

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **TEMPERATURE STABLE INKS**, specifically compounded for remote reservoir pen systems in field recording instruments, maintain their flow properties from minus 55 degrees to plus 175 degrees Fahrenheit. Chemically and bacteriologically stable for long shelf life, they are free of troublesome bubble problems. Six colors are available.

• Science News Letter, 83:160 March 9, 1963

⚙️ **BOWLING CASE** molded of polyethylene is light, durable, rugged and compact. Weighing only two pounds, it is available in both men's and women's sizes. The case has a built-in breakproof handle and a leather grain finish in black, olive, light blue or gold.

• Science News Letter, 83:160 March 9, 1963

⚙️ **AMBER AUTO LIGHTS** fit all cars and will enable anyone to convert white parking lights and turn signals to amber color. Consisting of permanent color lens and galvanized steel attachments, the lights can be installed in minutes. The special design lens also increases light magnification.

• Science News Letter, 83:160 March 9, 1963

⚙️ **DOG BRUSH** that is self-cleaning fits into the palm of the hand. The brush, shown in the photograph, is made of molded



plastic and has resilient, long-wearing bristles. After use, the top of the round case is given a quarter turn and the bristles retracted, depositing accumulated hair on the case surface. The brush is then clean.

• Science News Letter, 83:160 March 9, 1963

⚙️ **AUTOMATIC CLOG-ALARM SIGNAL** for septic tanks and cesspools permits the homeowner to take necessary precautions before backing up or overflowing occur. The warning device, which can be plugged into any household electrical outlet, flashes green when the tank is clean and red when there is trouble brewing. Fifty feet of wire and a sensing device easily inserted into the sewer pipe complete the unit.

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⚙️ **PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE** for home, office and industry comes in a spray can with a self-cleaning nozzle that will not clog. The new adhesive, suitable for any smooth surface materials, such as paper, plastic, transparencies and thin metals, does not shrink or stain material to which it is applied. Non-flammable and non-toxic, it dries transparent.

• Science News Letter, 83:160 March 9, 1963

⚙️ **TABLE LAMP** for home and office reduces glare and eyestrain. The compact modern style lamp, available in five colors, has a jointed arm so that the lamp can be raised or lowered and directed at the proper angle. Small and convenient, in size, it is suitable for piano, desk, sewing corner or workshop.

• Science News Letter, 83:160 March 9, 1963

• Doctors Are Reading •

Internal Injury From Seat Belt

► **THERE IS A RIGHT** and wrong way to wear a seat belt. A New Orleans woman in a car collision had to have her spleen removed because she wore her seat belt loose and high across her abdomen and lower rib cage, reports the Journal of the American Medical Association, 183:693, 1963.

The only advantage in this improperly placed seat belt was that the woman was not thrown out and killed. The soft tissue of her abdomen gave in with the impact, causing her to fracture two ribs, strike her head on the windshield and her upper chest on the dashboard in addition to rupturing her spleen. She recovered.

Drs. William M. Cocke Jr. and Kenneth K. Meyer of the Ochsner Clinic, New Orleans, said they believed this to be the first reported case in which a wrongly worn seat belt caused rupture of the spleen. They pointed out that seat belts should be worn over the bony structure of the hip and pelvis—not across the abdomen.

Smoking Behavior and Genetics

The biological or genetic make-up of the individual appears to determine his smoking behavior, a study of 922 Harvard College men who graduated in 1946 revealed. Dr. Carl C. Seltzer, a Harvard research fellow in physical anthropology, who reported the 1959 survey in JAMA, 183:639, 1963, said smokers proved to be taller and heavier than nonsmokers.

Female Hormones for Men

One man developed breast cancer and others had breast enlargement and loss of sex drive after long-term dosages of estrogen, female sex hormones, as a treatment for coronary heart disease, a group of Chicago heart specialists reported in JAMA, 183:632,

682, 1963. However, death rates were reduced about 50% during a five-year period by the hormone treatment. An accompanying editorial said that problems will disappear if a better estrogen preparation is found.

Drs. Jeremiah Stamler and Ruth Pick of the American and Illinois Heart Associations, with Drs. Louis M. Katz, Alfred Pick, Benjamin M. Kaplan and David M. Berkson, and Dolores Century, from the Michael Reese Hospital and Chicago Board of Health, reported the study, which included 275 men under 50 years of age.

Detecting Cervical Cancer

The emergency-accident room of a hospital in Miami, Fla., has added routine cancer examinations for women, even if they come in for sprained ankle treatment. In two and a half years, the Papanicolaou smear test for cervical cancer was done on 3,697 women, 261 of whom showed positive cancer although this could not be seen in 43% except by microscope.

Drs. James Henry Ferguson and Sergio Leon, who reported the study in JAMA, 183:629, 1963, suggested that other hospitals might adopt the system of Jackson Memorial Hospital.

Prenatal X-ray Exposure

Death from leukemia and other forms of cancer is about 40% higher in children exposed to diagnostic X-ray before birth than among those whose mothers do not expose them to prenatal X-ray. Dr. Brian MacMahon, Harvard University School of Public Health, Boston, said in the questions and answers section of JAMA, 183:721, 1962, that studies have shown the greatest death risk is between the ages of five and seven years.

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