

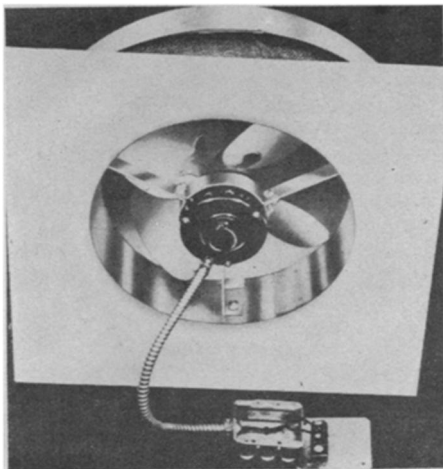
# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

Ask for Gadget Bulletin 1369 for source information. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope to SCIENCE NEWS, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **BOY'S TOOL CHEST** of selected hand tools will please young boys who like to make things. Containing real tools, not toys, the starter set for any boy between six and 15 years of age consists of five tools—hammer, 16-inch saw, block plane, six-foot folding wood rule and four-inch screwdriver—on a 16x21-inch pegboard complete with hooks.

⚙️ **PORTABLE SHOWER** that also serves as a water carrier is suitable for campers, boaters and other outdoor enthusiasts who frequent areas without bathing facilities. Made of sturdy rubberized canvas with two and one-half gallon capacity, the carrier has a hard rubber faucet and strong wooden handles for carrying or hanging on a tree. It is useful also for a freshwater rinse after a dip in the ocean.

⚙️ **PET CARRIER** 19x13x12 inches, for safely transporting small animals is made of strong, rigid plastic and is easily cleaned. Its attached door has a lifetime hinge and lockable latch and the bumper ends are slanted to assure ample ventilation. Provided with a convenient carrying handle, it is easy to carry and weighs only four pounds.



⚙️ **ROOF-MOUNTED VENTILATOR**, shown in photograph, to remove superheated air in house attics consists of a powerful fan in an outdoor housing made of weather-resistant plastic. The thermostatically controlled ventilator has a 14-inch diameter fan to exhaust approximately 1,400 cubic feet of air per minute. Available in white or light gray, it is designed for houses with 2,000 square feet or less of living area.

⚙️ **FIRST-AID KIT** contains 15 important first-aid items, such as bandages, adhesive tape, antiseptic and burn ointment, tweezers, scissors and drinking cup, useful for travelers and campers as well as in the home. The kit also contains portable flashing red warning light and a white utility light. A first-aid instruction booklet is included.

⚙️ **LIGHT GUIDE KIT** for hobbyists, experimenters, inventors and home craftsmen provides materials for transmitting light around corners or wherever needed. Containing all materials necessary for making light guides, the kit includes two lengths of plastic fiber optics, one with 16 fibers and the other with 64. Tough and flexible, the fibers can withstand repeated vibration and have a temperature range of minus 40 degrees to plus 175 degrees F. Detailed instructions are included.

⚙️ **LARGE TYPE CROSSWORDS** for the aged, bedridden and disabled are printed in oversize 16-point type. Printed in jet black on tinted paper, the book contains more than 50 crossword puzzles and answers. Useful for both bedridden hospital patients and disabled youngsters as a form of recreational activity.

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Man Adapts to Odors But Animals Do Not

► **WHEN FACED** with a persistent odor chemists, garbage men and a variety of other workers find it to their advantage to adapt to it, but animals do not.

Single electrode recording by Dr. John R. Hughes and D. Eugene Hendrix of Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., showed that adaptation in man takes place at the level of the olfactory bulb.

Reporting in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 197:40, 1966, Dr. Hughes said his long-term goal goes beyond man's sense of smell, however.

"If we understand the rhythms in man's brain, we will know better how to make use of the electroencephalograph in diagnosing diseases affecting the brain," he explained. During the past 10 years he has developed evidence to substantiate his theory that messages about odor flow from the olfactory bulb to the brain in the form of electrical frequency components—a different profile of frequencies for each odor.

## Mothers' Viruses Can Cause Prematurity

► **MUMPS**, hepatitis, ordinary measles—even chickenpox in some unusual cases—in addition to German measles can cause prematurity if acquired by the mother during pregnancy.

A preliminary study involving 1,652 mothers in New York City compared the effects of the various diseases on premature babies, who will be followed up with hearing and mental development tests at the age of five.

German measles caused the greatest number of stillbirths, birth defects, premature and underweight births when the

disease occurred in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. With ordinary measles there were some premature births but the stage of pregnancy had little effect. With hepatitis, late pregnancy was the period in which there was an increase in prematurity and infant deaths. With mumps there was an increase in early-pregnancy fetal deaths, but with chickenpox there were only a few complications.

Reporting the study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 197: 680, 1966, were Drs. Morris Siegel and Harold F. Fuerst of the State University of New York College of Medicine and the Bureau of Preventable Disease, Department of Health, New York City.

## Yellow-Vegetable Excess Turns Patients Orange

► **TWO HUMANS** as orange as an orange have been reported for what is believed to be the first time in medical literature. They had been eating too many carrots, tomatoes and yellow vegetables.

Drs. John D. Hughes and Richard L. Wooten of the University of Tennessee department of medicine and the Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, said their treatment was simple and effective. They told the orange people to stop eating yellow and red pigmented food.

One of the patients had been living in Alaska three years and had the impression that he was not getting enough sunlight, so he ate from three to five raw carrots a day and drank a large can of tomato juice every three to four days in addition to eating squash and rutabagas.

The other patient had been eating at least two cups of carrots and at least two tomatoes a day. The cases were reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 197:730, 1966.