

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **QUICK CHARCOAL LIGHTER** consisting of a special fuel box and a throw-away aluminum foil chimney is designed to provide an evenly lighted fire quickly. Air space between the box and chimney provide a draft allowing the fuel box to burn with a very hot flame to light the coals. The chimney increases the draft causing the fire to spread rapidly. Nontoxic, the charcoal lighter is safe to store.

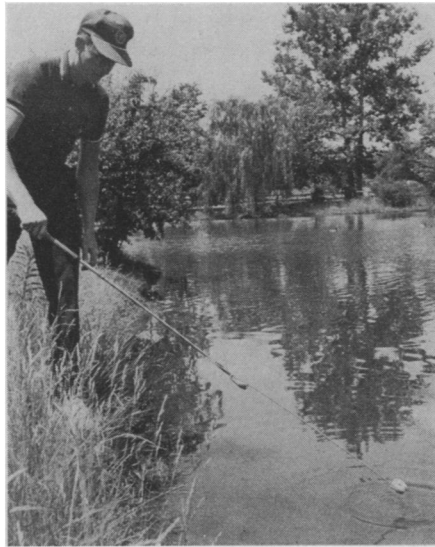
• Science News Letter, 88:272 October 23, 1965

⚙️ **ORNAMENTAL FENCING** to accent garden plantings, landscaping or outdoor living areas is molded of colorful high impact styrene. The 18-inch posts and five-foot-long chains can be arranged around corners or along driveways and paths. The posts are secured to the ground by a spike or to the patio or paving with a special adhesive. A basic set consists of two posts, a five-foot chain, spikes and adhesive.

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⚙️ **ROLLER DUSTER** for the home gardener requires only a wrist motion for dusting plants, lawns or bushes with insecticides. The duster which screws onto the top of a jar contains beads that roll around keeping the powder loose as it is sifted through the holes in the device. Suitable for fine, non-sticky powder it is simply screwed on the top of a mason jar filled with the desired powder. It can be stored outside by covering with an empty tin can.

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⚙️ **GOLF BALL RETRIEVER**, shown in photograph, lifts stray balls from water holes. The unit which attaches to a #2 or #3 iron, allows the golfer to retrieve a ball from the bottom of a water hole without getting his feet wet. The retriever, available in colors, is made of strong weather-resistant plastic. Another helpmate for the golfer, a clear plastic shagger, makes it possible for him to pick up practice balls without stooping. Either item can be easily stored in the golf bag.

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⚙️ **GARAGE DOOR OPENER** has a fulcrum rocking action that enables a person to open a roll-up sectional garage door by a press of the foot. Pressure on the pedal of the unit, which is attached to the garage door, raises the door to a height where it can easily be pushed up by hand. Designed for use on residential garage doors, the aluminum device can be used on wood, fiberglass or metal roll-up doors.

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⚙️ **GEOCHEMICAL EXPLORATION KIT** allows rapid semi-quantitative determination of traces of metals in ores and eliminates the need to prepare and handle perishable dyes in the field. The kit which includes two citrate extractors, paper for colorimetric detection, stainless steel mesh, ion-exchanger filter with flask, graduated test tubes and instruction manual is most suited for use in locating ore bodies in areas of known mineralization.

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⚙️ **FISHING ROD HOLDER** suitable for both trolling and still fishing holds the rod in a tight grip leaving both hands free for operating the boat or baiting hooks. The plastic holder can be adjusted into three positions—low for still fishing, medium for trolling and drifting and upright to hold the rod out of the way when not in use. Easy to install, the unit which has a 360-degree rotation range can be top or side mounted.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Recovery from Heart Attack May Be Slowed

➤ **FRIGHTENED AND DEPRESSED** after suffering an acute heart attack, a patient convinced he is sicker than he really is may demonstrate lingering invalidism.

Dr. Robert F. Klein, Dr. Alfred Dean, Dr. Morton D. Bogdonoff and L. Montgomery Willson, all staff members at Duke University School of Medicine, examined 20 men who were making slow progress in recuperating from acute myocardial infarction and reported their findings in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* 194:143, 1965.

The patients and their families believed that the heart remains very fragile after an attack and their wives tended to be overly protective. The authors suggest that physicians explain the types of chest pains likely to follow a heart attack and they should modify the instructions for the patient to "take it easy."

Low Copper Level Related to *Cutis Laxa*

The copper level in the body may be a factor responsible for the disease *cutis laxa*. This disease, though rare, is a serious one involving many complications. Patients with the disease, believed to be inherited, usually die young and have pendulous soft, inelastic skin and a low pitched voice.

Extensive histological and biochemical studies seem to indicate

that copper is related to the system which has an inhibiting effect on elastase, Dr. Robert W. Goltz, University of Colorado, and Anne-Marie Hult, Dr. Mace Goldfarb and Dr. Robert J. Gorlin, all of the University of Minnesota, reported in *Archives of Dermatology*, 92:373, 1965. A lack of copper leads to diminished elastase inhibitor activity.

When sufficient elastase inhibitor is not present the elastase activity is excessive, causing destruction of the elastic fibers in not only the skin tissue but in other tissues within the body and is manifested by hernias, aneurysms, pulmonary emphysema and loose skin.

Allergic Pericarditis Exists

In cases of pericarditis of undetermined origin doctors should consider the possibility of a drug-induced condition reported Dr. J. Shafar, Burnley Group of Hospitals, England in the *British Medical Journal*, Oct. 2, 1965.

Dr. Shafar cited cases in which pericarditis resulted from the administration of phenylbutazone, a drug used to relieve pain in patients with osteoarthritis. However, they stated that since phenylbutazone is a drug often used in rheumatoid arthritis, distinction must be made between phenylbutazone-induced pericarditis and pericarditis which appears in the course of the disease itself.

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