

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⊗ **LIGHTWEIGHT FIELD SAW**, designed especially for rock hounds, weighs only 16 pounds and has a luggage-type handle for easy carrying. Provided with an eight-inch blade, the saw can cut off corners of rocks without danger of fracturing as when a hammer is used. The  $\frac{3}{4}$  horsepower engine can run a full day on a gallon of gasoline. Either water or oil serves as the coolant.

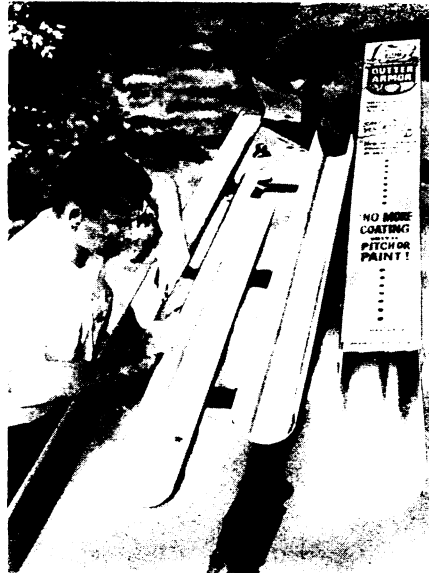
• Science News Letter, 83:368 June 8, 1963

⊗ **INSTANT SILICONE RUBBER** for encapsulation of electronic components, field repair of silicone-rubber insulators and molding of small rubber parts in wood or plastic molds is now available in squeeze packages. The package containing exact amounts of the resin and catalyst is squeezed to mix the components. The mixture, which cures into solid rubber at room temperature, is dispensed through a funnel tip.

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⊗ **LASER TEACHING KIT** makes available the latest technical information about lasers at low cost. Useful in physics and engineering classes in secondary schools and universities, the kit contains a 40-minute lecture on a long-playing record, 30-frame film strip of diagrams and photographs, instructor's manual and a student experiment booklet.

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⊗ **ALUMINUM GUTTER-SAVER**, shown in photograph, prolongs the life of wood or metal gutters. The gutter-liner, packaged eight pre-formed four-foot strips to a box, is placed in the worn-out gutter and sealed with waterproof adhesive supplied with the liners. No paint, pitch or special tools are needed to install the liners, which conform

to various gutter shapes and can be cut to fit with ordinary household scissors.

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⊗ **THREE-IN-ONE SCREWDRIVER** holds three screw blades concealed in its unbreakable fireproof handle. The screwdriver blades, all made of hardened steel, include one-eighth inch, three-sixteenth inch and one-quarter inch blades. To use, pull out the top blade, push it into the base of the handle and the next blade is ready for use.

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⊗ **PORTABLE POWER TYPEWRITER** has a self-contained unit making it especially useful where an electrical source is not immediately available. The power unit provides six to ten hours of typing and can be recharged more than 300 times from a regular electrical outlet. Using a cord attachment, the typewriter can be used also with standard household current.

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⊗ **THERMOS FOR GOLFERS** eliminates the need to trudge around 18 holes before getting refreshment. The portable unit contains a thermos bottle that fits snugly in a luggage-type carrying case with a snap lid. The case, which also has loops for tees, fastens to the golf bag for easy access.

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# • Doctors Are Reading •

## RH Blood Problem

► A WAY of overcoming the dangers to Rh-positive babies carried by sensitized Rh-negative mothers is to plan early delivery, Dr. C. P. Goplerud of the State University of Iowa Medical School said in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 184:626, 1963. Planned early delivery of 71 sensitized, Rh-negative mothers resulted in saving 59 infants with Rh-positive blood.

## Surgery Causes Stunted Leg Growth

A 13-year-old girl whose left leg had been growing shorter since she was paralyzed by polio at the age of two and a half can thank surgery for extending the length of the stunted limb, a report in *JAMA*, 184:611, 1963, says.

After vein surgery that increased circulation, thus promoting growth, it took four a half years for the short leg to grow the extra inch necessary to catch up with the right leg.

The team of Chicago medical men warned that some children with heart disease could not undergo this type of surgery with success. The technique was introduced by Dr. J. M. Janes and his co-workers at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. It consists of creating surgically a half-inch communication in the leg between the femoral artery and vein.

After the first operation, the Chicago team reported, the heart's output is necessarily increased and the heart becomes enlarged to some extent. But after the second operation to close the communi-

cation between the two blood vessels, this patient's blood pressure and heart rate returned to normal.

Four months later the size of her heart also became normal, Drs. Allen D. Meyer, Joseph J. Muenster, John H. Olwin, Fred S. Shapiro and John S. Graettinger, all of Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, reported. Dr. Meyer is now director of the Cardio-Pulmonary Laboratory, Touro Infirmary, New Orleans.

## Epilepsy Seizures When Reading

Epilepsy seizures are sometimes brought on when a patient is reading. Two such cases of "primary reading epilepsy" were reported by Drs. Frank B. Norbury of Jacksonville, Ill., and J. Dennis Loeffler of the Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, in *JAMA*, 184:626, 1963. Although medication is likely to reduce the number of seizures, patients are advised to stop reading as soon as they feel sensations in the jaw that indicate an attack is imminent.

## Fanning Hot Air

Fanning yourself in hot weather will not cool you off unless the air is cooler than you are, Dr. Anna M. Baetjer of Baltimore said in the questions and answers section of *JAMA*, 184:668, 1963.

Motion of air increases loss of heat from the body surface only by replacing the layer of air in contact with the body surface with cooler or drier air, she explained.

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