

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **PEN FOR HIGHLIGHTING** contains quick-drying transparent yellow ink to emphasize significant words and phrases in letters, reports or news clippings. A quick stroke of yellow ink over selected words makes them stand out from other type on the page. A variety of broad or narrow strokes can be made with the four-way felt nib.

• Science News Letter, 84:160 September 7, 1963

⚙️ **DISPOSABLE CAPS** made of bonded fabric for use in hospital operating rooms and clean rooms are available in vivid colors for high visibility, with or without fire-retardant treatment. Lightweight, cool and comfortable, the caps have an elastic binding to fit all head sizes.

• Science News Letter, 84:160 September 7, 1963

⚙️ **MAIL CATCHER** is a roomy wire basket that attaches inside the door below the mail slot and keeps letters, magazines, newspapers and packages off the floor. Made of heavy plated wire, it can also be placed on the outside of the door for deliveries, or mounted on the wall for use as a convenient deposit place for incoming or outgoing mail, orders, memos or work sheets.

• Science News Letter, 84:160 September 7, 1963

⚙️ **PLASTIC-FINNED WEATHERSTRIPPING**, shown in photograph, repels water and saves fuel by reducing air infiltration



from 33% to 100% over conventional woven wool-pile weatherstripping. The plastic fin imbedded and locked in the base of the woven pile weatherstripping provides superior sealing efficiency, permitting the more economical lower pile heights.

• Science News Letter, 84:160 September 7, 1963

⚙️ **ELECTRIC WEEKEND TIMER** that starts and stops equipment automatically during a weekend or a long holiday is useful for laboratory, office or plant production processes. The equipment to be controlled is plugged into the device, which is calibrated in one-hour divisions from one to 72 hours. The portable time unit is housed in a steel cabinet 7 by 6 by 4 inches in size. It has both signal light and buzzer alarms.

• Science News Letter, 84:160 September 7, 1963

⚙️ **PLASTIC ELECTRIC FITTINGS** do not rust or rot and are resistant to electrolysis. The access fittings for electrical conduits may be used in humid or salt water atmospheres and other corrosive environments, indoors or out. Sizes range from one-half to two inches, for use either with threaded or solvent-weld connections.

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⚙️ **ROUND BOTTOM FLASK RINGS** are plastic-coated, rust-proof supports that nest one on another for convenient space-saving storage. Designed with one of its three legs in the form of a hook, the ring can be hung out of the way on a laboratory rack and still be within convenient reach. Unaffected by moisture, the ring can be used in ice or steam baths. They are available in four sizes.

• Science News Letter, 84:160 September 7, 1963

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Can Have Measles Vaccine

➤ **CHILDREN** who have been denied protection from measles because of allergy to the egg protein in the new live vaccine apparently can use the vaccine safely, it was reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 185:647, 1963.

The use of any virus vaccine cultured in egg is generally avoided by those allergic to egg protein, but in tests given to nine children allergic to egg, no reactions occurred.

The investigators cautioned against use of the vaccine in other children acutely allergic to egg protein until further studies are made, but they believe the majority of such children need not be deprived of the protection.

The nine children who were injected with the live vaccine were also given modifying gamma globulin according to routine procedure, Drs. Peter B. Kamin, Bernard T. Fein and Howard A. Britton, all of Green Memorial Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, reported.

## Mushrooms for Suicide

An unsuccessful suicide attempt of a depressed student who ate several orange-capped mushrooms, which produce hallucinations, was reported in *JAMA*, 185:663, 1963.

Dr. Robert W. Buck, secretary of the Massachusetts Medical Society, Boston, reported other cases in which persons who ate considerable quantities of both raw and cooked mushrooms of this same *Amanita muscaria* variety recovered.

When healthy persons eat such mushrooms, Dr. Buck concluded,

they will probably live, but may be quite ill with accompanying hallucinations. The deaths that have followed the eating of this type of mushroom have not been sufficiently documented, he said, to permit conclusions that this is a "lethal" mushroom.

## Surgery in Hemophilia

Bleeders, called hemophiliacs, were formerly faced with almost certain death if surgery was performed because there was no remedy for the failure of their blood to clot properly. Now the hemophiliac will not bleed to death because human fibrinogen rich in AHG, or antihemolytic globulin, can be injected intravenously to prevent it.

Successful surgery for correction of a foot deformity that is a common complication of hemophilia was reported by three University of Florida surgeons in *JAMA*, 185:628, 1963.

This foot disease, called talipes equinus deformity, appears to be the result of a single severe hemorrhage or repeated smaller hemorrhages in the foot muscles. To get comfort, the patient walks on the ball of the foot in a horse-like, or equinus, manner, thus fixing the deformity. If uncorrected, it will lead to early joint destruction.

Drs. Robert C. Field, William F. Enneking and Gerald Rothstein of Gainesville, Fla., reported three cases of male bleeders who underwent foot surgery with success, although wound healing appeared to be five to ten times slower than in persons normally undergoing surgery.

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