

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **DOG TRAINING COLLAR** makes use of ultra-high frequency sound that is heard by the dogs but not by humans to give commands for obedience training. Orders such as sit, heel and come are given simultaneously with the sound which is produced by the friction of the special metal alloy in the collar. Commands are quickly obeyed and car chasing and biting can be eliminated. An instruction booklet is included with the collar.

• Science News Letter, 84:352 Nov. 30, 1963

⚙️ **AUTOGRAPH KERCHIEF** to delight the teen-ager is a triangular scarf worn around the neck or over the head on which are printed popular teen-age symbols, such as telephones, convertibles, pennants and hearts. A "hitch-hiking" indelible ball point pen for collecting autographs on the scarf is attached. Made of colorfast washable cotton the scarf comes in several colors.

• Science News Letter, 84:352 Nov. 30, 1963

⚙️ **RAIN GAUGE** for home, farm or school provides accurate measurement of each hundredth inch of rainfall. Made of transparent plastic, the gauge has a circular catch which funnels the rainfall into the graduated inner tube with one-inch capacity. Any overflow is collected in an outer tube which has a capacity up to 11 inches. The gauge comes with a rustproof mounting bracket and forms for recording precipitation.

• Science News Letter, 84:352 Nov. 30, 1963



⚙️ **LANTERN THERMOMETER**, shown in photograph, is fashioned as a miniature replica of a colonial tavern lantern. Inside the 2½-inch lantern, made of gold-finished metal and clear plastic, is the thermometer with a red-arrowed indicator that accurately gives temperature readings from -10 degrees to 150 degrees Fahrenheit. The unit can be hung from a metal wall bracket that comes with the lantern or placed on top a desk.

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⚙️ **COMPACT DISPOSER** reduces problems of attaching waste disposers to kitchen sinks in older homes. It is made especially for installations where the waste line going into the wall is less than seven inches below the bottom of the sink. The disposer, designed with a 5½-inch rough-in requirement, meets the needs of homeowners who are planning partial or complete kitchen remodeling.

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⚙️ **MAGNETIC LEVEL**, useful to mechanic, plumber, homeowner or hobbyist adheres to any ferrous surface leaving the hands free for work. The tool, ¾ by 2½ inches in size can be used as a level, protractor and square. To check the angle of any surface, the level, magnetized on its sides and bottom, is placed on the object and its protractor adjusted until the bubble is centered. From the reading, the angle, as well as the rise or fall in inches per foot, may be determined.

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⚙️ **EAR PLUGS** of triple baffle construction provide a perfect seal for the ears against loud noises in industry as well as in the armed forces. Made of soft, pliable silicone rubber, they are comfortable, non-toxic and safe. The plugs are durable, resistant to oils and grease and can be boiled for sterilizing. One size fits all ears, eliminating the need to measure ear canals.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Antibiotics Used on Skin

➤ **TELL YOUR DOCTOR** if you have been rubbing an antibiotic into your skin—either in a deodorant or in other skin applications (doctors call it "topical").

This warning appears in the Journal of the American Medical Association, 186:646, 1963, to alert physicians to the fact that their patients may be sensitized to an antibiotic that could be dangerous if prescribed for internal use. The AMA Council on Drugs authorized the report.

Neomycin sulfate, for example, is harmlessly included in many commercial deodorants. Penicillin, streptomycin and tyrothricin are not used so often because they are more likely to produce skin irritation.

Dr. Robert G. Carney, professor and head of the department of dermatology, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, said that even fatal reactions could occur in persons who take an antibiotic internally when they have been using it for eczema, acne or other skin troubles.

Carbon Monoxide Danger

Carbon monoxide affects the mind before it poisons the body. Astronauts, airplane pilots, train engineers and others exposed to low levels of carbon monoxide at their work were warned in AMA's Archives of Environmental Health, 7:524, 1963, to be alert for symptoms of mental disturbance.

Navy Cmdr. John H. Schulte, Washington, D. C., reported that the degree of psychic change may be "quite profound" before any physical changes take place.

Dr. Schulte studied the performance of 49 healthy men given relatively simple psychological and physiological tests while exposed to "safe levels" of the gas. These men were volunteers from the Cincinnati Fire Department.

Skin Cancer Warning

A skin cancer that has apparently been treated with complete success can be a warning to be on the lookout for internal cancer, Drs. Carlton L. Carpenter Jr., Vincent J. Derbes and Henry W. Jolly Jr., all of Tulane University, New Orleans, La., reported in JAMA, 186:621, 1963.

Of 2,433 patients with skin cancer, 197, or eight percent, had an associated malignancy of another organ, these physicians said.

Medical Students Increase

The first increase in the number of applicants for medical school in six years was reported in JAMA, 186:649, 1963. Applicants in 1962-63 totaled 15,847, compared with 14,381 in the previous year, which was an increase of 10%, the AMA Council on Medical Education and Hospitals said.

Total enrollment in the nation's 87 approved medical schools for 1962-63 was 31,491, up to 413 from 1961-62, the report said.

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