New Ideas and Gadgets

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COLLATOR-JOGGER makes it possible for one person to collate up to 15,000 sheets in an hour. Models available in manual or electrically operated designs collate up to 6, 8 or 12 sheets. The material is raised into a collating position and a gathering device is passed over the sheets to form collated sets which are then dropped into the jogger for stacking. Flat or folded sheets from 3 x 6 inches to 11 x 17 inches can be handled by the device.

• Science News Letter, 22:351 November 27, 1965

MAGNIFYING GLASSES that clip onto regular prescription glasses help in reading fine print such as the telephone book, newspaper or Bible. Easily put on and taken off, the magnifiers are lightweight and have a metal frame. They are useful also for doing close work and sewing or crocheting.

• Science News Letter, 22:351 November 27, 1965

ADJUSTABLE CAR DESK for salesmen, distributors and truckers, fits any car, station wagon or truck. The portable desk which can be adjusted both vertically and horizontally to meet individual requirements needs no tools for installing. The writing surface measures 12 x 20 inches and the whole unit can be lifted free for use as a clipboard. A spring clasp under the board holds books and papers up to legal size.

• Science News Letter, 22:351 November 27, 1965



NURSERY CLOCK, shown in photograph, for children of all ages has an animated seesaw mounted on top with a plump piglet sitting on each end. Round-faced, the colorful wall clock has color-coded heart-shaped hands, the hour hand in blue and the minute hand in pink, and easy-to-read bright bold large numerals. Measuring 12¾ by 15¼ inches, the clock is equipped with a front wind and set knob. Various other nursery designs are available.

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GOLFOMETER measures the exact distance of every golf shot, determines the distance to the green and counts strokes on every hole. The meter, adjustable to the stride of the wearer, is clipped to the belt or placed inside the pocket for use. Made like a pocket watch, the face of the meter has easy-to-read distinct figures. It comes packaged in a gift box.

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EYE BATH UNIT for plant or laboratory allows eyes to be washed free from irritation quickly and easily. The unit consists of a polyethylene wall bracket and a half gallon polyethylene bottle with a four-foot length of tubing leading from the bottom of the bottle. The wash solution is gravity-fed to the eyes, thus insuring protection from high pressure jets of wash. The unit can be hung from any wall at convenient spots.

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BUYER'S GUIDE for housewives is an easy-to-use device that tells instantly which is the best buy between various packages of groceries and other items on the market. Eliminating the guesswork and confusion due to the variety of prices and packaging sizes on the market today, the device gives a direct reading by matching package price given on a movable scale to the unit of measure shown on the guide.

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Doctors Are Reading

Postgraduate Medical Education Expanding

➤ MOST PHYSICIANS CONTINUE to study medicine long after entering practice. The number of postgraduate medical courses available to them has increased nearly 50% in the past five years. The number of physicians registered in these courses may be over 150,000.

This year, 1,641 courses are being offered in 40 states and the District of Columbia, reported the Journal of the American Medical Association, 194:764, 1965.

Physicians also continue their education through professional contacts with other physicians, through hospital staff meetings, national, state and local medical society meetings and through reading medical literature.

The most popular subject when doctors return to class is psychiatry, by a wide margin.

Some Birth Control Pills Endanger Eyes

Various types of birth control pills can endanger the eyes, a team of Johns Hopkins physicians reported in the Archives of Ophthalmology, 74:628, 1965.

The Food and Drug Administration has requested manufacturers to warn physicians of eye hazards, although more research needs to be done to establish the relationship between the pills and specific disorders which they may cause.

Dr. F. B. Walsh and three colleagues, Drs. D. B. Clark, R. S. Thompson and D. H. Nicholson reported the study.

Schistosomiasis High Among Puerto Ricans

About 10% of the Puerto Rican population of the United States is suffering from an inflammation caused by the parasite Schistosoma mansoni. The disease may show signs and symptoms often characteristic of cancer.

In a report in Radiology, Oct., 1965, Drs. Jose T. Medina, William B. Seaman, Carlos Guzman-Acosta and Rafael B. Diaz-Bonnet, of the department of radiology of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, and the department of radiology, University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine in San Juan, Puerto Rico, found that several cases of inflammation caused by the parasite in American tourists to Puerto Rico were not discovered in early examination. However, through X-ray studies the four radiologists were able to correctly diagnose the condition of Schistosomiasis.

The disease may manifest itself as a diseased region in the colon, and resembles tuberculosis or cancer or other diseases such as regional enteritis.

Although the disease is present in a noticeable number of the U.S. population, and among some American tourists in Puerto Rico, there is no danger of a public health hazard in the United States. Sanitary conditions and the small population of snails to which the parasite must spread before it reinfects another human in the United States are not adequate to complete the life cycle of the parasite.

• Science News Letter, 22:351 November 27, 1965