

# • New Ideas 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 1120. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **WORD GAME** combines skill and chance to provide an exciting game played against time. Two spinners give the first letter of a word and the number of letters. Using a 6-key letter-number unit, the player must complete his word in the allotted time. He tries to choose the word giving the highest point score for all the letters used. Full instructions are included.

• Science News Letter, 80:376 December 2, 1961

⚙️ **UNITED NATIONS FLAGS**, each properly identified and attached to a wooden staff with a removable base, are printed in color on heavy silky fabric, measuring 2 by 2½ inches. A plicofilm envelope protects each of the 100 flags, a collection valuable to teachers or students.

• Science News Letter, 80:376 December 2, 1961

⚙️ **GARDEN TOOL HOLDER** that slips over a one-inch wood strip and slides to any position will hold any size tool securely and help solve garden tool storage problems. Made of high-quality, heavy, plated steel, the holders will not rust or bend and will keep tools up and out of the way.

• Science News Letter, 80:376 December 2, 1961

⚙️ **RAPID PRINT PROCESS**, which produces prints up to 11 by 14 inches, consists of a compact, power-driven, table-top processor, shown in photograph, with new developing and stabilizing chemicals and special sensitized papers. The photographic



paper on which the negative is exposed is inserted in the processor that automatically turns out a finished, semi-dry print in 5 to 15 seconds.

• Science News Letter, 80:376 December 2, 1961

⚙️ **PLASTIC ADHESIVE TAPE** is a transparent tape half as thick as cellophane, yet one-third as strong as sheet metal. Waterproof and weatherproof, it is useful for repairing or reinforcing all plastics in fre-

quent contact with water such as umbrellas, boots or shower curtains, and for sealing packages for mailing or for freezer storage.

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⚙️ **PREFABRICATED ENTRYWAY** added to the front entrance of the home provides a hallway for a house entered directly through the living room. Each unit is custom-made to the contractor's precise measurements. The entryway will help reduce heating costs in winter and keep the home cleaner. A choice of styles, colors and surface finishes is available.

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⚙️ **POCKET-SIZE SURVIVAL KIT** contains 20 first aid and survival items, including water purification tablets, ammonia inhalant and waterproofed matches, plus a 16-page illustrated instruction booklet. Packed in a compact plastic case, it is ideal for hikers, hunters, explorers.

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⚙️ **OVERHEAD PIPE BRUSH** with a 36-inch handle enables a person to clean overhead pipes safely from the floor. A unique circular head that slips onto the pipe with a simple twist comes in two sizes and in two types of bristles, for wet or dry cleaning. Handle lengths can be ordered to fit special needs.

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## Nature Ramblings



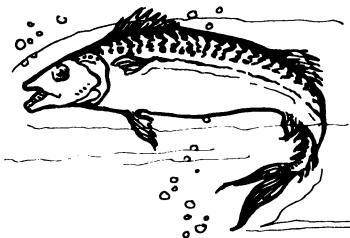
## Do You Know?

► SOME of the world's many fishes change their ways of life during winter. At the approach of cold weather, certain freshwater species seek the deepest water they can find. Here the water temperature is likely to be fairly constant. These fishes winter at certain depths with hardly any movement. They do very little feeding during this inactive interval.

Marine fishes such as the fork-tailed mackerel and the basking shark also change habits in winter. In summer the mackerel feeds on plankton, a general term for tiny plants and animals massed together near and on the ocean's surface. At summer's end, the plankton is nearly non-existent. Now the mackerel swims to deep water and remains close to the bottom in a nearly inactive state.

The basking shark, also a plankton feeder, leaves the ocean's surface in the fall. It swims to an area near the continental shelf. Here, this shark remains close to the bottom, nearly motionless, seldom breathing, and seemingly more dead

### Mackerel



than alive. For nourishment, it draws on the carbohydrates in the liver.

A freshwater fish, the silver or golden carp, passes the winter in the mud of a pond, lake or stream. This fish wriggles around in the mud until it is nearly covered.

The hibernation of the carp is affected by its breathing and the water temperature. A water temperature of 57 degrees Fahrenheit means the carp breathes 57 to 75 times a minute.

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Overeating and unbalanced diets are the two biggest hazards to health.

An X-ray device that will automatically detect and reject fish fillets and portions containing bones has been developed.

Automobiles are a major source of air pollution, ranking first among nine leading sources which include the petroleum industry and combustion of fuels.

Air pollution can cause the crumbling of marble in buildings.

Studies reveal that heart attacks and strokes show up 15 years earlier among people in countries where overeating is prevalent.

Future control of cancer may lie in the immunity reactions which human cells indiscriminately employ to combat both disease germs and healing tissue grafts, according to some immunologists.

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