

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **ALL PURPOSE SAW** has many household uses. Its Swedish steel blade cuts through frozen meats, bones, fowl, vegetables and other foods with ease. Small and handy, its simple all metal design makes it easy to clean. It can be used also to cut wood, plastics and metals.

• Science News Letter, 86:112 Aug. 15, 1964

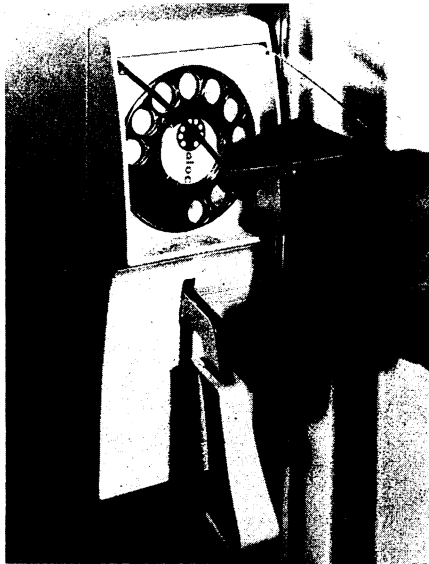
⚙️ **NON-SLIP PLYWOOD DECKING** for industrial, marine and residential uses is available in a choice of colors and wood grains. The surface of the plywood is sharply indented in a diamond grid design for non-slip heavy foot traffic on such places as decks, boat docks, catwalks, scaffolding platforms and walkways.

• Science News Letter, 86:112 Aug. 15, 1964

⚙️ **MONO-RAIL DRAWER SLIDE**, for use on drawers for kitchen and other furniture, has rollers molded of polypropylene. The tough plastic wheels retain their dimension and shape even under the weight of heavily laden drawers and turn freely without lubrication. The drawer slides, installed with staples, are designed so that the staple gun may be used at a 20-degree angle if necessary.

• Science News Letter, 86:112 Aug. 15, 1964

⚙️ **DIAL LOCK**, shown in photograph, that cannot be forced gives added security



to the homeowner. Dialed like a telephone and operating silently, its combination cannot be detected by sound, sensitivity or X-ray. Attractive in appearance, the lock fits standard door thicknesses and its glowing luminescent dial makes it readily visible at night.

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⚙️ **HAND EMERGENCY LIGHT** that plugs into the car or boat cigarette lighter socket has a five-inch sealed beam unit that gives illumination for about one-third of a mile. Useful to campers, sportsmen and automobile travelers, the lamp has a handy loop for hanging the light. Its solid brass head is chrome plated and its handle is made of vinyl with non-slip finger channels. A more powerful six-inch lamp is also available.

• Science News Letter, 86:112 Aug. 15, 1964

⚙️ **COLORED LABORATORY FIXTURES** are available in seven permanent bright colors for standardized color coding. Molded of tough, heat- and corrosion-resistant plastic, the fixtures are suitable for use with distilled and demineralized water, all gases, hot and cold tap water, vacuum and steam. The colors will not wear off, chip or fade.

• Science News Letter, 86:112 Aug. 15, 1964

⚙️ **WHIRLING CAR WASHER** makes car washing easy and economical. The unit, equipped with a compartment for soap or detergent solution, attaches to any garden hose. As the water passes through the unit, a turn of the dial provides either suds or clear water through the rotating horsehair brush. Its handle swivels in a complete circle to prevent hose kinking.

• Science News Letter, 86:112 Aug. 15, 1964

• Doctors Are Reading •

Narcotic Addicts Take Barbiturates

➤ A SIZABLE PERCENTAGE of narcotic addicts are barbiturate users, a study shows.

Out of 1,000 drug addicts examined at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in Lexington, Ky., 32.4% claimed or showed signs of barbiturate use. However, only 22.8% were physically dependent upon barbiturates.

The investigation revealed that there was no apparent relationship between the type of narcotic addiction and barbiturate use. Seven kinds of narcotic takers were examined.

Negro addicts were found to be much less susceptible to barbiturates than whites. Only 27% of the Negroes studied used barbiturates, compared with 73% of the whites.

Reasons given by narcotic addicts for using barbiturates were the ease with which they could be obtained and their low cost as compared to a narcotic like heroin. Another reason was that barbiturates were taken when narcotics were in short supply.

Dr. Ernest Hamburger, surgeon at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital, Lexington, Ky., reported the study in the Journal of the American Medical Association 189:366, 1964.

Peach Orchard Poisoning

An epidemic of illness among 186 peach orchard workers in the northern part of California's San Joaquin Valley has been attributed to a spray residue.

Physicians blamed the organic phosphate pesticide, parathion, although further investigation showed that it was not present in amounts sufficient to account for the illness. A team of Berkeley,

Calif., physicians from the Bureau of Occupational Health, California State Department of Public Health, studied the problem and suggested that paraoxon in the spray residue was the prime cause of the outbreak. This compound is evolved from parathion alteration and is considerably more toxic than parathion.

Drs. Thomas H. Milby and Howard W. Mitchell, with Fred Ottoboni, reported the study in JAMA, 189:351, 1964.

'Color' Hearing Obsession

"Color" hearing since the age of three was reported persisting in a 31-year-old Negro woman who went to see a San Francisco psychiatrist because the audiovisual sensations threatened her mental health. Dr. Peter F. Oswald of the University of California Medical Center, San Francisco, said that the woman had become obsessed with problems of race and of sex, and that the color hearing, called synesthesia, is linked with her obsessions. She "sees" orange red when she hears chimes or bells, and a variety of colors when she hears music, individual vowels or numbers. The findings are reported in the Archives of General Psychiatry, 11:40, 1964.

Measles Vaccine

Measles vaccine has been successful in the state of Alaska, where this disease remains a serious problem. Vaccination among Alaskan Eskimos, Indians and Aleuts was studied by Drs. Jacob A. Brody, Robert McAlister, Irvin Emanuel and E. Russell Alexander, Anchorage, who reported the field trial in the Journal of the American Medical Association, 189:339, 1964.

• Science News Letter, 86:112 Aug. 15, 1964