

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **TRANSISTOR SHIP CLOCK** powered by a 9-volt transistor radio battery runs continuously and accurately for a full year without battery change. Shaped like a ship's wheel with 7-jewel movement, the clock has luminous hands and 24-hour easy-to-read dial. With no wiring necessary, it can be mounted anywhere in the boat.

• Science News Letter, 81:126 February 24, 1962

⚙️ **FOLD AWAY COT** of saran webbing that can be mounted on concrete, wood, plaster or steel walls is suitable for fallout shelters, boats, trailers, campsites, or wherever space is limited. Secured to the wall by hinged brackets of an aluminum frame, the cot can be folded up against the wall when not in use.

• Science News Letter, 81:126 February 24, 1962

⚙️ **BLENDER-MIXER COMBINATION**, elliptical in shape, has a three-speed motor housed in the portable mixer body that becomes the power source for a full size blender when the beaters are ejected. The blender has stainless steel blades and ribbed, non-slip container; the mixer has a push-button ejector for its chrome beaters.

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⚙️ **SPORT VISOR**, shown in the photograph, slips easily on regular or sun glasses and adjusts securely to any angle. Made of light durable plastic in a variety of opaque



and transparent colors, in a normal visor position, the visor prevents glare from most directions. The transparent green visor can be utilized as dark glasses without distortion of vision.

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⚙️ **EASY-TO-OPERATE MICROSCOPE** especially designed for junior high school science students permits sensitive focusing

without extremely minute adjustments. Magnifications of 100x and 400x allow observation of blood smears, cell structures, insect or plant parts.

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⚙️ **SELF-CONTAINED OCEANARIUM** provides a living dramatization of undersea life. The unit, consisting of an unbreakable leakproof aquarium with sturdy base and illuminated top, also includes mated pairs of seahorses, starfish and hermit crabs, salt water mix, filter, pump, food and air hose.

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⚙️ **INVISIBLE FINGER MOISTENER** for office, banks or home, makes handling of papers, currency or turning pages of a book easier. Applied by touching the fingers to a small moistening pad contained in a plastic case, the solution is harmless to the skin and has a cosmetic effect. Non-sticky, it is easily wiped off.

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⚙️ **COMPACT DRYING OVEN** for testing soils, concrete or asphalt has an operating range from room temperature to 200 degrees centigrade. The thermostatically controlled oven is fully insulated. It has a metal outer construction, double-wall door and a special encased type of heating unit that eliminates hazards associated with spilling inside the oven chamber.

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Nature Ramblings



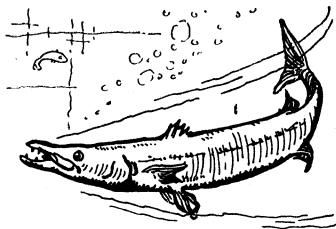
➤ **THE BARRACUDA**, slim of body and long of head, brings to mind the pike, streamlined death of game fish. But there is a great difference between the genus *Sphyræna*, or sea-roving fishes, and the pike. The "Tiger of the Sea," as the 'cuda is often called, is distinguished by two dorsal fins. The first is spiny, but the second is soft-rayed.

The smallest of these fishes is the northern barracuda, ranging from Cape Cod to Panama in the Atlantic. Although it averages only two feet long, its cousin, the great barracuda, grows to a length of 10 feet, with the average around five feet.

Few fishes are better equipped to attack and destroy other creatures. Fearless, the 'cuda is not frightened by the antics of a swimmer, and often is the cause of attacks blamed on the shark.

The fish's teeth are pointed and razor sharp, fitting closely together. When teeth become broken or worn out, they are re-

Barracuda



placed by new ones. The barracuda is shiny as sterling silver and dappled in black.

The great barracuda hunts by stationing itself just under the ocean's surface. It lurks, waiting for smaller fishes to come along, and attacks with lightning speed.

A third member of the family is the Pacific or California barracuda, which roams the sea in large schools. Both the northern and Pacific barracudas are harmless, but the great barracuda can amputate a man's arm or leg with one bite.

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Do You Know?

Air freight has increased 440% since 1949 in the U.S.

Among the biggest potato eaters in the world are the Irish and the Germans, potatoes making up 10% of the German diet and about the same of the Irish, in terms of calories.

An individual's emotional state may predispose him to accidents.

External parasites of beef cattle cost ranches and eventually the public millions of dollars annually.

Land covers only 30% of the earth and the rest is sea or ocean water.

Studies indicate that hypertension is related to salt intake.

Empty pesticide containers are a health hazard, especially to children.

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