

New Machines and Gadgets

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⚙️ **RADIO-BINOCULARS** is a unit consisting of binoculars and a portable transistor radio that can be used separately or together. The binoculars are three-and-a-half-power with center focusing adjustment. The radio has an antenna built into the carrying strap and an earplug for private listening.

Science News Letter, May 16, 1959

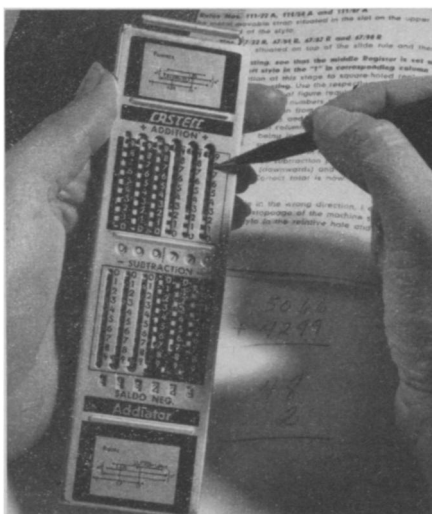
⚙️ **FLEXIBLE HEATING TAPE** conducts electricity without built-in wires. Made of woven glass fibers impregnated with conductive silicone rubber, it can be cut to any desired length and still maintain a uniform temperature at any spot on the surface. It is expected to solve some heating problems in the plastics industry.

Science News Letter, May 16, 1959

⚙️ **SAFETY LIGHT** that rotates and wavers automatically at the slightest vibration is lighted by giving the dome a clockwise twist. For use on belts, bicycles, boats and other vehicles, the light consists of a plastic base and dome containing a spring mounted bulb and two small batteries. It comes in red, amber, blue or green.

Science News Letter, May 16, 1959

⚙️ **ADDITION-SLIDE RULE**, shown in the photograph, has a five-inch slide rule with a ruler and 13 precision scales. On



the reverse side is a device for quick addition or subtraction up to 999,999. The aluminum and brass adding device is operated by a stylus contained in the rule's leather case.

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⚙️ **WATER-PIPE COVERS** zip on to cold water pipes to prevent dripping resulting from condensation. Available in standard decorator colors, the covers are said to stem corrosion, halt bacteria growth around moist

pipes and prevent rotting of walls and floors around the pipes.

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⚙️ **CLEATED STEP PLATES** may be screwed to the gunwales of small craft to give crewmen secure footing. Made of transparent plastic, they also protect the finish of the planking and permit it to be seen. The plates, available in pairs in two different sizes, are resistant to impact, exposure to sunlight, salt water and air.

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⚙️ **KITCHEN SET** consists of a paddle-shaped copper-color anodized aluminum salt and pepper shakers, a stainless steel stirring spoon, and a wall bracket equipped with hooks from which the other three pieces are hung. The spoon has a small hook at the base of the handle for hanging the spoon over the inside rim of a pot.

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⚙️ **INSECT TRAP** lights up outdoor areas and catches insects too. It consists of a small motor and fan located right below a light bulb. The movement of the fan sucks insects attracted by the light downward and into a collecting bag. Most of the bugs will be killed by the blades. Others can be kept trapped till they die.

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Nature Ramblings



By HORACE LOFTIN

► THE BALDING dome of the timber executive gleamed like a beacon in the lights of the convention hall. With a reflected glint in his eye, another balding gentleman approached the executive, spoke to him earnestly for a few minutes, then stuck out his hand. The timberman dug into his wallet, gave the solicitor a dollar bill, and thereupon became a life member in America's most unique club.

The club? The Bald Eagle Club, open to all who possess a balding pate or silvery locks like that great bird of prey.

The Bald Eagle Club was established about a decade ago by Donald B. Hyde, a lumberman from Waltham, Mass. In the course of his business he became interested in the relation of bird life to our forests. As he attended conventions of lumber merchants throughout the country, Hyde began to buttonhole his balding or graying asso-

The Bald Eagle Club



ciates for a dollar life membership in the "club." Funds received were used to promote research and public appreciation of this rapidly disappearing bird.

After Mr. Hyde's death, the Club went into a state of inactivity. But this year, his widow sent \$285 in funds remaining in the Club treasury to the Florida Audubon Society to assist in that group's work in bald eagle conservation. This signaled the reawakening of the Bald Eagle Club as

Audubon leader Russ Mason, himself a fully qualified member, announced from his Maitland, Fla., headquarters that membership rolls will again be opened.

Though the Bald Eagle Club has an informal character, its basic purpose is a very serious one. The national bird has diminished greatly in numbers, even in its major strongholds in Alaska and Florida. Why the bird is disappearing is not known, and the Florida Audubon Society hopes to establish a research fellowship to find out why and what can be done about it.

Incidentally, as with the members of the Bald Eagle Club, it takes several years for even the eagle to attain its mark of distinction, the gleaming dome. Some five years must pass before the bird acquires its white head.

As one enthusiastic charter member has summed it up: Where else in this age of inflation can you have a Life Membership to anything for a dollar?

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