

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **PERSONALIZED PIPETTES** are permanently marked and assure the return of pipettes to the right individual, project or department. The markings on the non-corrosive and scratch-proof pipettes are made in the same brown markings as the graduations. Marking service is free with the purchase of five full cases of pipettes or more.

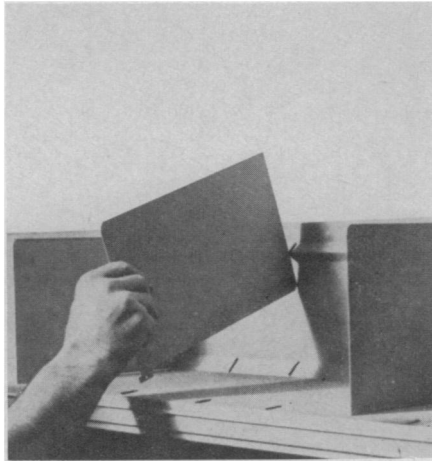
• Science News Letter, 83:240 April 13, 1963

⚙️ **MULTI-PURPOSE TOOL** that can saw, hammer and pull nails makes repairing faster and easier for the householder. In addition, the lightweight, tempered steel tool has a plastic handle in which screwdriver and punch attachments are stored. By removing the hammer from the chuck and inserting the desired attachment, it can be used as a screwdriver or punch.

• Science News Letter, 83:240 April 13, 1963

⚙️ **SAFETY BELT** that gives off light rather than reflecting it provides protection for policemen, aircraft crews and mine-workers. The belt includes 25 flashing electroluminescent lamps that are powered by a self-contained rechargeable battery and is worn "Sam Browne" fashion, and is safe for use in explosion hazardous areas. Its flashing orange light is readily spotted.

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⚙️ **CATALOGUE SHELF**, shown in photograph, for home or office helps keep books, magazines and other literature neat and in order. Capable of supporting 100 pounds per linear foot, the shelf fastens with concealed mounting plates to any type of wall. The shelf is provided with slip-in dividers at three-inch intervals and a recessed channel at the edge of the shelf for index tabs.

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⚙️ **CANDLE MOLDING KIT** helps amateurs make professional-looking novelty wax candles. Conveniently transparent, the plastic molds permit users to see that the wax has filled all spaces. Made in flexible matched halves that are easily removed when the wax has cooled, the shapes can also be used to mold gelatin desserts or chocolate and plaster forms. The kit includes wax, wicks and other necessary materials.

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⚙️ **POWERFUL PROJECTION POINTER** that will put a brilliant arrowhead image on screens up to a distance of 500 feet is lightweight and compact. Ideal for lecturers, the pointer has a molded pistol grip for hand-held pointing. It can also be mounted on a tripod to provide waver-free pointing at a fixed point. Operating on 110 to 125 volts a.c. or accessory battery, it allows the lecturer to move around freely.

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⚙️ **SCREENED PET PLAY PEN** allows small pets to play and exercise in safety away from insects when they need to be restricted in a small area. Airy and lightweight, the 21- by 55- by 23-inch high pen is compact enough for use indoors. Finished in white enamel, it folds for easy storage.

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# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Penicillin Use Doubles Number of Staph Types

➤ **STAPHYLOCOCCI**, the bacteria causing pus-forming infections, have become resistant to penicillin and, after treatment by this antibiotic, children had twice the number of new staph strains, a report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 183:1063, 1963, says.

However, penicillin does have considerable effect on the sensitive staph strains, and some of the new strains acquired respond to antibiotics.

All families in the Cooperstown, N. Y., school district who volunteered cooperated in the study, which involved 373 pre-school and school-age children. During the eight months of the study the researchers found 118 children who had no staph organisms in their noses, and 64 who were persistent carriers.

The local hospital in this rural community was not implicated in spreading staph to the community, Drs. Malcolm I. Page, Clinton Van Zandt Hawn and Joe H. Cannon found. Dr. Page was on assignment from the Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta, Ga.

## Brain Survives Without Blood

Up to the present time, four to eight minutes has been considered the average time that the human and dog brain can tolerate stoppage of blood flow without damage resulting in death. These figures will probably have to be revised upward, a report on tests with dogs in *JAMA*, 183:1085, 1963, indicates. Drs. William A. Neely and Julian R. Youmans of the University of Mississippi School of Medicine, Jackson, said dogs that had not had artificial respiration lived nine to 12 minutes, and those with artificial respiration survived at least 48 hours provided the test did not last more than 25 minutes.

Brains were made bloodless by elevations of pressure to the brain through the spinal cord. The researchers said that it seems that lack of blood clots and lack of acid production in the bloodless brain explain the longer periods of survival.

## Few Allergies to Cosmetics

All manufacturers of the major brands of cosmetics have stopped using known ingredients causing allergic reactions, a report in *Today's Health*, April 1963, published by the American Medical Association, says. On that account, the term "hypo-allergenic," coined 25 years ago when sensitivity to cosmetics was more common, has lost its meaning.

Firms that still label their products in this way to show they are safer than others should discontinue the practice, the report advises. There are still individual oddities making some persons allergic to ingredients in cosmetics, but this sensitivity now is rare.

## Interviewers for Syphilis

Physicians should introduce their patients with infectious syphilis to trained interviewers in order to get the infected person to return for examination and possible follow-up treatment, Dr. R. H. Kampmeier of the Vanderbilt School of Medicine, Nashville, Tenn., said in *JAMA*, 183:1094, 1963.

The major obstacle to follow-up observations, Dr. Kampmeier pointed out, is the patient's fear that outsiders will discover his infection. A sympathetic interviewer can have amazing success in a case-reporting program such as the state of Georgia conducted for six years.

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