

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **SPINNING EASEL** enables both children and adults to create modern art pieces without special training. The painting set consists of an easel that spins with a press of a switch, 25 five-by-seven-inch picture cards, eight picture frames and four enamel colors. A variety of interesting effects is produced simply by placing varying amounts and colors on the card inserted on the easel and allowing it to spin. It operates on two "D" batteries.

• Science News Letter, 86:320 November 14, 1964

⚙️ **MINIATURE FLAG SET** is a collection of the flags of the 50 states. Suitable for individual or group study, each flag is printed in full color on rayon fabric measuring 2 x 2½ inches. Securely attached to a five-inch staff which fits into a circular one-inch wood base, the set makes a colorful display for schoolroom or home study area.

• Science News Letter, 86:320 November 14, 1964

⚙️ **ELECTRIC TRAVEL KIT** for couples is useful for campers as well as travelers. Compact and cordless, the kit operates on a single battery. The unit includes two toothbrushes, a man's shaver and lady's shaver, a body massager and hairbrush massager. The various items can be quickly and easily attached or detached for use.

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⚙️ **DUMP TRUCK AND SKIPLOADER**, two new toys made of high-impact plastic,



look and sound like real construction equipment. The toys give realistic motor sounds, including idling and revving up as they operate. The skiploader, shown in photograph, has control handles that allow the operator to scoop and dump accurately and the battery-operated dump truck sends the unit around in a circle, backward and forward and even vibrates while in action.

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⚙️ **GLASS BLOWING KIT** provides material for making glass swans, rose vases, Christmas tree decorations and other glass items. The kit contains a propane fuel cylinder with a pencil point burner assembly, file, tweezers, glass rods and tubes, colored glass, a spark lighter and safety spectacles. Also included is an instruction booklet for creating items from scrap glass, bottles and light bulbs.

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⚙️ **LABORATORY HOT PLATE** is made with a corrosion-resistant glass-ceramic heating surface 100 inches square. Heating both by radiation and conduction, it reaches selected temperatures four to five times faster than comparable units with metal surfaces. Provided with a heat control dial with seven markings indicating temperatures from 168 to 520 degrees centigrade, the hot plate operates on 1320 watts and 120 volts.

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⚙️ **PERSONAL AUTO TAG** to match the license plate is custom-made with initials or names up to five letters. Suitable for use especially on the front of cars in states where only one license plate for each car is issued, the plastic tag comes in colors to match the license plates. The tag, 4½ x 11 inches in size, fits any model automobile and is now available in the 1965 colors of 14 states.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Work Appears Safe for Heart Attack Victims

➤ **MEN WHO HAVE JUST** had their first heart attack need not worry too much that returning to work will cause a second attack, a study indicates. Whether heavy manual work and mental stress adversely affect men with heart conditions is still uncertain, however.

Out of 212 men studied, 55% returned to work, either on a full-time or part-time basis, within three months after their first heart attack. Part-time work, however, was usually temporary in that most of the men went back to full-time jobs later.

All the men examined were under 60 years of age. The men had a death rate of 2.3% at the end of four months and 14% at the end of three years.

Although the majority of men who returned to work full-time within six months tended to take it easier than before their heart attacks, investigation revealed that they were still doing good work and were not being "carried" by their employers.

Dr. D. E. Sharland, research registrar, Central Middlesex Hospital, London, reported the study in the *British Medical Journal*, Sept. 19, 1964.

Aspirin Poisoning Treated by New Methods

New methods of treating persons who take overdoses of aspirin are being used successfully.

Most medical books advise treating aspirin poisoning immediately with large amounts of water to bring about vomiting. They

also warn against administration of bicarbonate of soda in adults because of the danger of disturbing the acid balance.

According to a report in the *British Medical Journal*, Oct. 24, 1964, the aspirin was removed from the stomach by a suction pump, and sodium bicarbonate solutions with dextrose and sodium chloride were given intravenously with success to five patients.

Drs. Gordon Cumming, D. C. Dukes and G. Widdowson of Birmingham, England, who reported the study, said that their method produced rapid alkaline diuresis, or excretion of urine.

Foresee Artificial Kidney Machine in Home

Persons suffering from chronic kidney problems may soon have their own artificial kidney machines at home.

Three persons with kidney trouble were given a total of 30 home hemodialyses, which cleanse the blood of waste products, with results comparable to those given in the hospital. Dialyses were given once a week in both the home and hospital following an initial hospital stay of the patients.

While home kidney machines are "technically feasible where suitable facilities exist," improvements are needed to make them practical, researchers said.

Drs. J. P. Merrill, E. Schupak, C. L. Hampers and E. Cameron, all affiliated with Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, reported this in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 190:468, 1964.

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