

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

Ask for Gadget Bulletin 1265 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.

⊗ **INSTRUMENT OILER** for use on gears, clocks, fishing reels, projectors and other instruments has a retractable .035 fine stainless steel tube and can be carried in the pocket like a fountain pen. It is capable of dispensing a drop or a fraction of a drop of high quality oil through its tube, which will reach inside and around corners of instruments. The oiler is non-gumming and will not rust.

• Science News Letter, 86:176 Sept. 12, 1964

⊗ **SPRAY AND DUST MASK** for protection against non-toxic dust and spray hazards is useful in industry and laboratories. It is constructed so that cool air can enter through the wet sponge element in its frame. The protective mask, used with replaceable filters, fits the contour of any shape face and can be worn with glasses.

• Science News Letter, 86:176 Sept. 12, 1964

⊗ **GEOCHEMICAL EXPLORATION KIT** is useful in searching for ore deposits by chemical analysis. Containing enough reagents for more than 250 samples each of zinc, lead and copper, it is designed for locating ore bodies in areas of known mineralization. Paper detectors contained in the kit eliminate the need to prepare and handle perishable dyes in the field.

• Science News Letter, 86:176 Sept. 12, 1964



⊗ **JIFFY JUICER**, shown in photograph, molded of plastic has a spiral, or helical, reamer which makes juicing easier and quicker. Made of shatter-proof plastic, the juicer is durable and impervious to stains and corrosive action from citrus juices. Two models are available, one to be mounted on the wall and a table model. Both units can be taken apart and immersed for washing in dishpan or automatic washer.

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⊗ **SWIMMER PROPULSION DEVICE**, useful to scuba divers as well as to the recreational swimmer, allows swimmers to gain speed with less effort than required with swim fins. The swimmer attaches the glider-like wooden device to his legs from ankle to knee and propels himself through the water by doing quarter-knee bends. No arm action is necessary. The device can be used with or without skin-diving equipment.

• Science News Letter, 86:176 Sept. 12, 1964

⊗ **RADIO SPECTACLES** useful on fishing and hunting trips have a tiny receiver with three transistors and diode mounted on the frame of colored lens glasses just above the ear. The radio requires no aerial and has a convenient dial to control volume. It is available in models for both men and women.

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⊗ **NEW AERATOR** prevents gas fumes from sinking into the cabin and bilges when a boat is refueled. The device consists of two tubes nine feet long and three inches in diameter attached to a steel case. It is capable of moving 140 cubic feet of air per minute and operates on 110 volts. As the tank is being filled, the exhaust tubing directs the fumes away from the dock in any direction desired.

• Science News Letter, 86:176 Sept. 12, 1964

• Doctors Are Reading •

Cholesterol Effect Overrated

► **CHOLESTEROL IN THE BLOOD** has been overrated as a contributor to hardening of the arteries, it is reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 189:655, 1964.

In a study of 1,700 patients with atherosclerotic disease, 1,326 had cholesterol levels within normal range for persons in the United States.

This led researchers to say atherosclerosis investigations that exclude all possible causes other than cholesterol levels have "only remote likelihood of contributing significantly to the solution of the problem."

Both men and women with atherosclerosis were examined in the study. Fifty-six per cent had occlusive disease in which arteries become blocked, and 44% had aneurysmal disease in which arteries develop bulges. There was little difference in the cholesterol levels of these two groups.

Drs. H. Edward Garrett, Evan C. Horning, Billy G. Creech, and Michael De Bakey, all affiliated with Baylor University College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, reported the study.

Most Snakebites on Limbs

A high percentage of snakebites from copperheads and rattlesnakes are on areas of the body where tourniquet treatment is easily used, a study shows.

Out of 59 patients treated in Pennsylvania in 1958 and 1959

for poisonous snakebite, 97% of the bites were inflicted on the body extremities. The most frequent areas bitten were the lower leg, ankle and the fingers.

Dr. Henry M. Parrish, associate professor in the department of community health and medical practice of the School of Medicine, University of Missouri, Columbia, reported the study in the *Pennsylvania Medical Journal*, 67:29, 1964.

Physique Primary to Obesity

Physique plays a big part in determining whether adolescent girls will get fat or not, two Harvard scientists have found.

Out of 180 obese adolescent girls studied, all but five were largely endomorphic, that is, having abdomens bigger than their chests, and having relatively small hands and feet.

The study indicated that fat girls, as well as tending toward endomorphy, have a greater tendency toward mesomorphy—larger chest than abdomen, muscular build, and prominent body joints—than girls of similar age in the general population.

Few obese girls, however, displayed ectomorphy, or stringy muscle development with a lanky physique and delicate bony structure.

Drs. Carl C. Seltzer and Jean Mayer, both of the Harvard University School of Public Health, Boston, reported the study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 189:677, 1964.

• Science News Letter, 86:176 Sept. 12, 1964