

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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• **LOG HOLDERS** circular in shape are designed for convenient, dry and neat storage of firewood on porch, patio or inside the home. Made of tubular steel finished in satin black, the holder has four legs and is easy to clean under. Forty-eight by 39 inches in size, the unit holds one-eighth cord of wood. A smaller sized hearthside model is also available.

• Science News Letter, 86:224 Oct. 3, 1964

• **SAFETY TIMER** is designed to be used as a safety shutoff device in the laboratory for any type of electrical appliance. Capable of being set at any time interval up to five hours, at a preselected time, the instrument will automatically cut off the power supply of the appliance to which it is attached. When timing cycle is completed an indicator light goes on and a buzzer sounds.

• Science News Letter, 86:224 Oct. 3, 1964

• **CONSTRUCTION SEALANT** for indoor or outdoor use, is made of silicone rubber and requires no mixing. Available in four colors, the sealant comes in 11-ounce cartridges. The sealant sticks well to all common building materials and is suitable for permanently sealing flashings and rain gutters, filling cracks in basement walls, chimneys, windows or concrete flooring. It stays flexible and resists shrinking, chipping, drying out and discoloring.

• Science News Letter, 86:224 Oct. 3, 1964



• **TALKING DOLL**, shown in photograph, that talks whenever it is hugged will delight any child. Just pressing a large soft button in its back will make the doll talk in four different languages. Blond with blue eyes that open and close, the doll is about a foot and a half tall and is dressed in bright red and white pajamas. It is made of soft unbreakable foam rubber.

• Science News Letter, 86:224 Oct. 3, 1964

• **ANCHOR REEL** eliminates the need to stand-up to raise or lower the anchor and prevents the rope from tangling and cluttering up the bottom of the boat. Easily installed anywhere on the boat, the reel holds approximately 100 feet of 3/16-inch braided rope and requires only fingertip control to lower the anchor. To raise the anchor, the handle is simply turned. The anchor is held away from the bow to prevent damage.

• Science News Letter, 86:224 Oct. 3, 1964

• **ADJUSTABLE KITCHEN CADDY** makes it easier to clean under and behind refrigerators, freezers, stoves and washing machines. Made of heavy gauge steel, the unit is a flat rectangular caddy that expands from 18x22 inches to 26x32 inches and will hold standard size kitchen equipment. Moving easily on four wheels, it has special brakes to anchor the appliance in place. Extension rails for large size appliances are also available.

• Science News Letter, 86:224 Oct. 3, 1964

• **FLOATING FISH KNIFE**, 10 inches long, is made with a wooden sheath to cover the blade when not in use. Toothed for scaling fish, the 5-inch stainless steel blade also has a special indentation which serves as a bottle cap opener. The sheath and handle together form a 10-inch ruler for measuring the catch.

• Science News Letter, 86:224 Oct. 3, 1964

• Doctors Are Reading •

Allergic Reactions to Pure Water

► **SOME PERSONS** are allergic to taking baths!

A distinctive type of hives develops on these persons when they perspire or come into contact with "even pure water," said Drs. Walter B. Shelley and Howard M. Rawnsley, both of Philadelphia. The hives usually form around areas of body hair where there are many oil glands, he said.

Why water causes hives in some persons is not clear, the researchers said. However, they believe that possibly a toxic substance formed by the water acting on oil glands in the skin is responsible.

Attacks can be prevented by taking antihistamines or coating the skin with oil, the University of Pennsylvania researchers said.

Drs. Shelley and Rawnsley reported this in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 189:895, 1964.

Sound Waves Correct Ear Disorder

A high frequency sound wave treatment has been successfully used in correcting Meniere's disease, an ear ailment that causes spells of dizziness.

Until recently the only effective way to correct this disease was by surgery that resulted in deafness. The ultrasonic technique,

however, destroys only that part of the ear responsible for the disease and does not interfere with hearing.

Medical researchers report that the technique completely relieved symptoms in 80% of a group of patients suffering from the disease.

Drs. Milos Basek and V. N. Epanchin, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York, described the technique in the *Archives of Otolaryngology*, Sept., 1964.

Rheumatic Diseases Still Problem

Rheumatic fever, and rheumatic heart disease particularly, remain important public health problems among young adults, a study indicates.

In the study, made during a five-year span, 517,219 college freshmen were surveyed. Out of every 1,000 persons examined, 17.5 had had rheumatic fever, rheumatic heart disease or both. These findings are in sharp contrast to the decrease shown by official reporting of these diseases, researchers said.

Dr. Carl J. Marianfield, University of Missouri, Columbia, Dr. Roy P. Sandidge, Morton Robins and Clare Findlan, heart disease control branch, U.S. Public Health Service, reported the investigation in *Public Health Reports*, 79:789, 1964.

• Science News Letter, 86:224 Oct. 3, 1964