

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☼ **BUBBLE STUDY KIT** is useful to teachers and students for demonstrating the science of bubble-forming and liquid skins. The kit contains a special bubble formula, work sticks and a variety of polyethylene connectors that can be made into many different geometric shapes to create complex and unusual bubble structures. Also included is a wire bender for making spiral-shaped forms. A 193-page illustrated instruction book comes with the kit.

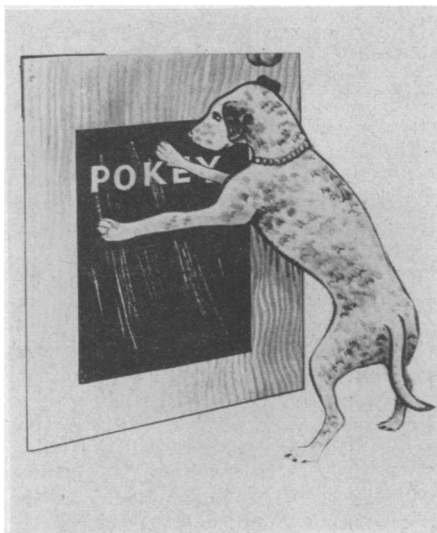
• Science News Letter, 88:128 August 21, 1965

☼ **PERSONAL EMPLOYMENT RECORD** helps the job seeker organize his work history conveniently. Educational background, personal data, reference names and addresses can be noted in the 96-page pocket-size book for easy reference. Useful to students as well as men and women already employed, the record book contains an easy-to-follow resume guide.

• Science News Letter, 88:128 August 21, 1965

☼ **CAKE CUTTER-LIFTER** helps avoid uneven and irregular cake slices. The handy cutter, designed with two handles joined by a V-shaped steel blade, cuts cake into any size pieces and neatly lifts up and serves each section as it is cut. The handles of the cutter are about four inches long and the blade five inches in length.

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☼ **SCRATCH GUARD**, shown in photograph, covers up a dog's scratch marks on door, floor or wall and protects the surfaces from further damage. Made of a durable plastic material backed with an adhesive, the guard can be easily mounted on any smooth surface. The guard, available in red, green or light grey may be personalized with the dog's name at extra cost.

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☼ **HUNTING KNIFE**, copied from a knife made in Batanga, Philippines, has a variety of uses for the sportsman. Weighing six ounces, it is 8¼ inches when open and has a 3½-inch tough steel blade that stays sharp under constant use. The handle, made in two parts, folds over the blade from both sides to form a complete sheath. The knife may be safely carried in pocket or tackle box.

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☼ **SNAP-ON ASCOT** requires no tying, thus eliminating problems of loose ends and wrong-side-outs. The ascot, which fits any size neck and always remains neatly tied, is easily fastened on with hidden snaps. Handmade and of washable material in a wide range of colors and prints, madras, paisleys, plaids and solids, it comes in large, medium and small sizes.

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☼ **CIRCULAR SLIDE CHARTS** designed for rapid translation of English into French, German, Italian and Spanish, contain the most common phrases needed while touring these countries. To use, the chart wheel for the language is turned to select the desired English phrase and the translation appears in the viewing window at the right. Pronunciation aids are included. The charts come in a different color for each language.

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# • Doctors Are Reading •

## Cancerous Lining Removed Successfully

► **PRELIMINARY SUCCESS** in removing cancerous bladder lining, allowing a healthy new lining to grow, has led a Washington, D.C., urologist to predict similar success some day with bowel segments, thus doing away with a lifetime need for colostomy bags.

Dr. Roger Baker, chief of urology at Georgetown University Medical Center, developed the bladder lining technique, which has been used on three patients suffering from what is called "multifocal cancer." He has followed up one patient for 32 months and found no recurrence of the disease.

Reporting in *Medical World News*, 6:33, 1965, Dr. Baker said that until now urologists have been slow to try bladder lining removal because they believed the operation might lead to fibrous tissue forming on the muscle wall, preventing regeneration and causing severe contraction of the organ.

Dr. Baker said he believes the bladder lining regenerates itself in spots over the inner surface of the bladder rather than by a migration of lining and muscle cells from one source, as some urologists have suggested.

## First-Born Twin Has Lower Mortality Rate

The second-born twin has a lower survival rate than his "older" brother, doctors are warned in a report on "multiple pregnancy care" by three Chicago physicians.

Before labor begins, cross-matched whole blood should be assembled in case it is needed.

Pain killers should be kept to a minimum because of their

possible effects on the infants, but oxygen will be of help in breathing. Excessive doses of pain killers add to the survival difficulties.

The reason the second twin's delivery is more hazardous than his brother's is that the second baby may be in a position that complicates his birth.

Drs. Emmanuel A. Friedman, William M. Alpern and Allan G. Charles of Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center, and the Chicago Medical School, outlined their system of care in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 193:440, 1965.

## Protective Substance in Burned Skin Found

Burned patients of the future may be helped by treatment with convalescent serum made from the skin of other burned patients if preliminary tests with rabbits can be carried further.

Israeli scientists report work with a freshly killed rabbit whose skin was later burned and made into an antigen that caused the formation of antibodies when injected into three groups of rabbits.

They point out that western scientists have been unable to prove the existence of an immunological mechanism. They claim that antibodies demonstrated so far have been one produced by bacteria, thus not "specific" to burned tissue.

Drs. S. Zvi Kantor, I. Kaplan, S. Gitter and Ester Gruenberg reported in *Nature*, 207:540, 1965, that although antibodies in rabbits were produced from burned skin in a way different from normal skin, more work is needed to show any relationship to human burns.

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