

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☛ **PORTABLE CAR DESK** makes keeping records simple for salesman, field worker or traveler while on the road. Made of steel and fitting on the seat of almost any automobile, the portable desk has a 12 x 15-inch writing surface with clip to grip paper, a pencil holder and a roomy filing compartment for standard size files or notebooks. The unit can be lifted quickly and easily from the car after use.

• Science News Letter, 86:16 July 4, 1964

☛ **FIBER GLASS WATER TANKS** provide small boats with the convenience of an installed freshwater supply system. Usually mounted in the unused space in the bow, the tank is connected to a pump mounted on the dashboard or other convenient location. The spun cylindrical tanks are available in 10, 15, 20 and 30 gallon sizes, and are free from taste, odor and toxicity.

• Science News Letter, 86:16 July 4, 1964

☛ **PANTS PROTECTORS** for letter carriers, travelers and sightseers, keep trouser legs dry in rainy weather. Made of transparent plastic the permanently-creased protectors are slipped over the trouser legs and attached with elastic to the belt at the top and under the shoe at the bottom to hold them in place. Only three ounces in weight they can be folded and carried in a narrow pocket.

• Science News Letter, 86:16 July 4, 1964



☛ **ELECTRIC CARPET SWEEPER**, shown in photograph, moves across carpeting at 3,500 strokes a minute. The sweeper which requires no bearing down and is readily maneuverable in any direction, leaves no wheel marks as it glides over the rug. Useful for picking up embedded dirt or fine hair shed by pets, the sweeper can be controlled for high or low pile carpeting.

• Science News Letter, 86:16 July 4, 1964

☛ **BABY BOTTLE THERMOMETER** fits on outside of the bottle, giving the correct bottle temperature at a glance. Taking the guesswork out of bottle warming, the thermometer also helps prevent overheating the milk. Easy to use, the device fits any baby bottle and comes with instructions.

• Science News Letter, 86:16 July 4, 1964

☛ **HANDY STEEL RACK** with movable magnetic hooks can be mounted without screws or nails to any smooth surface. Useful in kitchen or closet, the racks, backed with adhesive foam tapes, are attached simply by pressing against the desired wall or shelf. They can be removed without damage to the surface. Its magnetic hooks which hold up to three pounds, can be moved from side to side for convenient spacing.

• Science News Letter, 86:16 July 4, 1964

☛ **TRAVELING SAW** folds into a compact unit only 2 1/4 x 3 1/4 inches in size with saw blade teeth completely enclosed for safety. The rust-resistant saw, designed to carry three blades, comes with a 21-inch pruning blade. Hack saw and meat saw blades are available separately. When the handle is swung into sawing position, the blade pops up. Weighing only one and a half pounds, the saw has a clip for attaching to the belt.

• Science News Letter, 86:16 July 4, 1964

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Bone Marrow Transplant Cures Anemia

➤ **TWO SEVERELY ANEMIC** nine-year-old girls have recovered because each of them was lucky enough to have an identical twin sister with healthy bone marrow.

These rare successful bone-marrow transplants are reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 188:1037, 1964. Only three, including these two cases, out of five reported attempts at such transplants between identical twins have been successful.

A team of physicians at the Mayo Clinic and Mayo Foundation, Rochester, Minn., reported one of the successful transplants, and another team in Seattle, Wash., reported the second.

Marrow from bones of the healthy twin was withdrawn by suction needle and administered within minutes to the anemic twin in a series of intravenous injections.

The Rochester patient was reported alive and well six months after the treatment, and the Seattle child had similarly survived in a healthy condition 18 months later. The donor twins also were well.

The Mayo team consisted of Drs. Stephen D. Mills, Robert A. Kyle, George A. Hallenbeck, Gertrude L. Pease and Ian C. Cree.

The Seattle team, whose work was reported in an accompanying editorial, was composed of Drs. E. Donnell Thomas, John H. Phillips and Clement A. Finch.

In all except identical twins, the editorial points out, rejection of the transplant is a possibility.

## Breast Cancer Treatment

More than 100 of 521 women with inoperable, spreading breast cancer have benefited from male hormone treatment, a report from a collaborative study sponsored by a branch of the National Cancer Institute shows. The male hormone compound is testosterone propionate.

Patients who benefited were not permanently cured, but lived longer than they would have otherwise. Dr. Ira Goldenberg of Yale University reported in *JAMA*, 188: 1069, 1964.

Although testosterone propionate is a "useful compound" for the treatment of advanced breast cancer, Dr. Goldenberg said, it is hoped that from the work of the Cooperative Breast Cancer Group, made up of researchers in a number of universities and hospitals, even more effective preparations will be developed. At present, breast cancer causes almost 30,000 deaths each year in this country.

## Hardening of the Arteries

Aging alone does not cause hardening of the arteries, two University of Minnesota Medical School physicians said in the *Archives of Neurology*, 10:679, 1964.

Of 3,839 autopsies performed in the study reported by Drs. J. A. Resch and A. B. Baker, the earliest case of artery hardening was found in a 14-year-old child.

• Science News Letter, 86:16 July 4, 1964