

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **PEN-STYLE CAN OPENER**, useful on picnics and trips, opens juice cans and bottles. Only five inches long and weighing just an ounce, the opener can be clipped to the pocket like a fountain pen. The metal parts of the device are made of stainless steel and the holder of plastic.

• Science News Letter, 84:112 Aug. 17, 1963

⚙️ **TUBE SHIELD** helps cut down toothpaste waste. Made of rigid, non-brittle plastic, the cylindrical shield fits on the top half of the "economy" or "family size" tube of toothpaste, preventing squeezing of the upper portion until the bottom half is completely used. When the lower half of the tube is rolled up and empty, the shield is removed and stored for reuse on the next tube.

• Science News Letter, 84:112 Aug. 17, 1963

⚙️ **PLASTIC ELECTRICAL TAPE** for home repair and maintenance jobs comes in a pocket-size dispenser. The refillable dispenser containing 20 ft. of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide tape allows applying and cutting the tape with one hand, useful when working in awkward spots. The vinyl insulating tape is close-conforming and pressure sensitive, resisting moisture, acids, solvents and oils, and can replace rubber and friction tapes for most electrical repairs.

• Science News Letter, 84:112 Aug. 17, 1963



⚙️ **SOLAR STOVE**, shown in the photograph, requiring no fuel but the sun will be ideal for picnicking and for persons in developing countries when put on the market. Made of a hexagonal cardboard box with aluminum foil reflectors, the stove is capable of heating a quart of soup to 175 degrees Fahrenheit in less than 35 minutes on a sunny day. The interior of the box, insulated and lined with black foil, forms the oven.

• Science News Letter, 84:112 Aug. 17, 1963

⚙️ **ADJUSTABLE LIGHT SPREADER** has a ball joint that allows the head to be set at almost any angle and is ideal for deck illumination, as a docking aid and other lighting purposes. Made of chrome-plated brass with concealed wiring, it is available with a six- or 12-volt sealed beam unit.

• Science News Letter, 84:112 Aug. 17, 1963

⚙️ **FLEXIBLE CLAMP SUPPORT** for laboratory or workshop is a swivel system that can be precisely directed in a variety of positions over table, workbench or shelf. The sturdy but small support on a cast-iron base holds anything from a  $\frac{1}{32}$ -inch wire to a one-inch test tube. Its non-corroding clamp has three vinylized fingers adjustable with thumb screws. The unit is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches high when loaded and extends to about 17 inches.

• Science News Letter, 84:112 Aug. 17, 1963

⚙️ **LIGHT DIFFUSER** made of polyethylene in various colors slips easily over fluorescent tubes to turn them into attractive colored lights. Useful in designating danger, loading and shipping areas in commercial buildings, the netting also helps protect the tubes against breakage. The netting can be cut with scissors to the required length and will fit either slim-line or standard tubes.

• Science News Letter, 84:112 Aug. 17, 1963

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Preventing Facial Deformity

➤ **SCARRED AND MISSHAPEN** faces are likely to disturb the lives of an increasing number of persons as the number of automobile accidents continues to rise.

The physical, mental and social problems brought on by disfigurement require expert specialized treatment for the victims of accidents, a report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 185:354, 1963, said.

The main deformities are the result of bone fractures and skin lacerations, said Dr. John Marquis Converse, plastic surgeon of New York University Medical Center and Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, New York.

The "trap-door flap," an injury in which the skin is torn from the head as it crashes through the windshield, is common now that non-shattering safety glass is installed in automobiles.

A common bone disfigurement, Dr. Converse said, is the "flat face" deformity. Even with immediate expert attention to fractures, the loss of contour of the face is difficult to avoid.

To prevent injury and disfigurement, Dr. Converse said, seat belts are "particularly effective." Studies have shown seat belts significantly reduce all degrees of injury.

## Transplanted Kidney Working Well

A man whose kidney was transplanted from the dead body of a stranger is now, 16 months later, working full time and feeling well.

This is the longest-lasting kidney transplant from an unrelated

individual. Drugs helped the patient when his body threatened to reject the transplant, a team of Boston physicians reported in *JAMA*, 185:347, 1963.

The case of the 24-year-old accountant shows that the body can be treated so it will maintain a graft. Tolerance to a transplantation is "not an all or none phenomenon," said Drs. J. P. Merrill, J. E. Murray, F. J. Takacs, E. B. Hager, R. E. Wilson and G. J. Dammin of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

The problem of tolerance is the major stumbling block to transplants between unrelated individuals. If the tissues of the two are unsympathetic, the recipient develops an immunological response and attempts to reject the graft.

Under ideal circumstances, tissues of the donor and recipient would be tested for compatibility. In this case the test was not possible because the pair came together by chance. Coincidental factors, the investigators said, may have played a role in the long-term survival of the graft.

## Eight Highballs Daily May Affect Liver

Drinking eight highballs a day may lead to liver disease, Dr. Charles S. Lieber of Boston, Mass., said in the questions and answers section of *JAMA*, 185:419, 1963. He stated that recent studies have indicated that, even though the drinker maintains a well-balanced diet, fatty liver may develop after regular consumption of this amount of alcohol.

• Science News Letter, 84:112 Aug. 17, 1963