

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **WAX FINISH** to protect hand-rubbed or oil-finished woods and marble provides a surface resistant to wear and stains. Useful to homeowners and hobbyists, the finish, which was available previously only to manufacturers, is now being produced for the consumer, and is suitable for furniture, floors, paneling and cabinets. It comes in both dark and light colors.

• Science News Letter, 89:32 January 8, 1966

⚙️ **MAGNETIC FLAW FINDER** is capable of detecting a wide range of surface cracks in any ferromagnetic material. Useful for finding stress and fatigue cracks, in a wide range of parts such as motor blocks and cylinder heads, it is easily operated and requires no special training. The detector operates without the need for electricity, batteries or other outside power source.

• Science News Letter, 89:32 January 8, 1966

⚙️ **RECORD CARE KIT** helps provide the best care to records and phonograph equipment. The kit is packaged in an album-size box which can be stored with record albums and contains in addition to items most essential for record care, accessories for cleaning, cushioning and brushing records for checking, gauging and measuring turntables and styli.

• Science News Letter, 89:32 January 8, 1966

⚙️ **ADJUSTABLE TROUSER HANGERS**, shown in photograph, give two-point sus-



pension for each trouser leg, gripping the cuffs on the inside directly on the crease lines. They hold them flat and straight without sagging. Useful for drying wash-and-wear slacks, the device allows air circulation through the cuffs to assure complete drying. Lightweight, they take up little space and are also suitable for travelers.

• Science News Letter, 89:32 January 8, 1966

⚙️ **ALCOHOL STOVE** imported from Sweden is easy to use. Available in one- and two-burner models, the lid becomes a windshield when the stove is opened up for use. Each burner holds about one-half quart of fuel and will burn from 2.5 to 10 hours depending upon the intensity of the flame. Sliding knobs control the size of the flame. The stove will function at any altitude and in all temperatures.

• Science News Letter, 89:32 January 8, 1966

⚙️ **EYEGLASS KIT** enables anyone who wears glasses to make repairs and adjustments at home easily and quickly. The kit includes a small jeweler's screwdriver, self-locking hinge screws and is small enough to be carried in purse or pocket. It also contains materials to help make glasses fit better, protect them from breakage and keep them clean. Instructions are included.

• Science News Letter, 89:32 January 8, 1966

⚙️ **BACTERIAL CONTROL UNIT** designed for packing houses, food processors and supermarkets produces ozone for controlling bacteria thus retarding spoilage and decreasing odors. The unit also inhibits the development of mold and slime on walls and equipment. Adjustable for various size rooms, it can be used in processing areas as well as in storage coolers. The operation cost is comparable to that of a small light bulb.

• Science News Letter, 89:32 January 8, 1966

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Warning on Fungus Drug Sounded

➤ **PREGNANT WOMEN** should not be given the oral drug griseofulvin, which is used to fight fungus infections, at least until more is known about whether or not it causes congenital defects.

This warning appears in the Medical Letter 7:107, 1965, which also advises that the most recent version of the drug is more effective and less expensive than the original one. Therefore, it would be "in the public interest" if the manufacturers withdrew the early formulations from the market.

The three manufacturers of griseofulvin—Ayerst, McNeil and Schering—offer it in two formulations. Griseofulvin is the only drug given orally that is effective in the treatment of superficial fungal infections of the skin that are resistant to application topically.

## Frostbite Treatment

Modern frostbite treatment aims at rapid thawing of the affected tissue in water ranging from 104 degrees F. to 111 degrees F., two physicians in the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine reported. The use of antibiotics to control infection, and other measures such as protection from tetanus, avoidance of injury and physical therapy are included in follow-up treatments. Amputation when necessary—after a waiting period of perhaps 60 to 90 days—should be conservative. Drs. N. LeRoy Lapp and John L. Juergens re-

viewed recent medical literature on frostbite, which covers experience in World War II and Korea, in the Mayo Clinic Proceedings 40:932, 1965.

## Measles Eradication Program

A unique effort to eradicate common measles in the state of Rhode Island through a one-day state-wide vaccination program was reported in Medical Tribune.

The program to immunize all of the state's children between one and twelve years of age, is being sponsored by the Rhode Island Medical Society and supported by the state's Department of Health. It is known as Rhode Island's "End Measles" campaign.

## Rapid Growth and Abnormal Chromosome

An adolescent with a thyroid disorder, retarded sexual development and an XXY chromosome picture was reported having greatly increased growth between the ages of 13 and 15, a combination believed not previously found in medical literature. Drs. Raymond Greene and William Singer of the department of endocrinology, New End Hospital, London, reported the unusual case in the British Medical Journal, Dec. 25, 1965. The boy had Klinefelter's syndrome, a condition characterized by small testicles, other sexual abnormalities and an extra X chromosome.

• Science News Letter, 89:32 January 8, 1966