.

### 718 EUROPEAN PATENTS

### 720 ENVIRONMENT

### **Novel wood preservatives**

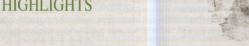
Edward Suttie of the UK Building Research Establishment looks at how new wood preservatives derived from a greater understanding of wood chemistry could lead to more environmentally and socially acceptable products.

### 725 MATERIALS SCIENCE

# New directions in solid state synthesis

Reactions that are effectively controlled explosions are providing faster routes for making ceramics, as Ivan Parkin at University College, London, explains.

### 730 HIGHLIGHTS



### 741 AFTERWORDS

# 742 COMMENT

### The limitations of science

Bryan Reuben raises some philosophical doubts about the proclaimed supremacy of science.

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Putting a new spin on ceramic synthesis