

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☼ **BOAT BAILER**, 6 x 8 x 9 inches in size, operates automatically without electricity, batteries, gas or other fuel. Activated by the rocking movements of a boat afloat, the pump takes bilge through a filtered inlet hose and discharges it through an outlet hose that hangs over the side of the boat. The more natural motion, the faster it pumps. With moderate movement, it bails five gallons of water per hour.

• Science News Letter, 85:128 Feb. 22, 1964

☼ **NEW FLOOR TILE** for commercial buildings never needs waxing and only an occasional sweeping or mopping to keep it clean. Scrubbing, scouring and polishing are eliminated. Made of durable laminated plastic, the material is impervious to denting by ladies' spike heels, heavy furniture, cigarette burns, and ink stains. Scuff marks can be quickly removed by damp cloth or mop.

• Science News Letter, 85:128 Feb. 22, 1964

☼ **COMPACT GASOLINE ENGINE** is readily adaptable for use with lawn mowers, power tools, house trailer generators, garden sprayers and many other tools. Only 5¼ inches high, 5¼ inches long, 3¾ pounds in weight, the engine provides ¾ hp. It can be mounted in any position, upside down, sideways, horizontal or at an angle, and will run approximately eight hours on one gallon of fuel.

• Science News Letter, 85:128 Feb. 22, 1964



☼ **FOAM FACE MASK**, shown in photograph, of polyurethane foam material is useful to dentists, doctors and nurses. Weighing only 1/16th of an ounce, the mask is made in one piece with loops cut out on each end to fit over the ears. The mask fastens snugly over the nose and mouth and while allowing free passage of air, it filters airborne germs, pollen, dust and other contaminants. It can be sterilized for reuse up to 40 times.

• Science News Letter, 85:128 Feb. 22, 1964

☼ **INFLATABLE DRY BOX** made of polyethylene takes the place of the rigid dry box for carrying out laboratory operations in a dry or inert atmosphere. The flexible bag has two gloves inside for handling the instruments or chemicals which are placed in the bag through an opening that can be sealed. Nitrogen or other inert gas is used to inflate the bag and replace residual air. The bag can be folded and stored for reuse.

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☼ **TAB MOUNTS** are especially suitable for attaching samples and photos to letterheads, signs or calendars and other uses where secure but easily removable attachment is desired. The tab, provided with pressure sensitive adhesive on both sides, comes in one-half and one-inch squares in perforated sheets of 24 and 48 pieces. Colorless, the tabs blend in with the background.

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☼ **WEATHER MODEL** for schools is designed to teach weather forecasting procedures and how weather systems are formed. The model, mounted on a typical weather map with weather symbols shows different types of clouds, areas of precipitation, wind direction and high and low pressure regions. Transparent colored plastic is used to show relationships and directional movements of warm and cold air masses.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Personality Linked to Maturity Age

➤ A **RELATIONSHIP** has been found between the age at which a girl matures physically and her personality when she becomes a woman.

A study of 82 healthy women between 20 and 50 years old shows that women who developed at the early ages of 10 and 11 tend, as adults, to be conservative, uncritical thinkers, lax and inexact, trusting of others and dependent on group activities.

On the other hand, those who developed after the normal age of 14 or older are dominant, aggressive individuals who are critical thinkers, ready to try experiments, suspicious and self-controlled.

The study was reported in the Archives of General Psychiatry, Feb., 1964, by Dr. William G. Shipman of psychosomatic and psychiatric research, Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago.

Dr. Shipman finds most striking the finding that a meaningful cluster of traits in the middle-age woman is related to a date about 20 years previous.

Although the relationships are not great, the finding implies that some principle does apply in some cases.

Atypical Pneumonia Vaccine Seen Possible

The possibility of developing a vaccine to prevent an atypical form of pneumonia not now susceptible to chemical cure has been raised by researchers at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. The scientists, Drs. R. B. Couch, T. R. Cate and

R. M. Chanock, reported their work in the Journal of the American Medical Association, 187:442, 1964.

In studies with healthy adult male prisoners who volunteered for the tests, the experiments showed that *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*—formerly called the Eaton agent—grown on an artificial cell-free medium could infect man and stimulate the production of protective antibodies. This opens the way to production of a vaccine.

Red Sage Berries Are Poisonous

Children have been poisoned by eating the berries of a common weed, red (or wild) sage, *Lantana camara*, and the fruit no longer should be considered harmless.

Those who have eaten the fruit should be induced to vomit and then rushed to a hospital, two Florida researchers reported in the American Journal of Children's Diseases, Feb. 1964.

Of 17 youngsters who swallowed the berries, one died and four suffered acute poisoning. Their ages ranged from 19 months to seven years. Most of them were less than three years old.

The cases were reported by Dr. Sorrell I. Wolfson, department of pediatrics, University of Florida School of Medicine, Gainesville, and Dr. T. W. G. Solomons of the department of chemistry, University of South Florida, Tampa.

Lantana camara is a prickly shrub. It grows as high as four feet in flower gardens, along fences and the banks of ditches and in fields. It flourishes in southern United States.

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