

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☸ **DIAMOND-COATED SANDING CLOTH** for rockhounds cuts hard gems such as ruby or sapphire up to 65 times faster than was formerly possible. The cloth, measuring 3x30 inches in size, consists of diamond particles securely bonded to flexible cloth. Its cool cutting ability simplifies work on easily fractured heat-sensitive stones such as opal or obsidian. The cloth also comes in disk form.

• Science News Letter, 88:144 August 28, 1965

☸ **TENNIS RACKET PRESS** serves also as a cover for the racket. Made of high-impact styrene, the combination press and cover is lightweight and comes in various colors. Designed to accommodate all sizes of tennis rackets, it has indented areas on both surfaces as well as on the closure to hold the racket and prevent warping.

• Science News Letter, 88:144 August 28, 1965

☸ **CORDLESS ELECTRIC CAR KIT** will delight any motorist. The kit contains a combination of items packaged in a luggage-type compact case to provide motoring convenience. Included are a warning blinker, hand vacuum cleaner, illuminated magnifying map reader, and a combination flashlight-screwdriver with interchangeable heads allowing repairs in the dark.

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☸ **TIE CLIP PENCIL**, shown in photograph, is a writing instrument that also



holds the tie neatly in place. Consisting of a telescoping mechanical pencil attached to a gold-plated bar, the tie clip expands from 2 3/8 inches to 4 3/8 inches for writing. In the closed position, the pencil is entirely hidden behind the necktie. A turn of the barrel expels the lead. It can be engraved with up to 12 letters without extra cost.

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☸ **DECORATIVE TRAY** preserves the works of art of young children, allowing their creative ventures to be enjoyed for many years. Any child's drawing can be reproduced in black and white on 18x13-inch alcohol-proof metal trays. The tray can be hung on the wall or used as a regular tray. The drawing to be reproduced, which should not be folded or creased, can be any size and vertical or horizontal.

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☸ **PORTABLE TABLE LAMP** can be used anywhere desired. Unrestricted by electric wires and outlets, the portable lamp, operated by six-volt batteries located inside its wood-grained metal base, is useful during power-failure emergencies. It is also suitable for supplying outdoor light for barbecues, boating, camping or the beach. Lightweight and handsomely styled, it provides 18 continuous hours of light.

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☸ **EARTH SCIENCE TRANSPARENCIES** suitable for classroom use shows the phenomena of earth and space as they happen. The overhead transparencies are textbook correlated and each series is accompanied by a comprehensive study guide with lecture presentations. All view aids are in full color and designed with movable parts, overlays and masks. Programs in astronomy, geology, oceanography, meteorology and map reading are available.

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• Doctors Are Reading •

Death by Prophecy Case Explained

➤ A SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION of why a woman died at 43 as prophesied when she was five years old has been reported in *New Scientist*. She may literally have been scared to death, even after 38 years.

The case was reported from the Grenfell Labrador Medical Mission, Ottawa, Canada. The woman had successfully undergone a relatively minor surgical operation for some bladder trouble. Suddenly about an hour after the surgery, she went into shock and died of a massive adrenal hemorrhage.

The *New Scientist* 27:373, 1965, gave this explanation:

"When a tissue becomes more active, it needs more blood, and this is provided by a dilation of the vessels supplying it which are under nervous and hormonal control. It seems at least possible that in this case the conviction of disaster allied to the physical stress accompanying all operations had resulted in such an engorgement of the patient's adrenal glands that bleeding and destruction had occurred.

"A similar mechanism might sometimes operate in the case of primitive people who die under the threat of a mortal curse."

Innocent Heart Murmurs Needless Threat

It is just as important to diagnose absence of heart disease as its presence.

"Innocent" heart murmurs, for example, should not bar a

woman from having children or a potential athlete from a bright future.

Physicians can learn how to sort out murmurs that commonly occur in their daily practice, a Cleveland, Ohio, heart specialist pointed out in the *Heart Bulletin* 14:61, 1965.

"Very soft systolic murmurs," said Dr. Daniel K. Bloomfield, director of cardiovascular research, Community Health Foundation, Cleveland, "particularly those heard only by the keen-eared few, are usually benign."

He warned, however, that it is "absolutely crucial" to separate the benign systolic ejection murmur from the pansystolic, or complete, murmur.

Cancer Detection Kit Approved

Women can now examine themselves at home for symptoms of cervical cancer. The American Cancer Society has reported favorably on a do-it-yourself detection kit.

The vaginal irrigation kit method for home use was developed by Dr. Hugh Davis of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

A comparative test of a number of cancer detection methods was reported in *CA—A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, July-August 1965. It was conducted by Drs. W. A. D. Anderson and Samuel A. Gunn of the University of Miami School of Medicine.

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