

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⊗ **FINGER DOSIMETERS** are taped to the finger or hand to monitor exposures of persons handling ionizing radiation sources. Consisting of disks of radiation-sensitive material mounted on small bandage-type strips of adhesive, the dosimeters measure from 50 milliroentgens to a million roentgens. After exposure, the disks can be read out on an instrument available separately or sent to the manufacturers of the dosimeter for measurement.

• Science News, 89:502 June 18, 1966

⊗ **MATHEMATICS KIT** for both parents and students enables parents to help themselves as well as their children in understanding modern math. The kit contains 155 colored rods for visual and tactile uses, 50 activity cards, a guidebook and a special recording for pre-schoolers, "The Number Song." The kit is also useful to the deaf and blind.

• Science News, 89:502 June 18, 1966

⊗ **MEMBRANE TEST KIT** is a trial packet containing six different 9x12-inch sheets of cation and anion membranes useful for such processes as maintaining purity of plating solutions, desalting seawater and recovering precious metals. Developed primarily for electrodialysis, the longlasting membranes are 6 to 12 mils in thickness.

• Science News, 89:502 June 18, 1966



⊗ **BARBECUE ACCESSORY**, shown in photograph, is made for broiling skewered foods such as shish-ka-bob, over a charcoal burner. The unit which is rectangular in shape and open at the top and bottom is provided with slots at the top for holding skewers included. Suitable for indoor or outdoor cooking, it can be used with or without a grill. Easy to clean and easy to store, it is packaged in a gift box.

• Science News, 89:502 June 18, 1966

⊗ **FISH LURE** that darts back and forth when pulled through the water is made with a slot in its center. Constructed of chrome or nickel with red or black stripes, the lure creates shock waves as it is moved through the water, causing it to swing from side to side, fluttering and flashing. It is available in 1/2- and 1 1/2-ounce sizes.

• Science News, 89:502 June 18, 1966

⊗ **EXTENSION HANDLE** for outboard motors allows a fisherman to sit amidships while steering a boat without remote controls. The handle, which attaches to an aluminum grip included, extends from 28 to 37 inches with three locking positions at three-inch intervals. An aluminum grip which can be used also without the extension handle, is installed in place of the original plastic one on the steering handle.

• Science News, 89:502 June 18, 1966

⊗ **RESCUE BALL** is a self-inflating life preserver about the size and shape of an indoor baseball. In an emergency, the ball can be thrown to the person in the water up to 200 feet away. Within three seconds after it hits the water the ball opens up and a full-size life preserver with buoyancy enough to support a 250-pound man and a small anchor to keep the preserver from drifting are released.

• Science News, 89:502 June 18, 1966

• Doctors Are Reading •

Rabies Shots Trigger Sensitization

➤ **EIGHT** Peace Corps trainees have been reported allergic to duck-embryo rabies vaccine, given routinely before volunteers go overseas.

Injection of the antihistamine, diphenhydramine, overcame the abdominal pain, vomiting and itching caused by sensitization believed due to recent vaccination with yellow-fever vaccine that had been tolerated without adverse effects.

The case of a 20-year-old San Jose State College female student, reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine* 274:1311, 1966, by Dr. Stephen C. Cowdrey, staff physician of the Student Health Service of the college is a typical example. She was preparing for service in the Philippines.

Egg-based vaccines are routinely withheld from persons with well-defined egg allergy, so it is possible that patients reacting to duck-embryo vaccine had a low degree of sensitivity that was augmented by the prior use of yellow-fever vaccine, Dr. Cowdrey suggested.

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Cool Spine for Neurosurgery

➤ **A NEW COOLING** technique that could be useful in neurovascular surgery has been found successful in animals. The body temperature remains nearly normal during the cooling procedure.

A team of physicians at Western Reserve University,

Cleveland, Ohio, reported in *Nature* 210:1059, 1966, that no functional or neurological abnormality could be detected in 25 young healthy anesthetized dogs after repeated cooling over a period of two weeks.

Within 10 minutes of terminating the cooling perfusion, the spinal cord temperature returned to normal levels. A volume of isotonic saline at 39.2 to 42.8 degrees F. was continuously recirculated over the exposed spinal cord. The investigators used a DeBakey roller type pump, a Mayo pediatric heat exchanger and a submersible pump as a cooling reservoir.

Drs. Maurice S. Albin, Robert J. White, George E. Locke and Henry Kretchmer reported the research, which was supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md.

• Science News, 89:502 June 18, 1966

Newly Licensed Doctors Fewer in West

➤ **EVEN THOUGH** 8,943 licensed physicians were added to the United States medical profession in 1965, a seven-state region showed a 24% decline in the number of newly licensed doctors.

Montana had the fewest licenses, 19 issued last year, the American Medical Association's Council on Medical Education reported in the *Journal of the AMA* 196:857, 1966. The six other western states showing a drop were Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Utah.

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