

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

Ask for Gadget Bulletin 1228 for sources of new things described. Send a self-addressed envelope to SCIENCE SERVICE, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **IDEA GENERATOR**, a fast way of creating original ideas, is a new management tool useful to companies seeking new markets and new uses for their products. The unit, consisting of 17 movable printed vinyl tapes in a polished aluminum and hardboard framework, 22 x 36 inches in size, combines creative thinking with consumer analysis. When the tapes are moved, relationships between the printed categories are created which give suggestions for new and original ideas.

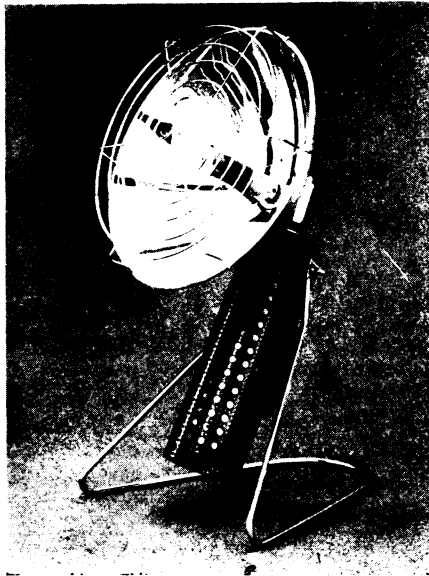
• Science News Letter, 84:416 Dec. 28, 1963

⚙️ **CAR WINDOW DEFROSTER** eliminates frozen fingers, melts away ice, snow and even sleet from all car windows. Simply plugged into a car's cigarette-lighter socket, the defroster gun sprays out a steady stream of superheated air that clears steamed windows immediately. It will not damage glass, chrome or paint and comes complete with insulated cord in a carrying case.

• Science News Letter, 84:416 Dec. 28, 1963

⚙️ **AMINO ACID KIT** for nutritional and medical research consists of amino acids that are of special interest in amino acid metabolism. Designed for experimental use only, the kit contains one gram each of 22 amino acids, such as, *L*-aspartic acid, *L*-cystine, *L*-leucine, *L*-phenylalanine, *L*-valine and *L*-tryptophane.

• Science News Letter, 84:416 Dec. 28, 1963



⚙️ **INFRARED PORTABLE HEATER**, shown in photograph, ideal for outdoor as well as indoor use, produces instant direct-ray heat at the touch of a match and without electricity. A small cigar-shaped core which glows instantly generates infrared heat projected by a reflector to heat boats, trailers or cabins. Having no flame, the unit is windproof. The heater also can broil, heat frozen foods and dry hair, clothes or paint.

• Science News Letter, 84:416 Dec. 28, 1963

⚙️ **TUB AND SHOWER WALL PANELS** installed over old walls or in a new home add a decorative highlight to the bathroom. Made of plastic-finished hardboard, the mural panels are washable and highly resistant to heat, moisture and high humidity. Made in 5 x 5 feet and 5 x 6 feet panels of various scenes and designs, they are ideal for one-piece paneling of standard five-foot bathtub walls.

• Science News Letter, 84:416 Dec. 28, 1963

⚙️ **AUTOMATIC STAMPING MACHINE**, for home or office, holds a roll of 100 to 500 U.S. postage stamps and automatically fixes them on the envelope or card when a button is pressed. A time-saving unit, it also has a built-in attachment that wets the envelope flap for easy sealing. A nonslip rubber cushion base holds the stamper firmly to desk or table.

• Science News Letter, 84:416 Dec. 28, 1963

⚙️ **RADIOASSAY ELECTROSCOPE** that can be used for tracer studies is useful for teaching basic fundamentals of nuclear science. Essentially an ion chamber, the electroscopes measure the numbers of ionizing events per unit of time from any radioactive source. Made rugged for student use, the instrument is transistorized and operates on one standard "D" battery. A teacher's manual and student manual are included.

• Science News Letter, 84:416 Dec. 28, 1963

• Doctors Are Reading •

50-50 Chance for Breast Cancer Victims

➤ **NO MATTER** what treatment for breast cancer is given, only about half of the victims can expect to be alive more than five years later.

This is the conclusion drawn from worldwide studies, done over a period of years on men and women with breast cancer.

After 10 years, the studies have shown, only about 30% of the victims are living.

"There is certainly a striking similarity and surprising uniformity of end results in the treatment of breast cancer despite widely differing therapeutic techniques," Dr. Edward F. Lewison, a Baltimore physician said in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 186:975, 1963.

He said it was "disconcerting" to find that improved surgical techniques have not made a significant dent in the breast cancer death rate. A basic question is whether the statistics are really measuring surgical triumphs or are merely reflecting the natural course of the disease.

Echoing the National Advisory Cancer Council and a *JAMA* editorial, Dr. Lewison called for a large-scale, carefully worked-out comparison of the methods of breast cancer treatment. The methods are simple mastectomy, or removal of the breast only, radical mastectomy which includes removal of the breast, lymph nodes or other surrounding tissues, and finally radiation treatment.

"Gastrointestinal Flu" Is Misnomer

A 24-hour siege of nausea, vomiting and diarrhea should not be confused with the flu, physicians are reading in the Questions and Answers section of *JAMA*, 186:1028, 1963. These severe and incapacitating though brief infections are caused by small viruses that multiply in the gastrointestinal tract.

Yellow Sweat Has Many Origins

The problem of a man who perspires with yellow sweat that stains his shirts and bed sheets has many possible origins, an item in the Questions and Answers section of *JAMA*, 186:1029, 1963, said.

The yellow sweat could be caused by a rare glandular infection, by interaction with bacteria or fungus or by contact with dusts from exotic products.

Solvent Promising as Drug

A purified form of dimethyl sulfoxide, a commercial solvent, has shown promise as an unusually effective pain killer. Dr. Stanley Jacob of the University of Oregon Medical School, Portland, with Robert Herschler of the Crown-Zellerbach Corporation's Chemical Products Division, Camas, Wash., have conducted preliminary tests and patents have been applied for.

• Science News Letter, 84:416 Dec. 28, 1963