

• New Machines and Gadgets •

For sources of more information on new things described, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 1057. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **NOVELTY SANDALS** are made of transparent plastic. Floating in liquid inside the sandals are charming white and multi-colored "fish" that dart in and out of brightly colored "pebbles" with every step the wearer takes. Available in sizes to fit girls from three to 12, the sandals fasten over the instep with an adjustable plastic strap.

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960

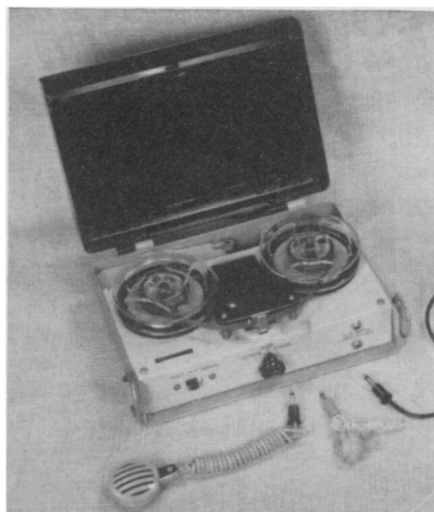
⚙️ **KITCHEN GREASE MONKEY** is an attractive cup used to collect bacon drippings, excess cooking oils. The grease monkey has disposable cup inserts that may be thrown away when filled with grease.

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960

⚙️ **RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS CONTAINER** is a device for the transport and storage of radioactive isotopes. The steel container will withstand rugged use without denting; thus the top will always fit securely. A stainless steel handle locks the top in place.

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960

⚙️ **TOY TAPE RECORDER**, shown in the photograph, is a transistor-powered tape recorder which performs like a highly sensitive, expensive recorder. Contained in a two-tone, high-impact, unbreakable carry-



ing case, the unit includes the ultra-sensitive microphone, earphone, direction booklet and two spools containing 100 feet of standard magnetic tape.

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960

⚙️ **OVERHEAD LAB PROJECTOR** enables a teacher to project small specimens, chemicals, or an actual, on-the-spot experiment for students to see as it progresses.

The 35mm projector is useful for group viewing in classroom or industrial laboratory. It will also serve as a slide, film strip or micro-projector.

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960

⚙️ **AIR-COOLED PIPE** features six nylon cooling fins around the bowl. This finned, exterior bowl opens to expose the interior bowl of fire-resistant, shock-proof clear glass that can be removed for cleaning. The entire pipe is washable and very light.

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960

⚙️ **CHIC HANDBAG FLASHLIGHT** looks more like a lipstick case than a utilitarian accessory. Fashioned like a piece of costume jewelry, the light is 3½ inches long. It fits easily into a handbag or evening purse where it is handy to light up a walkway, a keyhole or the fine print of a theater program.

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960

⚙️ **LIGHTWEIGHT AIR SAMPLER** weighs nine pounds and samples air at the rate of two cubic feet a minute. The industrial hygienist, safety inspector, process engineer, air pollution scientist or anyone interested in air quality will find the dust instrument a useful tool for survey work.

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960



Nature Ramblings



➤ "LOOK OUT, JOHN Here comes mamal!"

John Gillespie ducked his head just in time to avoid the talons of a female osprey that swooped down with all the fury of a mother whose young are in danger. Only the rope tied round his waist kept him from falling headlong from the tall nest tree. But with a bit of maneuvering and more luck, Gillespie was soon out of the osprey's reach and safe on the ground.

This was all in a day's "play" for John Gillespie, who for 16 years, from 1926 to 1941, spent his free moments banding baby ospreys (or fish hawks, as they are also called) on the New Jersey coast.

In this time, the "osprey man" banded 457 of these great birds of prey, of which 76 have been recovered—a large percentage of band returns. Recoveries of bands for all species of birds is only about one percent, so Gillespie's record is somewhat phenomenal.

The "osprey man" banded most of his birds in the Cape May region of New Jersey. From his band returns, he learned that these Jersey-born birds ranged as far away from

Osprey Man



home as the valley of the Amazon River. Other returns came from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Colombia and Venezuela, as well as a number of records from all along the east coast from Pennsylvania to Florida.

One of the most intriguing returns of an osprey band involved a nestling bird banded near Cape May on July 16, 1939. Five months later this bird was killed in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, a straight-line distance of over 7,000 miles from its birthplace. Another Brazilian return came from the Amazon valley, four years after the bird was banded. Had this bird returned to his New Jersey home each breeding season of his

life? What other distant parts of the world had been visited by this wanderer?

Another osprey mystery was turned up by John Gillespie. In the summer of 1939, within a two-week period, Gillespie banded three young ospreys. All three were later taken separately at different localities in the eastern province of Cuba, Oriente. More than that, the three birds were taken within a month's time of each other, three years after they had been banded!

John Gillespie did not pick an easy hobby, but he picked a fascinating one. Like the famous Charles Broley, the "eagle man" who began banding bald eagles in his retirement years, Gillespie defied danger and inconvenience to search out the secrets of a mighty bird of prey.

The "osprey man" had to halt his banding operations in 1941. He died in 1956; but two months after he had passed away, a return came in from one of his birds. This bird, killed on high tension wires at Cape May, had been banded by the "osprey man" 18 years previously as a nestling at that same Cape May.

—HORACE LOFTIN

• Science News Letter, 78:192 September 17, 1960