

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **SPOTLIGHT SCREW DRIVER** that throws a brilliant beam of light on the screw driver's tip makes working in shadowy places faster and easier. Its chrome-plated steel handle holds two standard batteries and an unbreakable lens is built into the chuck that holds interchangeable drivers. A thumb controlled switch gives instant action. The set comes in a plastic case that rolls up for storage.

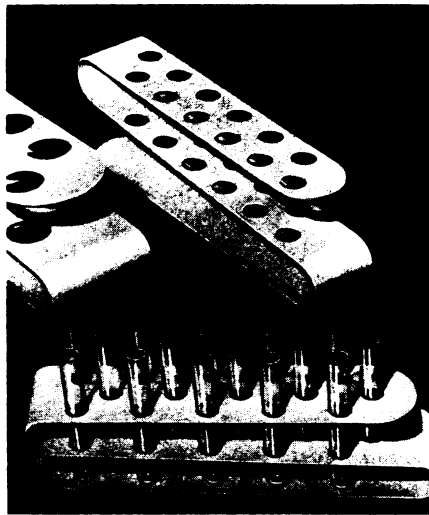
• Science News Letter, 83:126 February 23, 1963

⚙️ **ADJUSTABLE WRENCH** of steel alloy, especially suitable for tight places where no other wrench can reach, has a narrow head that can be lengthened or shortened one inch. Fitting both metric size and standard size nuts, its four-surface contact prevents slippage. An upward tapered handle helps prevent injured knuckles.

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⚙️ **FOLDING REAR PROJECTION SCREEN** converts any film projector, movie or still, to rear screen operation. The unit consists of two screens, a black back screen and the front screen on which the images are reflected. Suitable for use with groups up to 50 persons, it is 18 by 24 inches in size. The screen can be set up on any tabletop and gives a brilliant image in normal room light.

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⚙️ **S-SHAPED TEST TUBE RACK**, shown in the photograph, has no joints that will pull apart. Made of anodized aluminum, it resists common corrosion, will not crack, break, split or swell, and endures oven or autoclave heat without warping. Easy to store, the racks are available in three sizes and can be placed end to end or back to back for easy viewing.

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⚙️ **PRESSURE-VACUUM PUMP** useful for laboratories, hospitals, doctors' offices or industry for vacuum air sampling and filtration is permanently lubricated requiring no oiling. The powerful pump, quiet and lightweight, is provided with easy-to-read gauges, on-off switch, carrying handle, cords and vibration-dampening mounts.

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⚙️ **THERMAL WIRE STRIPPER** eliminates the need for a sharp instrument and nicking of wire during wire stripping. The stripper has a heating element that melts the wire covering and anneals the inner copper wire making it more flexible and preventing wire breakage. Easy to operate, the temperature can be varied for plastic coverings. The set includes gun and instructions.

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⚙️ **POCKET-SIZE MAP COMPUTER** simplifies working with maps and diagrams of different scales. Useful for the design and production of simulated maps and models for advanced radar trainers and lunar mission simulators, the computer scales range from 1:50,000 to 1:5,000,000 in 16 increments. The reverse side of the computer contains comparative scales for earth and moon maps or models.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Hawaiians Lead in Diabetes

► THE RATE OF diabetes among Hawaiians on the island of Oahu, where the state's capital, Honolulu, is located, is six times that among Caucasians, reports the Journal of the American Medical Association, 183:419, 1963.

"It is easy to say Hawaiians are fat and eat high carbohydrate diets," Dr. Norman R. Sloan of Hawaii's Department of Health said in reporting a study of 38,103 employed persons. "But this does not apply to Filipinos. And what of the Caucasians, with their multifold variations in size, shape and diet? A further careful study, based on the accumulated data, is definitely indicated."

Viruses in Alaska

The opening up of Alaska to new development has brought with it acute year-round diseases that were formerly traceable to periodic contact with visitors during the warm season, Dr. Karl R. Reinhard of the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md., said in JAMA, 183:410, 1963. Dr. Reinhard was formerly chief of the infectious disease program, Arctic Health Research Center, Anchorage, Alaska.

Polio, Coxsackie or ECHO viruses may be the cause of common infant deaths with central nervous system involvement or respiratory failure, Dr. Reinhard indicated. These intestinal viruses also might explain the wintertime epidemics of stomach upsets among Alaskan villagers, he said. Most of the small villages are in constant contact with the larger northern centers of population.

Short Hospitalization for Mentally Ill

The average patient with a nervous breakdown can go home after three to six weeks provided he revisits the hospital regularly and has the cooperation of his relatives. Only seven of 219 patients at the Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute, University of California Medical Center, San Francisco, had to go back for re-hospitalization, three psychiatrists at the Institute reported in the current Archives of General Psychiatry, published by the American Medical Association, Feb. 1963.

A combination of drugs and electroshock treatment has made the mentally ill easier to care for than formerly. Drs. Jurgen Ruesch, Carroll Brodsky and Ames Fischer say their findings are consistent with those of other investigators. They believe this short-hospitalization approach can "serve as an economical and effective model for the treatment of acute disorders in the many public and private centers" being proposed and activated throughout the United States.

House Dust Allergy

The most common problem confronting the allergic person is not ragweed but house dust. Even the hay fever victim may not be sensitive to pollens alone, Dr. Herbert J. Rinkel of Kansas City, Mo., said in the current Archives of Otolaryngology, Feb. 1963. In 33 years of practice, Dr. Rinkel said, he encountered only three patients who were allergic to ragweed alone.

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