

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **GOLF PRACTICE MACHINE**, imported from England, helps perfect form and increase driving distance without using balls or tees. A precision built instrument, the machine accurately records the length of any drive on a calibrated scale up to 350 yards when the player strikes the device. Usable anywhere there is room to swing a club, practice can be done indoors as well as outdoors. Ground spikes and instructions are included with the unit.

• Science News Letter, 85:416 June 27, 1964

⚙️ **COMPACT FAN** designed for commercial cooling applications that require high air moving efficiency is permanently lubricated and maintenance free. The tiny aluminum fan is recommended for use in business machines, electrical equipment, air conditioners or tape recorders and will operate satisfactorily at temperatures up to 125 degrees Fahrenheit. A cadmium plated grille for the fan is available separately.

• Science News Letter, 85:416 June 27, 1964

⚙️ **BUSINESS CARD FILE**, useful for home or office, has an alphabetical guide and is neat and compact. Made of gold tone aluminum, the file can be used on top of the desk or in a desk drawer. Holding cards up to 3½ x 2 inches, the unit is available in two sizes, the junior size which holds 750 cards and the senior size holding 1,000 cards.

• Science News Letter, 85:416 June 27, 1964



⚙️ **PRE-GUMMED ALBUM PAGES**, shown in photograph, are useful for scrap books, picture albums or recipe books. The corners of the photo or clipping to be mounted are moistened and pressed lightly onto the gummed paper. Helpful guide lines are ruled on the paper. The pages, punched with holes to fit any standard two or three-ring loose-leaf binders, are inserted into transparent plastic page protectors included in each set.

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⚙️ **SPEED READING MACHINE** for self-study at home helps increase reading speed. Designed for teachers and executives as well as students, the machine uses rolls on which each lesson of the course is printed. The speed of the roll passing the viewing window can be controlled by the reader and is measured in words-per-minute. The machine works entirely mechanically without batteries or electricity.

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⚙️ **CORDLESS HEDGE TRIMMER** makes cutting hedges and shrubs fast and safe. The lightweight trimmer, powered by a ¾ horsepower engine, will operate eight hours on a single gallon of fuel. Starting instantly in any weather with fingertip control, it can be used in any position without fuel tank leakage. Its slim cordless design makes it suitable for hard to reach areas of shrubbery.

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⚙️ **GIANT MAGNET** will provide fun for vacationers near lakes, rivers or estuaries. The five-pound magnet, which will lift over 150 pounds when attached to a length of rope, can be used to troll the bottom of a lake or other body of water from bridge or boat for salvaging metal objects. The magnet is also useful on family craft for retrieving ferrous metal tools or equipment that may have fallen overboard.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Electrically Charged Air No Help

➤ A TREATMENT of "atmospheric ionization" for hay fever and asthma sufferers who feel worse just before a change in the weather is of no value, a team of Philadelphia physicians reported in the Archives of Environmental Health, 8:818, 1964.

This finding contradicts a widespread belief that has grown up in the past few years among some allergists that treatment with negatively charged ions has a beneficial effect in a variety of respiratory diseases.

Drs. George I. Blumstein, Jay Spiegelman and Philip Kimbel of the Albert Einstein Medical Center, Philadelphia, treated 26 patients with positive, negative and placebo, or nonmedical, ionic charges without significant effects.

Newborn Babies See Well

A newborn baby sees better than was previously thought, a report in the Archives of Ophthalmology, 71:865, 1964, reveals.

The researchers first studied 39 babies from the University of California at Los Angeles newborn nursery by placing a canopy over the individual beds and recording eye movements electrically. Nine demonstrated coordinated eye movement on a single target, showing at least 20/150 vision and possibly even better.

After finding that some babies could fix both eyes on a single target, the researchers tested a group of 45 infants on their ability

to follow a series of dots moving across the canopy. Seventeen of these normal babies were capable of locating the moving dots and following them. Most of the other babies had their eyes closed during the test.

Drs. Glenn O. Dayton Jr., Margaret Jones and Richard A. Rawson with Patrick Aiu, Barry Steele and Marvin Rose reported the study.

Watch Those Toddling Boys

Two-year-old boys have the most accidents among young children. A year-long study of 9,206 suburban children under the age of seven in Rockland County, 30 miles north of New York City, showed the accident rate of two-year-old boys to be 75% greater than in any other age-sex category.

Boys had higher accidental injury rates than girls at all ages except under one year, with falls being the cause of 48% of the total number of accidental injuries.

About 55% of the accidents took place out-of-doors. Inside accidents occurred most often in the kitchen, with the bedroom a close second.

Drs. Donald G. Dickson and Edward R. Schlesinger, with Janice R. Westaby and Lisel Lowen, all of New York City, reported the study in the American Journal of Diseases of Children, 107:618, 1964.

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