

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☸ **CATCH-ALL CHEST** keeps stored material neat and out of the way, yet easy to reach. Made of heavy tan fiberboard, the chest has three knobbed drawers, each divided into three compartments to store sewing equipment, gloves, socks or tools. The unit, 27 x 18 x 12 inches in size, fits under the bed or on a closet shelf and can be easily moved from place to place.

• Science News Letter, 85:256 April 18, 1964

☸ **BOLT SLICING CRIMPING TOOL** slices bolts, cuts and strips wire and crimps terminals. Operating on a new principle from previous models, the tool slices bolts easily and effortlessly. It will cut six sizes of bolts and crimp insulated or non-insulated style terminals. The wire cutter is placed at the tip of the tool to allow cutting in cramped areas.

• Science News Letter, 85:256 April 18, 1964

☸ **SPACE TEACHING KIT** gives a visual, understandable illustration of the solar system to elementary grade children. Containing the sun, stars, all the planets and major moons in color, the easily assembled mobile unit hangs from the ceiling. Included in the kit is a 16-page instructor's manual with full-color illustrations and reference data on each planet. Ten 11 x 14 inch color charts give a close-up view of each planet and the earth's moon.

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☸ **CHAIR CRIB**, shown in photograph, useful in homes with limited space is a lounge chair that converts into a baby's crib, playpen or youth bed. Accommodating children up to five years of age, the chair converts to a crib in less than a minute. Made of hard wood in contemporary design, the chair's two cushions covered with stain resistant heavy duty vinyl fabric serve as the mattress.

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☸ **ANTENNA CONTROL UNIT** is a "solid-state" device designed for clear color television and stereo FM reception. The transistorized instrument resembling a small desk clock is silent and keeps a constant synchronization between room control and outside antenna. Its directional antenna mounted on the antenna mast is operated by a motor-driven rotator. Styled in brown and white high-impact plastic, its parts are stainless steel plated.

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☸ **HYDROGRAPHIC RELIEF GLOBE** portraying the ocean floor and land areas in three-dimensional relief and color, is a useful teaching aid. Through the ocean surface represented by a clear plastic surface, the continental shelf, mountain chains, ridges, trenches and other ocean floor formations are seen, while on the land areas, mountains, valleys, plateaus and plains are represented. A comprehensive illustrated manual is included with the 12-inch globe.

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☸ **PLASTIC DISH RACKS** for restaurants and institutions weigh less than one-third as much as comparable units of conventional wire construction. The long-lasting dish-racks will not scratch finished surface, reduce kitchen noise and are unaffected by usual detergents and soaps. Available in several styles, the racks can be run through any dishwasher with 20-inch wide tracks.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Coughing Smokers Cancer Risks

► **MEN 45 YEARS** or older who are "coughing" smokers are the most likely candidates for lung cancer, a preliminary report of a 10-year study shows.

Chronic cough and shortness of breath are the two most common symptoms of undiagnosed lung cancer, four Philadelphia researchers believe. Their study on more than 6,000 men will not be complete, however, until December 1965. Data will be analyzed by computer at that time.

Katharine R. Boucot, David A. Cooper, William Weiss and William J. Carnahan made the preliminary report of the Philadelphia Pulmonary Neoplasm Research Project in the American Review of Respiratory Diseases, 89:519, 1964.

Brain Injured by Eye Jab

A three-year-old boy who jabbed the end of a pencil into his right upper eyelid was thought lucky because his sight was not lost. But even worse trouble lay ahead.

About three months later a large brain abscess had to be removed because the pencil had gone deeper than was originally believed. Further surgery made it necessary to insert a metal plate. In a four-year follow-up period the boy has been a behavioral problem in school because of neurological damage.

This is one of nine recent cases in which the initial diagnoses went wrong. Even with X-ray films, the deeper injuries could not

be seen, Drs. Leslie A. Bard and William H. Jarrett of Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md., reported in the Archives of Ophthalmology, 71:332, 1964.

Forty-four previous cases are listed, showing the danger of penetrating eye injuries.

Gangrene From Spider Bite

The bite of the brown recluse spider, described as naturally "shy," can cause gangrene, or death of tissue, in the area of the injury.

The spider is found predominantly in Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma, but can also be seen from Texas east to Georgia, and from Illinois south to Louisiana.

Most bite cases occur indoors, a team of Arkansas physicians reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association, 188:153, 1964, but the spider has been known to bite in the open field. It can be found living in grass, weeds and on rocky bluffs.

Prompt treatment with corticosteroids, hormone drugs obtained from the cortex, or outer layer, of the adrenal gland, was advised by the researchers to prevent gangrene and other effects.

Drs. Calvin J. Dillaha, G. Thomas Jansen, W. Mage Honeycutt and Carson R. Hayden, all of the University of Arkansas School of Medicine, Little Rock, reported the study on the recluse spider, called *Loxosceles reclusus*.

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