

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☸ **BIRD FEEDER** shaped like an apple and colored bright red with green leaves, can be hung anywhere. The feeding station attracts chickadees and other small song birds and holds enough food to feed them for many months. Its handy removable cap enables quick and easy filling. It is made of durable, unbreakable synthetic material.

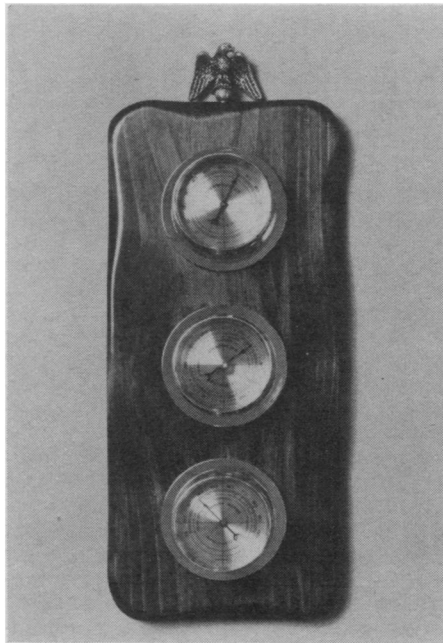
• *Science News*, 89:256 April 9, 1966

☸ **VACUUM BASE** for fastening portable tools, miter boxes, cameras, telescopes and various instruments to work benches or other flat surfaces is useful to handymen, hobbyists and homeowners. The base consists of a metal plate top to which the object is secured, and a neoprene bottom that forms a vacuum seal. A slight pressure and a push of a lever creates a vacuum that holds the base firmly to metal, tile, glass and most other nonporous flat surfaces. It can be mounted at any angle.

• *Science News*, 89:256 April 9, 1966

☸ **STOCK RECORD BOOK** enables a person to record 10 years of stock transactions for quick and easy reference. Each sheet contains space for a 10-year record of stock splits, stock and cash dividends, net gains or losses and other important information. The book contains enough 8x11 loose-leaf sheets to accommodate 25 separate companies. Extra sheets are available.

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☸ **WEATHER INSTRUMENTS** shown in photograph, have a background panel of ponderosa pine topped by a gold eagle. Mounted individually, the instruments include a thermometer, barometer and hygrometer for measuring humidity. Lustrous gold in color, the instruments have finely etched dials that are clear and easy to read. They come mounted individually or together on a wooden panel.

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☸ **BATTERY CAPS** that help prolong the life of the battery provide an instant visual check of the water level in each cell. The transparent leak-proof caps which are dome-shaped, are made with a floating indicator. As the water level is lowered in each cell of the battery, the indicator drops accordingly and the need for additional water is immediately observable through the dome, allowing instant check without removing the caps.

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☸ **PORTABLE OUTDOOR STOVE** folds compactly to an easy-to-carry size. Useful for camping trips as well as for patio cooking, the stove will charcoal broil, smokecook, barbecue, fry, bake and roast, and can also be used for area heating. Its adjustable cast-iron grates allow burning wood, coal, charcoal or briquettes. The stove will burn from six to eight hours unattended. It has a cooking area of 10x15 inches.

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☸ **WASH BOTTLE** for laboratories is constructed in a single unit eliminating air or liquid leakage and has joint-free construction. Its inlet is a part of the bottle base and the entire contents can be dispensed without tipping or shaking. A snap-on cap prevents evaporation loss. The bottles are available in 125, 250, 500 and 1,000 milliliter capacities.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Drinking Man's Diet

➤ **THE SO-CALLED** drinking man's diet may clog a person's arteries, as well as make him fat and inebriated, a Harvard professor of nutrition said.

Dr. Jean Mayer of the Harvard School of Public Health reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, 274:722, 1966, that a balanced diet is "infinitely preferable to the fad diets" such as grapefruit, banana, hard-boiled egg and the high-fat, low-carbohydrate types. She advises no less than 12% to 14% protein, no more than 35% fat, with saturated fats cut down, and the rest carbohydrates, with sucrose reduced to a very low level.

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Dental Appliance Helps Therapy

➤ **RADIUM TREATMENT** for mouth cancer will be made more effective than before by a new dental appliance constructed from heat-curing acrylic resin.

A team of U.S. Air Force researchers at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, reported in the *Journal of the American Dental Association*, April 1966, that the appliance was readily tolerated by a woman who had cancer behind and above the soft palate. She could continue her regular diet and carry on normal conversation without discomfort.

The technique requires more laboratory time than the

one-stage procedure using cold-curing resin, but it offers the advantage of the accurate location of radium needles to insure proper dosage, and it affords minimal exposure of normal tissue to radiation.

Drs. Kenneth D. Rudd, Allan E. Green Jr., Robert M. Morrow and James A. Hancock Jr. reported the new procedure.

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Thermometer Causes Death

➤ **REPORT** of a 10-day-old baby's death from perforation of the rectum by a thermometer has led to a warning from the American Medical Association of possible danger.

The need for a less dangerous rectal thermometer and for greater care in inserting it were stressed in an editorial in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 195:1144, 1966, which pointed out that no person should be unattended while temperatures were being taken rectally.

The baby's death occurred in the Bernalillo County-Indian Hospital in New Mexico. Dr. Justin J. Wolfson of the University of Minnesota Hospitals, Minneapolis, reported the case in the *American Journal of Diseases of Children*, 3:197, 1966. Dr. Wolfson said that although much is known about injury and perforation of the rectum from various causes, exceptionally little has been written.

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