

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☛ **PAINT BRUSH AND ROLLER CLEANER** makes cleaning up after painting quick and easy. The cleaner penetrates immediately to the heel of the brush or core of the roller leaving the brush fresh and clean for its next use. The solution allows the painter to switch from white to black paint in seconds.

• Science News Letter, 85:112 Feb. 15, 1964

☛ **LABEL MAKER** provides a low cost and practical means to personalize possessions, mark circuits in fuse boxes, date medicines, identify books, exhibits and other objects. To emboss, the plastic self-adhesive tape is inserted, the desired letter dialed and the lever pressed. Raised letters form on the tape.

• Science News Letter, 85:112 Feb. 15, 1964

☛ **ADVERTISING BULLETIN BOARD** made of plastic offers retailers a quick means of presenting colorful and attractive ads to shoppers, indoors or out. Letters snap-fit into holes on the plastic panels and can be changed at a moment's notice. Framed in aluminum, the background panels are available in a choice of interesting shapes and sizes, while the letters come in a variety of colors.

• Science News Letter, 85:112 Feb. 15, 1964

☛ **SNOW SHOVEL LUBRICANT**, shown in photograph, helps lighten the task of



shoveling snow. The silicone lubricant, sprayed on the shovel before digging into the snow, forms a long-lasting snow-repelling film that prevents the snow from clinging to the tool. Even sticky, slushy snow slides off every time. Thus, since there is no accumulated snow build-up, each shovelful is thrown only once.

• Science News Letter, 85:112 Feb. 15, 1964

☛ **SMALL SOLAR BATTERIES** will power transistor radios, home-built burglar alarms, or activate headlight-powered garage door opening systems. Useful to the hobbyist and for home experimenters, the solar cells, available in sizes as small as a half dollar, have many applications.

• Science News Letter, 85:112 Feb. 15, 1964

☛ **WATERPROOF SKI MITTENS** that breathe help prevent children's hands from chapping. Made of a porous plastic, the mittens, while continually breathing away moisture generated by the warmth of the hands, are waterproof and do not allow snow or water to penetrate them. Smooth and flexible, the material will not harden or crack under repeated exposure to moisture.

• Science News Letter, 85:112 Feb. 15, 1964

☛ **CYLINDER SUPPORT DOLLY** eliminates the need for strapping gas or oxygen cylinders to walls or benches for safety. The dolly, useful in hospitals or industry, consists of two sections that can be fitted quickly and easily around the base of the cylinder and securely lock it in position. The ring design prevents cylinders from tipping or falling. Heavy duty wheels make contact with the floor when the unit is tilted so that the cylinder can be rolled to any location.

• Science News Letter, 85:112 Feb. 15, 1964

# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Smoking and Thumbsucking Seen Unrelated

► **THUMBSUCKING** in infancy had no relationship to smoking in high school seniors studied in Newton, Mass.

Dr. Eva J. Salber of the Harvard University School of Public Health interviewed 314 students and their mothers to find out whether breast or bottle feeding, thumbsucking, time of weaning, or intervals between feedings were related to later smoking habits, and found none of these factors to be an influence. Fewer than half of all students were breast-fed. Of those who were, the largest percentage were weaned before they were a month old. Dr. Salber divided the boys and girls into smokers, nonsmokers and those who had stopped smoking.

This search for a possible relationship between mouth habits in childhood and those in later life was sparked by Sigmund Freud's suggestion that the erotic significance of the oral region is "intensified" in some children. The father of psychoanalysis suggested that these children, when grown, might become epicures in kissing, or, if males, might have a powerful motive for drinking and smoking.

Dr. Salber's findings that did not uphold Freud's idea are reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 187:368, 1964.

## Diet for Dandruff

If you have dandruff, go slow on the chocolate, nuts, caffeine, butter and other animal fats.

Dandruff, medically speaking, is a seborrheic dermatitis of

the scalp caused by overactive sebaceous glands secreting a greasy material known as sebum.

Dr. Otis F. Jillson of Hanover, N. H., also advises shampooing the scalp with a mixture containing castor oil, coal-tar solution and tincture of green soap, in answer to a query in the Questions and Answers section of *JAMA*, 187:382, 1964.

This form of dermatitis can spread to the face, armpits, navel and groin, in which other preparations are indicated for application three times a day. Dr. Jillson prescribes a suitable preparation.

## Drivers 'Limited'

Not all the 91 million persons licensed to drive cars in the United States are healthy enough to drive, the American Medical Association indicated in a policy statement in its official journal, 187:376, 1964.

The AMA recommends that a medical examination for "driver limitation" be conducted at least under the following conditions:

1. When a license applicant displays an obviously impaired physical function.
2. When a driver has been involved in multiple accidents within a short calendar period.
3. When a driver must be placed in the "assigned risk" pool for insurance underwriting because of refusal by various commercial insurance carriers to assume the risk.
4. When a driver voluntarily suggests that he "blacked out" or that medical problems contributed to an accident.

• Science News Letter, 85:112 Feb. 15, 1964