

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

Ask for Gadget Bulletin 1285 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.

⚙️ **SPECIAL ADHESIVE TAPE** is designed for use by persons with sensitive or allergic skin. Thin and taffeta-like, the tape is porous, minimizing itching, and is made with a single adhesive that contains no skin irritating elements. It is easily removable without hurting the skin. The tape is available in plastic dispensers in two sizes, one-half- and one-inch widths.

• Science News Letter, 87:79 January 30, 1965

⚙️ **NEW OVEN THERMOMETER** made of stainless steel is easily readable, having a larger dial area than most other oven thermometers and large distinct figures. The thermometer, which will not rust, pit or discolor, stays bright through use. The new model hangs or stands securely, eliminating the problem of tipping and falling thermometers. A permanent baking guide is included in each package.

• Science News Letter, 87:79 January 30, 1965

⚙️ **ACETYLENE TORCH KIT** for the do-it-yourself homeowner can be used for almost any metal working job in soldering, light brazing, heating or pipe bending. Provided with a durable tip that works even if bent, it is designed with a control device for the flame in its lightweight aluminum handle. A different tip for use with propane or other gas, is available on request. The kit includes eight feet of hose.

• Science News Letter, 87:79 January 30, 1965

⚙️ **SUPER-POWER HEARING AID**, shown in photograph, is 30 to 40 times



more powerful than the average hearing aid and is designed for deaf children and adults or those with severe hearing loss. The hearing aid has four distinct power settings, and a telephone coil introduced in the mechanism eliminates interference of airborne sounds making telephoning easier. A shoulder strap to hold the pocket-size instrument is available separately for children.

• Science News Letter, 87:79 January 30, 1965

⚙️ **ATOM KIT SERIES** are offered for school use and contain necessary materials for experiments in life sciences based on radio-autography. The kits, available separately, are on subjects such as metabolism of phosphorous in goldfish, transport of phosphates in plants, production of radioactive bacteria and radioactive fallout. All kits contain rules for handling radioactive materials and directions for performing experiments.

• Science News Letter, 87:79 January 30, 1965

⚙️ **INTERVAL TIMER** is designed for applications that are manually started but automatically stopped when the time interval has been completed. Useful for industrial or laboratory use, the timer, which has 60 calibration adjustments on its scale, is started by depressing a built-in pushbutton. The load circuit opens at the end of the preset time interval, and remains open until the pushbutton is again depressed.

• Science News Letter, 87:79 January 30, 1965

⚙️ **SHOULDER PHONE REST** made of soft black foam material is made to fit the back of the telephone receiver. Applied with pressure sensitive adhesive, the spongy surface prevents the telephone from slipping when it is held between ear and shoulder, leaving the hands free. Up to five lines of ad copy may be hot stamped in white on a smooth strip of the pad. Useful for advertising purposes, the item is low priced for volume distribution.

• Science News Letter, 87:79 January 30, 1965

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Easier Emphysema Detection

➤ **DIAGNOSIS** of emphysema, the obstructive lung disease not ordinarily detected on ordinary chest X-ray films, is possible now by a new technique.

X-rays taken from back-to-front and from the side were interpreted correctly on the basis of newly found structural changes by a roentgenologist, except in six cases out of 60, in which mild involvement without airway obstruction were read as normal.

The work was carried out at Ohio State University of Medicine and the Ohio Tuberculosis Hospital, Columbus, by Seppo Sutinen, Anthimos J. Cristoforidis, George A. Klugh and Philip C. Pratt, and reported to the American Thoracic Society through its journal, the American Review of Respiratory Diseases, Jan., 1965.

## Childless Couples Helped

One out of every six couples in the United States want children but cannot have them, a physician reports. But many can be helped through a comprehensive program of medical examination and consultation.

Dr. Herbert H. Thomas, Medical College of Alabama, Birmingham, recommends a series of eight visits, extending over a period of five to eight months. The program would begin with an orientation visit at which both the husband and wife are present. The

next six visits would be with either the husband or wife alone. At a final visit with both the husband and wife a summary of all the findings would be presented and their significance explained, Dr. Thomas said.

"Patients are seldom told what to expect during the study and few are ever given a summary or explanation of what has been done," he said. "This uncertainty may prevent adjustment to a childless state and may prevent couples from considering adoption."

Some five million married couples in the United States, one out of every six, are involuntarily sterile, Dr. Thomas reported to the American Academy of General Practice, as recounted in GP, official publication of the Academy.

## Smoking May Affect Legs

Heavy smoking may be linked with the formation of fatty deposits on the smaller blood vessels, particularly in the legs.

Of 100 consecutive patients operated on for atherosclerotic occlusive disease, reported upon in the Journal of the American Medical Association by New York surgeon, Dr. Jere W. Lord, 94 smoked one or more packs a day for at least 20 years, and four either smoked less than one pack a day or had smoked for less than 20 years. Two were non-smokers.

• Science News Letter, 87:79 January 30, 1965