

# • 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 1219. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⊗ **FLUORESCENT SAFETY GUARD** prevents injury due to falling of fluorescent tubes and loss of time and damage to production. Made of stainless steel, the safety guards are non-magnetic and will neither rust nor corrode. The guard, simply slipped over the tube on each end, will not interfere with the locking device or reflector. Two guards are used with each tube.

• Science News Letter, 84:288 Nov. 2, 1963

⊗ **STORM GUARDS** that roll up out of the way and out of sight when not in use convert a screened porch, carport or patio into snug, protected living areas in cold or rainy weather. Made of transparent flexible vinyl sheeting with an aluminum frame, the weather barrier can be installed in any new or existing screened enclosure. Installed inside and exactly to size, each guard panel is nylon brush weather stripped.

• Science News Letter, 84:288 Nov. 2, 1963

⊗ **FIREPLACE LOG CART** eliminates tracking debris into the house and scattering wood chips on the floor. Made of black wrought iron, the sturdy decorative cart, 30 by 17 by 14 inches in size, has a circular handle and frame of tubular steel. It rolls smoothly on the floor or up and down steps on two oversized tires. Its deep metal basket will hold up to 100 pounds of firewood. Two legs opposite the wheels hold it in upright position.

• Science News Letter, 84:288 Nov. 2, 1963



⊗ **AUTOMATIC TAPE RECORDER-PLAYER**, shown in photograph, provided with an automatic tape-changer produces 15 hours of continuous stereophonic music. Simple to operate, the recorder-playback will play taped cartridges automatically, performing all operating functions, including threading of the tape, playing, rewinding and advancing to the next cartridge. Up to 20 tape cartridges can be played in succession without interruption.

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⊗ **WALL CLOCK KIT** for making a clock using a discarded phonograph record will appeal to children. The kit contains three polished brass hands, 12 bright brass disc hour markers, colored disc for the second hand and a synchronous electric movement. Easy-to-follow directions are included and no clock-making skill is required.

• Science News Letter, 84:288 Nov. 2, 1963

⊗ **BACTERIOLOGICAL KIT** is a complete laboratory teaching aid for performing experiments with microorganisms and demonstrating bacterial sensitivity to antibiotics, disinfectants and germicides. Materials in each kit include disposable petri dishes, swabs, Ringer's solution, discs impregnated with antibiotics and a descriptive brochure and instruction booklet.

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⊗ **NEW STUDENT MICROSCOPES** excellent for elementary and high school students are 60 to 90% less expensive than usual school microscopes, yet operate with high precision. Shock-proof models include: For elementary schools, 10x or 100x magnification microscopes with adjustable reflector for illumination control; for higher grades, zoom microscopes that offer continuously variable in-focus magnifications of 25x to 100x or 50x to 200x; stereomicroscope for three-dimensional microscopy. Illuminators are available separately.

• Science News Letter, 84:288 Nov. 2, 1963

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Three-Pound Baby Survives Heart Operation

➤ A TINY BABY weighing only three pounds, two ounces lived after an operation to correct an unusually large connection between two arteries near the heart.

She is believed to be the smallest baby ever to survive such an operation, a report in the American Journal of Diseases of Children, 106:402, 1963, stated.

The premature girl weighed only two pounds and six ounces when she was born by cesarean operation at the Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, N. Y. She developed a heart murmur when she was seven days old.

An operation was not considered necessary until the baby was 54 days old and had suffered repeated heart failure that was complicated by pneumonitis. Her symptoms resulted from the abnormally large connection between the aorta and the pulmonary arteries.

Following corrective surgery for what physicians call "patent ductus arteriosus," the baby made a "dramatic recovery," Dr. H. G. Decancq Jr. of the Rochester Hospital reported. Drs. Earle B. Mahoney, Frank J. Colgan and James A. Manning assisted in the surgery and treatment.

## New Kind of Nuclear Knife

A new kind of nuclear knife, using beams of negative pi mesons from an atom smasher, is now being tested by a team of scientists at the University of California, Berkeley, led by Dr. John H. Lawrence, director of the Donner Laboratory. A report and editorial in the Journal of the American Medical Association, 186:254, 1963, note the advantages of beams of other kinds of nuclear particles, such as protons, in the radiation treatment of certain diseases, including cancer.

## Thinning the Blood

Hardening of the arteries that restricts leg circulation can be helped in some persons by bloodletting, a team of surgeons at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine reported in JAMA, 186:126, 1963.

Phlebotomy, or incision into a vein to draw blood, was found to improve the circulation in case of erythrocythemia, a condition in which there is a great increase in red corpuscles.

Drs. John J. Cranley, Thomas J. Fogarty, Raymond J. Krause, Edward S. Strasser and Charles D. Hafner reported the study.

• Science News Letter, 84:288 Nov. 2, 1963