

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☛ **TELEPHONE STYLE HI-FI RADIO** has two speakers. It is a reproduction of a country style telephone cabinet in hand-rubbed wood with solid brass and black fittings. Operating on 110-120 volts, AC/DC, the crank of the telephone tunes in the radio stations.

• Science News Letter, 80:392 December 9, 1961

☛ **JALOPY BANK** to help encourage saving is shaped like a car in gay-colored ceramic imprinted with sayings that will appeal to the young and to teen-agers. An opening under the car permits emptying the bank without having to break it.

• Science News Letter, 80:392 December 9, 1961

☛ **ONE-CUP COFFEE MAKER** brews coffee in two minutes, using the drip method, with just one tablespoon of any grind coffee and hot water. Made of unbreakable plastic with a stainless steel filter, the easy-to-clean unit fits over any size coffee cup and is ideal for home or office, or when traveling.

• Science News Letter, 80:392 December 9, 1961

☛ **OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS DECORATION**, shown in the photograph, is a gay and festive conic translucent decoration for doorways or gardens. It is 36 inches high and 16 inches in diameter. Weather and impact resistant, the plastic, colorfast Santa Face cone is mounted on a conventional



lamp base for after-dark illumination. Other designs are available.

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☛ **AUTOMATIC TOOTHBRUSH** consists of a cordless, battery-powered handle with a detachable brush that operates with rapid short strokes, cleaning the teeth with professional effectiveness. The set includes four

colored brush inserts and a recharging holder for the handle that can be mounted on the wall and connected with the house current.

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☛ **SKI BOOTS CARRYING CASE** the size of an attache case will accommodate ski boots mounted on boot trees, plus gloves, goggles and other accessories. Unaffected by cold temperatures or melting snow, the rigid plastic case is lightweight and scratch resistant.

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☛ **UNSINKABLE ALUMINUM PADDLE** for canoeists, weighing only 22 ounces, has a bright anodized finish that will not discolor. Made of specially designed hollow aluminum filled with foamed-in-place urethane plastic, the sturdy buoyant paddle will not warp or split. The handle is of varnished spruce.

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☛ **STALLION BOOK-ENDS** are two rearing stallions 11½ inches high and about 11 inches from front hoofs to tail. Molded of tough plastic and having the appearance of sculptured ceramics, the horses come in four finishes and may be obtained singly. Rubber-padded, the hoofs and tail do not slip or scratch the furniture surface.

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Nature Ramblings



Do You Know?

► THE ONLY MEMBER of the deer family to be truly domesticated is the reindeer—a symbol of Christmas because the antlered little animal supposedly pulls the sleigh in which Santa Claus makes his rounds each Christmas Eve.

The reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*) is not native to North America. Between 1891 and 1902 the U.S. Government bought in Siberia more than a thousand of these domesticated animals, which were shipped to Alaska. These deer, standing only about three and one-half feet tall, established themselves on the tundra.

The herds of reindeer feed in the forests adjoining the tundra. Lichens of all kinds are a mainstay in the diet. One species is the so-called reindeer moss that covers immense stretches in Arctic lands. In Alaska and Canada, as in Lapland, the reindeer is a source of food for many people. The milk is well-liked for drinking and is also used to make cheese.

The reindeer herds in Canada today were started from stock driven from Alaska about 30 years ago.

Reindeer



Some authorities believe that these strong little deer are better for pulling sleds than the famous Eskimo dogs. Reindeer can pull a heavy sled at ten miles an hour, and maintain this speed for long periods.

Food is not such a problem with reindeer as it is with dogs. For Santa's steeds can forage for themselves by pawing through the crusty snow to reach reindeer moss.

Although some North American reindeer are used for Christmas exhibits, many are imported from the Lapland section of Norway.

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Special visual training will be necessary for men who make flights to outer space in order to tell whether an object in space is coming or going.

The cleanest air in the U.S. is found over deserts.

Ultrasonics, or sound waves higher than the range audible to the human ear, is one of medicine's newest tools for diagnosis and treatment.

A new drug gives quick relief to diabetics from high blood-sugar levels, beginning 15 minutes after the capsule is taken and lasting for 12 to 14 hours.

Fish flour, derived from processing whole fish, contains 80% protein.

Diseases most likely influenced by air pollution include emphysema, chronic bronchitis and bronchogenic carcinoma.

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