

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **TINY HACKSAW** for close work in tight hard-to-reach spots has a blade only six inches long. Made with a heavy duty rigid tubular steel frame, chrome-plated for protection against corrosion, the saw has a full-sized handle with contoured grips and knuckle guard. The blades, having 32 teeth to the inch, are painted to resist rust. A screw allows easy adjustment for tension.

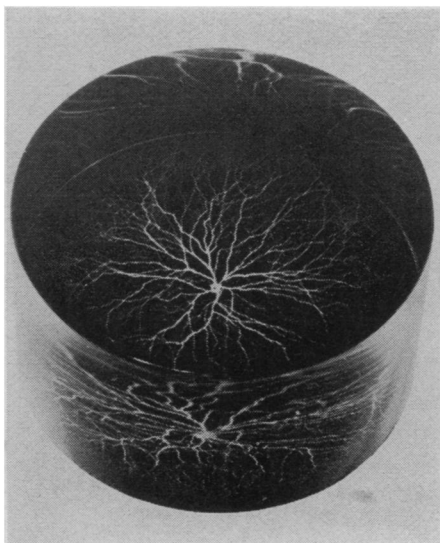
• Science News, 89:192 March 19, 1966

⚙️ **GEOLOGY DEMONSTRATION KIT** helps both elementary and advanced students visualize the causes and forces that shape the earth's surface. With the kit, folding and faulting can be demonstrated and observed. The kit includes a 17x5x2-inch demonstration tray, colored flexible foam, hard-board for fault demonstrations and an erupting volcano. A teacher's study guide is included.

• Science News, 89:192 March 19, 1966

⚙️ **NOTEBOOK HOLDER** for stenographers is made of chrome-plated steel tubing designed with rubber feet to prevent the unit from bouncing up and down on a vibrating desk or "walking away," as the typewriter is being used. The holder serves also as a convenient easel for books, magazines and newspapers when its short end is upright.

• Science News, 89:192 March 19, 1966



⚙️ **ATOMIC ENERGY CURIO**, shown in photograph, is a representation of the action of nuclear energy shown in art form. An acrylic plastic form is artistically crazed by bombardment with high speed electrons from a nuclear electron accelerator to produce an unusual pattern in the crystal structure. Each mold, 1¾ inches high by 2¼ inches in diameter, contains a different pattern.

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⚙️ **RESCUE BREATH**ER for home, school, club or rescue workers, provides a sanitary means for applying mouth to mouth resuscitation in emergencies. The breather which consists of a short tube with mouth pieces on each end is placed over the victim's mouth. The rescuer breathes through the opposite mouth piece, placing the container for the device under the victim's neck to tilt the head back. Instructions are included.

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⚙️ **SCRUB AND WASH MITTENS** made of plastic colored sponge make cleaning jobs easier and quicker. Useful for washing dishes, venetian blinds, silverware, cars, walls or ceilings, the sponge holds the suds, minimizing dripping. When dry, the mittens are useful for delinting clothing. Easy to clean after use, they fit either hand.

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⚙️ **FLOOR MATS** are designed for "white rooms," hospital operating rooms and other areas where dust-free atmosphere is required. Made of a tacky vinyl material which is unaffected by humidity, heat or cold, the mat minimizes circulation of shoe dust and other foreign particles. The reversible mats measure 24x24x4½ inches and can be quickly washed with water.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

New Protein Theory Proposed

➤ A NEW, SIMPLIFIED theory of how proteins are synthesized in the body was proposed in London.

The theory shows good agreement with experimental results for five enzymes, Drs. P. D. Mier and D. W. R. Cotton of St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, London, reported in *Nature*, 209:1023, 1966.

The proposed model holds that one molecule of what is termed "messenger ribonucleic acid," or RNA, is synthesized for each operator gene. The model now accepted is that each structural gene has a separate molecule of messenger RNA.

• Science News, 89:192 March 19, 1966

Rule on Psychiatric Records Needed

➤ **PSYCHIATRISTS** should have a professional ruling allowing them to release confidential information on important people who are deceased.

This is the opinion of Dr. Gene Usdin, chairman of the American Psychiatric Association's (APA) committee on psychiatry and the law.

At present the APA has no official guidelines on the subject. However, the tendency is to keep records strictly confidential regardless of the family's permission to release them.

Dr. Usdin said if a legal contest between a man's heirs and his psychiatrist arose, the psychiatrist probably could not withhold information indefinitely, no matter what his ethical feelings.

In any case, Dr. Usdin believes there should be a procedure for releasing information "after a suitable time interval," on the behavior of people "who have significantly influenced mankind for better or worse."

Controversy was prompted when a biographer recently asked for psychiatric material on writer F. Scott Fitzgerald's wife, Zelda, who died 33 years ago.

Dr. Usdin's comments appeared in *Psychiatric News*, 1:9, 1966, an official publication of the American Psychiatric Association.

• Science News, 89:192 March 19, 1966

Make Barium Drink Less Chalky

➤ **THE BARIUM** "cocktail" need not taste like chalk or thick muddy water and X-ray examinations of the gastrointestinal tract can now be made more pleasant.

The horrid taste of the barium sulfate mixture that must be given orally as a target for the X-rays can be eliminated.

The practice of peppering up the mixture should be more wide-spread than it is, said Dr. Roscoe E. Miller of the department of radiology, Indiana University Medical Center, Indianapolis, in *Radiology*, 5:7, 1966.

Children, especially, find it hard to drink unpalatable mixtures, and Dr. Miller said it is not reasonable to insult the youngsters' taste buds.

Here are four principles for radiologists and pharmacists setting up a good "barium bar":

1. Eliminate the chalk or mud-like texture by adding a good suspending agent such as pectin, acacia or tragacanth.
2. Tailor the suspension flavor for the customer.
3. Use a mixture of flavors so that no one flavor, sweetness or texture predominates.
4. Test a few different mixtures on several carefully selected sensitive tasters chosen from the laboratory staff.

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