

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **JOINTED MALE MANIKINS**, made to scale and carved from fine-grained wood, are 12 inches high. They will assume and hold any desired pose. Useful for the study of human posture and body dynamics, they are also valuable as aids to craftsmen in designing furniture at about 1/12th scale.

• Science News Letter, 82:32 July 14, 1962

⚙️ **METAL STORE HOUSES** to store miscellaneous equipment come in prefabricated sections. Available in two sizes in maintenance free, painted or plain aluminum, they can be assembled without any tools. The door, with lock and key, comes hinged and attached to a section.

• Science News Letter, 82:32 July 14, 1962

⚙️ **CONSTANT TEMPERATURE OVEN** for laboratories and industrial needs is useful for moisture determinations, incubation, food and cereal analyses and other processes. Heating elements are completely shielded to eliminate short circuits in case of spillage. A push-button latch on the oven door prevents jarring of the oven contents. Air circulation is by gravity or forced draft.

• Science News Letter, 82:32 July 14, 1962

⚙️ **TRANSPARENT CLAMPS** to hold cables for fire and burglar alarm systems along outside walls are made of durable, corrosion-resistant plastic. They retain trans-



parency despite long exposure to weather. The one-half-inch wide clamps, shown in the photograph, are shaped in sizes to accommodate cable of varying diameter.

• Science News Letter, 82:32 July 14, 1962

⚙️ **NEW BOTTLE STOPPERS** are standard rubber stoppers treated with a chemically inert plastic film. Resistant to chemicals and pinhole free, they are suitable for com-

pounds that were almost impossible to hold with any type of closure. The stoppers are available in standard sizes.

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⚙️ **ACOUSTIC DOOR** assembly consists of soundproofed door and frame. Acoustically rated at 47 decibel transmission loss, the assembly is effective in controlling noise in music rooms, studios, offices, factories and jet engine test cells.

• Science News Letter, 82:32 July 14, 1962

⚙️ **SHOWER ROD COVERS** give rusty, unsightly shower rods, towel bars or closet poles a colorful new look. The tough plastic covers are clipped over the rod and grip tightly after installation. Available in five-foot lengths and seven colors, they can be cut to size with ordinary scissors.

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⚙️ **MUSIC-IN-COLOR PROJECTOR** unit for dental offices entertains the patient with dancing rainbows of color while in the dentist's chair. The unit consists of a projector, a synchrometer, connecting cables and screen. Music from any source is fed into the synchrometer, producing animated patterns of color. The color designs, synchronized with the music, are projected onto wall or screen.

• Science News Letter, 82:32 July 14, 1962



Nature Ramblings



Water Lilies

Photograph by FREMONT DAVIS

Text by WILLIAM E. SMALL

➤ **FLOATING SERENE** and cool on the quiet waters under the blazing summer sun, the water lily flowers and pads are an inspiration to people of all ages. The scientific family name, Nymphaeaceae, speaks for itself.

Two genera of these lovely flowers are the most well-known in North America, although five are native. Nuphar, the yellow pond lily, also known as spatter dock or cow lily, grows widely in the Northern Hemisphere, often in ponds and slow streams. Nymphaea is the sweet-scented white water lily or water nymph. It is commonly found in still waters from New England to Florida and west to Kansas.

The real home of water lilies is in the tropics where they grow in all sizes and colors, including delicate pinks, glowing reds and gorgeous blues. An outstanding member of the family is the giant royal water lily of the Amazon. Its huge circular leaves with upturned edges reach six feet in diameter, expanding an inch an hour during development.

Blooming throughout the summer months, the water lily displays large, showy flowers with fingernail-like petals, growing from a rootstock in the mud of shallow waters. The leaves are large and oval or round, with deep notches at the base where the stem is attached.

The American lotus lily (genus Nelumbo) is another popular member of the water lily family. Its leaves and flowers are raised high out of the water, the fruit pod is top-shaped, resembling a giant pepper-shaker. The genus is best known for its Asiatic member, the sacred lotus, displaying intricate pink flowers.

• Science News Letter, 82:32 July 14, 1962