

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

Ask for Gadget Bulletin 1284 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.

☸ **SQUARE BOAT BUMPERS** made of white or black vinyl fit flat against the hull and will not roll. Lashed to a bit or deck cleat, the bumpers extend a protective cushion above the deck line, shielding the molding from dock overhang. The bumpers, which come in three sizes, 6x28, 8x28 and 10x30 inches, are pumped through a valve up to the appropriate pressure and can be used alone or in combination with round bumpers.

• Science News Letter, 87:64 January 23, 1965

☸ **BLACK LIGHT LAMP** for rock hounds is a small cordless battery-operated unit that can be held in the hand. Weighing just a little over a pound, the convenient lamp fits into pocket or purse and is suitable for field trips to examine rocks for fluorescence on the spot or for the classroom demonstration by students or teacher. Batteries and recharger are included with the lamp.

• Science News Letter, 87:64 January 23, 1965

☸ **LABORATORY SUCTION PUMP** only 4x5x3 inches in size uses peristaltic action to transfer small volumes of laboratory liquids effectively and safely. The unit will pump 250 milliliters of water per minute and will lift a column of water 14 feet. Designed to empty the flow-through cuvetts in direct-reading clinical and industrial colorimeters, it is also useful as a reagent transfer pump for liquids that will not react with rubber.

• Science News Letter, 87:64 January 23, 1965



☸ **NEW COFFEE MAKER**, shown in photograph, can make from one to six cups of coffee in less than a minute using regular grind coffee. The heat-resistant glass pot, 9x4 inches in size is equipped with a stainless steel pressure plunger that holds the brewing coffee under pressure, speeding the steeping. After one-half to two minutes, depending upon the strength of coffee desired, the plunger is pushed to the bottom of the pot to hold back the grounds and stop further brewing action.

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☸ **NEW CHAIN DOOR GUARD** prevents burglars from releasing the chain guard from the outside. Designed so that it cannot be removed from the slide without depressing the chain stud over a step on the underside of the slide plate, the tamperproof guard has a special key-locking bolt which can be locked by the householder from the outside when leaving and opened with a key upon returning.

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☸ **RECHARGEABLE CORDLESS LAMP** has a dimmer switch that varies the light from a candle glow to a bright reading light. Powered by two nickel-cadmium batteries, the lamp has a frosted chimney attached to a base of bright brass finish. Two bulbs burn up to three hours on a 16-hour charge. The unit comes complete with batteries, two 1,000-hour bulbs and a six-foot cord for recharging.

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☸ **POCKET-SIZE SLIDE CHART** for broker or investor shows at a glance the ratio or price to earnings of any stock based on its current market price. No figuring is required by the user. Calculations are done automatically by setting the current market price of the stock in the center of the proper window and reading the results visible through other windows of the device. The percent of yield represented by the stock's dividend are also shown.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Unborn Children Given Transfusion

► **MORE AND MORE** unborn children, facing death before birth because of the Rh-factor blood disease, known as erythroblastosis fetalis (EF), are being given a chance for life by a daring transfusion technique.

The world's first direct blood transfusion to a human fetus for treating an Rh-factor disease, performed last year by Dr. A. William Liley, Auckland National Women's Hospital, New Zealand, has paved the way for widespread use of this technique. The operation broke the barrier of medical custom and caution that had previously kept the uterus and the unborn child protected from direct treatment.

The procedure, which has saved the lives of two out of three unborn children, has been applied only to fetuses that could not be saved by conventional post-natal methods.

This new field of medicine called fetology, was reported in Medical World News, 6:43, 1965.

Women Remain Young Longer

Women are staying young longer.

An editorial in the Journal of the American Medical Association, Jan. 11, 1965, referred to a recent report that, in the decade before 1961, the median age of menopause of women in Great Britain was

50.1 years. A century ago the age of menopause was about 46 years in most European countries.

"Analysis of early literature suggests that approximately 40 years was the mean age of menopause in ancient times, and approximately 45 years between 1500 and 1800," the editorial said.

A combination of earlier age of adolescence and a later age of menopause indicates a "decreased rate of aging in women in recent decades," the editorial said. It listed no certain explanation for the changes, but stated that better nutrition and improved environmental conditions may play important roles.

Do Not Raise Children in Cocoon

The tendency to raise children in a "cocoon of overprotectiveness" is criticized in an article in Today's Health magazine.

Dr. Willard Abraham, Arizona State University, states in the American Medical Association publication that parental planning is "often too complete and too meticulous" for the children's welfare. He said that raising children in a comfortable niche is failing to condition them for a world demanding creativity and flexibility.

The cocoon philosophy is more prevalent in cities and suburbs than in rural areas and small towns, the doctor found.

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