

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **NEW SPINNING TOP** that doubles as a spinning and return top gives hours of fun to children. The versatile top of sturdy lightweight plastic consists of two cones joined back to back by a center axle. To spin, the string, unattached, is wound around the axle and then whipped free. Also, the top can be made to rise and fall from the hand by attaching the string to the axle and winding and unwinding the string as necessary.

• Science News Letter, 84:384 Dec. 14, 1963

⚙️ **THE THINKER** statuette adds classic beauty to the home. It can be used in pairs for bookends or singly as a decorative art piece. Cast in heavy brass and bronze, the model, hand polished and finished, is six inches high and 4½ inches wide at the base. A set of two weighs seven pounds.

• Science News Letter, 84:384 Dec. 14, 1963

⚙️ **ORNAMENTAL WATCH HOLDER** of polished and lacquered solid brass displays the family keepsake watch in a beautiful and useful manner, readily accessible for winding and setting. The side arms of the holder adjust easily to fit all sizes of pocket watches, open face or hunting styles.

• Science News Letter, 84:384 Dec. 14, 1963

⚙️ **SHATTERPROOF TREE ORNAMENTS**, shown in photograph, are so safe



baby can play with them. The ornaments are flameproof, weatherproof, colorfast and nontoxic, and can be used outdoors as well as indoors. During the day they colorfully reflect the bright sun. Varying from 1¾ to 10½ inches in size, they are available in all traditional colors, decorator hues and in various shapes.

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⚙️ **VERSATILE CAN-OPENER** that opens any size or shape household can also sharpens knives, mixes, whips and mashes. The lightweight electric opener has four snap-in attachments: knife-sharpener, food whipper, drink mixer and potato masher. The portable can-opener can be used where most convenient without worry of splashing or staining walls as with stationary or wall-mounted types.

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⚙️ **BOW-MAKING KIT** enables adults or children to make artistic ribbon creations in the home without training or experience. Using the plastic pins and a special notched spool in the kit, professional looking ribbon bows can be quickly and easily made from rolls of decorative ribbons. Countless bow styles can be devised, stimulating one's creativity. Kits are available with or without the ribbon included.

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⚙️ **MUSICAL SPOONS** are an unusual percussion instrument for the professional combo player as well as for the amateur musician who wishes to rhythmically accompany a favorite record or tape recording. The spoons, a redesigned and modernized version of the instrument used in the late 19th century instead of castanets, are easy to play and require little practice. Instructions are included with the set.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Corn Oil as a Heart Attack Preventive

➤ **TWO OUNCES** of corn oil taken daily with a diet low in animal fat lowered cholesterol for three or more years in patients who had had their first coronary heart attack, a Scottish physician reported in the *British Medical Journal* Nov. 30, 1963.

Dr. W. C. Watson of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary reported a study of 28 male patients who cooperated in a regimen aimed at preventing another heart attack.

When corn oil was removed from the low animal fat diet of seven patients, their cholesterol levels rose.

Skim milk, fat-free soup, thin slices of bread, lean meat, fish, chicken, two small potatoes, vegetables if liked, jello and skim milk pudding were allowed in the 1,600 to 2,000 calorie diet.

Forbidden were egg yolks, ice cream, butter, lard, cream, whole-milk cheese, cakes made with eggs and pastry.

Dr. Watson pointed out that while high cholesterol levels have not been proved to cause heart attacks, it is generally agreed that reduction of high levels of this fatty substance is desirable in the management of clogged arteries and their complications.

Tetanus Shots Backed

The American Medical Association campaign to immunize children and adults against lockjaw indirectly received backing in an article in the *British Medical Journal*, Nov. 30, 1963.

The strongest statement yet made on dangers resulting from lack of active toxoid immunization came from staff members of Sheffield Royal Infirmary.

Tetanus (lockjaw) antitoxin given to an unimmunized patient threatened with tetanus is so dangerous it has been withdrawn as a preventive treatment at the Infirmary. One unimmunized patient died from it. Drs. Colleen A. Co, J. Knowelden and W. J. Sharrard, all in the accident and orthopedic department of the Infirmary, recommended that substitutes for tetanus antitoxin be "adequate wound treatment," and antibiotics and active immunization by toxoid against future injury.

Second Twin Is Riskier

The second twin risks death at birth more often than the first twin, two Yale University scientists reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 186:869, 1963.

No reasons were given for the greater risk, but in all except two of 28 studies published from 1941 to 1963, the number of deaths for the second twin exceeded those for the first born. Grace Wyshak and Colin White of Yale's medical school reported the study.

Snakebite Treatment Tested

A snakebite treatment called antivenin, or antivenene by the British, was found to be more effective than the cortisone preparation prednisone when tried on Northern Malayan victims of a pet viper. Reporting the study in the *British Medical Journal*, Nov. 30, 1963, were Drs. H. A. Reid and P. C. Thean, both of the General Hospital, Penang, Malaya, and W. J. Martin of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

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