

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **AUTOMATIC CARD SHUFFLER** runs on two standard "D" batteries. The device thoroughly shuffles the cards in a few seconds, making them ready for the next game as needed. Capable of handling two decks at a time for games such as Canasta requiring extra cards, the unit operates by a press of a switch.

• Science News Letter, 88:96 August 7, 1965

⚙️ **WHIRLING WINDOW WASHER** that reaches second story windows is designed with a dial that gives a choice of suds or clear water. Attaching directly to a garden hose, the washer adjusts from 4½ to 15 feet in length and its horsehair brush rotates at 1,500 rpm as the window is being washed. Its long arm separates into four sections for convenient storage.

• Science News Letter, 88:96 August 7, 1965

⚙️ **AUTO RACK** keeps clothes wrinkle free and saves trunk space. Useful for vacation trips, camping or the traveling man, the rack provides more room for hanging clothes while still allowing safe view from the rear view mirror. Holding up to 25 garments, it will support 100 pounds. Adjustable to fit most cars and station wagons, it can be quickly installed.

• Science News Letter, 88:96 August 7, 1965

⚙️ **HOLLOW-HANDLE TOOTHBRUSH**, shown in photograph, serves as a sipping



straw that makes brushing teeth and rinsing the mouth fun for children. A hole that runs the length of the handle of the nylon toothbrush allows the user to sip the water as it streams from the faucet. Useful for travelers also, the toothbrush eliminates the need for cup or glass. The toothbrush is available in several colors.

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⚙️ **HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS** allow both children and adults to observe hummingbirds at close hand. Shaped like colorful hibiscus or fuchsia flowers, the feeders are filled with honey to attract the hummingbirds which feed from a thin tube protruding from the center of the flower. The feeders can be hung at any convenient spot from tree limb or other support.

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⚙️ **BLIND NUT FASTENER** eliminates the need for threading and tapping and the use of conventional nuts enabling a person to fasten decorative molding, name plates and other similar items easily and securely from the front. The plastic fastener is placed in the preformed hole and a screw inserted. The fastener spreads out to hold the item securely. Useful for hard-to-reach spots and for working "blind."

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⚙️ **ALL PURPOSE CUP** helps the housewife make exact measurements for baking cakes and cookies and for other purposes. The cup, which consists of a movable bottom inside a transparent graduated cylinder, allows measurements from two tablespoons, or one ounce, to a full cup. Suitable for liquids as well as shortenings and powders, the movable bottom is set to the desired amount, filled, pushed or poured to empty.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Lung Cancer High Among Uranium Miners

➤ **LUNG CANCER** can be caused by radiation in uranium mines. The causal relationship, long suspected, has been proved for the first time in a study of 3,415 Colorado miners.

The greater the amount of radiation exposure, the higher the lung cancer risk was shown to be. Cigarette smoking was ruled out as a cause in the cases studied.

The researchers who reported the study in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, 273:181, 1965, were Joseph K. Wagoner, J. William Lloyd and Dr. Frank E. Lundin Jr., of the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Md., and Dr. Victor E. Archer and Duncan A. Holaday of the Salt Lake City, Utah, field station of the U.S. Public Health Service division of occupational health.

They pointed out that Japanese factory men working with mustard gas also get lung cancer. Mustard gas mimics radiation.

Infant Deaths Decline to Record Low

Infant deaths in the United States fell to a record low in 1964 but the American Medical Association warned that if the favorable pattern is to continue, more mothers and babies must get proper medical care.

Americans do not take pregnancy, labor and delivery seriously enough, said a report in the *Journal of the AMA*, July 26, 1965.

The AMA Committee on Maternal and Child Care sponsored a special conference on infant mortality in Chicago, at which experts appraised the quality and availability of services. There were 98,100 infant deaths in 1964, about 5,290 less than the previous year, U.S.

Public Health Service provisional statistics show. The rate was 24.2 deaths per 1,000 live births, four percent below the 1963 rate and 17% under the rate in 1950. The highest incidence of death occurs before, during and shortly after birth.

Female Cancer, Early Sex Activity Linked

Teen-age girls who begin sexual activity either with or without marriage run a higher risk of womb cancer than women who are celibate until their twenties.

More than 64% of all women with invasive cervical cancer beginning at the neck of the womb were shown to have begun their sexual experience in their teens, a study of 41,504 women shows.

This is a conservative estimate, two University of Louisville physicians emphasize, because their findings were based on the age at first marriage or first pregnancy, or both.

The study, reported in *The New England Journal of Medicine* 273:235, 1965, pointed out that early detection of cancer is urgent. Although most womb cancers do not appear before the age of 30, women who began sexual activity in their teens develop the malignancy four years earlier than women who marry at 25 or later.

Because women who begin sexual activity early become the high-risk womb cancer patients after age 30, the researchers said they should have priority in examinations.

Drs. William M. Christopherson and James E. Parker reported the study, which was aided financially by the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Md., and the Cancer Control Program of the U.S. Public Health Service.

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