

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

For sources of more information on new things described, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to SCIENCE SERVICE, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036, and ask for Gadget Bulletin 1216. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **GOLFER THUMB GUIDES** help train a person to grip the golf club properly. Attached to the golf club, the guides can be adjusted to the hands to assume the proper grip. After a brief period of use, the gripping problems will have been solved and the training discs can be removed. The guides do not harm the clubs.

• Science News Letter, 84:224 Oct. 5, 1963

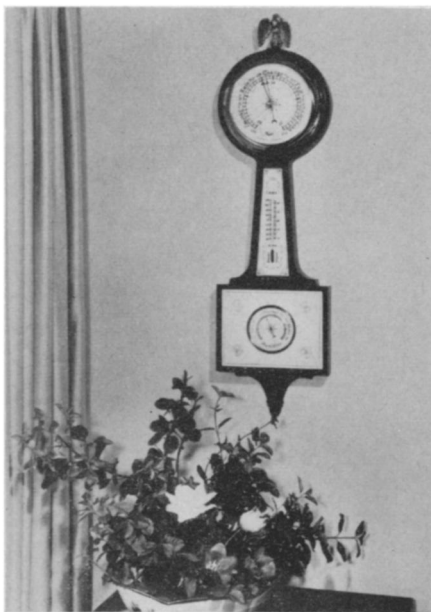
⚙️ **EXECUTIVE RECORDER** only a little bigger than a pack of cigarettes will record up to a full hour using a single reusable tape. Less than 12 ounces in weight, the electronic device operates on one nine-volt transistor and a 1.5 penlight cell and is ideal for recording interviews, meetings and conferences. It is provided with a built-in loud-speaker and microphone. Accessories are available separately.

• Science News Letter, 84:224 Oct. 5, 1963

⚙️ **LABORATORY DETERGENT** is gentle to hands and does not harm clothing. Safer for laboratory use than cleaning acids, the alkaline solution (pH 10) cleans quickly and thoroughly with no oxidation formation of toxic or volatile side-products. It effectively removes radioisotopes from laboratory equipment and other materials such as stainless steel.

• Science News Letter, 84:224 Oct. 5, 1963

⚙️ **EASY-TO-READ BAROMETER**, shown in photograph, provides two and a half



times more pointer motion than ordinary instruments. Designed similar in shape to a grandfather's clock and topped with a model of a spread-winged eagle, the unit includes a barometer which tells weather changes from very dry to stormy, thermometer for temperature readings and a humidity gauge. The barometer hangs on the wall.

• Science News Letter, 84:224 Oct. 5, 1963

⚙️ **TRANSI-CURVE** is a device that permits laboratory demonstrations to science students of the resistance-capacitance transient theory. The layout of the system is patterned after diagrams in standard textbooks simplifying laboratory verification of the theory. The unit consists of a 6 by 2 by 1/2-inch assembly mounted in a transparent box and an illustrated explanatory manual containing experiments and references.

• Science News Letter, 84:224 Oct. 5, 1963

⚙️ **SELF-SEALING NUTS** are vibration resistant and suitable for electronic instrumentation, hydraulic gear computers, aerospace and industrial equipment. Silicone rubber molded into the nut forms a high-pressure seal along the threads and the panel surface when tightened on a screw. Resistant to salt water, acids, weather and sunlight, the nuts have a shelf life of more than 25 years.

• Science News Letter, 84:224 Oct. 5, 1963

⚙️ **MICRO TOOL KIT** contains a complete set of new microminiature tools for manipulating parts from 1/10 to 1/1,000 of an inch in size. Each tip is microscopically shaped and gold-plated to prevent corrosion and contamination when working with ultrafine parts. Designed for the general microminiature industry, these tools are useful also to white room operations, instrument assembly and biological work.

• Science News Letter, 84:224 Oct. 5, 1963

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Well-Used Brain Stays Sharp

➤ **FULL BRAIN POWER** continues into the 70s if it is used often enough, it was stated in *Today's Health*, 41:50, 1963.

Housewives, too, who read this nontechnical medical journal will learn that their brain power can surpass that of executives of the same age.

This also was true of production workers and others, Dr. Ward C. Halstead of the University of Chicago found in conducting a battery of tests on 10,000 persons.

Although 78% of top-level executives averaging 50 years old showed brain power comparable to that of 25-year-old medical students, others were unable to capitalize on their mental capacities to the fullest, the professor of experimental psychology reported.

The brain is like a muscle—the more you use it the more you develop it. This does not necessarily mean that the brain develops better when concentrating on calculus than on cooking.

Dr. Halstead's ten tests are "remarkably free from cultural influences such as education, economic background, skills, interests, experience or the intelligence quotient," the journal reported.

They measure the fundamental functioning of the nervous system, visual acuity, abstract thinking, the person's reaction to what he hears and his memory.

## The Drug Addict Problem

Physicians and law enforcement agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Narcotics have mutual interests but different functions

in the problem of narcotics addiction, an editorial in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 185:962, 1963, emphasized.

Each physician whose services are asked by an addict who has a sincere desire to be treated is obligated to provide treatment himself or refer the patient to a skilled colleague.

## Infrared Photography

Aid to diagnosis of various diseases, including cancer, is being offered through photographs of the infrared radiation that naturally emanates from the human body, two scientists reported in *JAMA*, 185:949.

An infrared camera can record up to 60,000 "bits of temperature information per full picture," Dr. R. Bowling Barnes of the Barnes Engineering Company, Stamford, Conn., and Dr. J. Gershon-Cohen of the Albert Einstein Medical Center's North Division, Philadelphia, said.

## Smoking Bad for Athletes

The coach is right about smoking "cutting the wind." A joint study on smoking and sports shows a marked decrease in breathing capacity when athletes smoke. The American Medical Association's committee on the medical aspects of sports and the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations reported the study.

• Science News Letter, 84:224 Oct. 5, 1963