

# • New Ideas and Gadgets •

For sources of more information on new things described, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 1134. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

☛ **CIVIL WAR CHART** gives a condensed history of about 100 battles in an easy-to-use 4" x 10" sliding chart. Arranged chronologically, the student or teacher slides the date of the battle to the window position and reads the name of the engagement, commanders, victor and number of casualties. Other Civil War facts are also listed.

• Science News Letter, 81:160 March 10, 1962

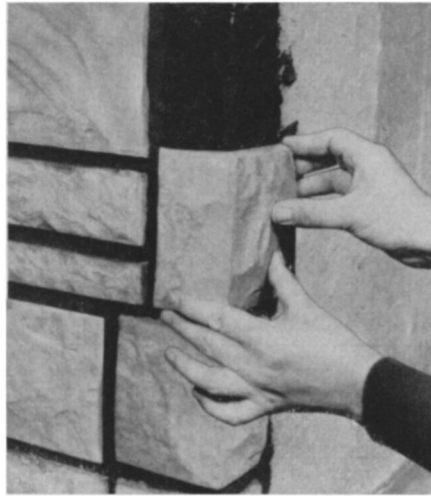
☛ **BOAT CAULKING COMPOUND** made specifically for marine application allows planks to shrink or swell without loosening the bond. Applied with caulking gun or putty knife, it will not drip or sag. Adhering to all woods, metals, glass and painted surfaces, it is not affected by temperature or climate when cured.

• Science News Letter, 81:160 March 10, 1962

☛ **CARPET STAIN REMOVER** easily removes ink, coffee, juice, fat and even grass stains. Odorless and nonflammable, it leaves no ring. The nontoxic remover is harmless to all fibers and the skin and comes in a handy squeeze-spray plastic bottle.

• Science News Letter, 81:160 March 10, 1962

☛ **STONE FORM** for molding imitation quarried stone that can be used on any type wall produces six panels in four different sizes. A set of molds makes three different



corner sizes. To cast, the masonry mixture, which can be colored, is poured into the plastic forms and allowed to stand for 24 hours. The stones, shown in the photograph, are then removed. The molds can be reused by rinsing with water.

• Science News Letter, 81:160 March 10, 1962

☛ **PORTABLE DICTATING MACHINE**, the size of a book and weighing only five pounds, is useful to the traveling executive.

The recorder uses the plastic Dictabelt which can be mailed back to the office for transcription. Rechargeable batteries allow four hours of recording.

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☛ **SOUND LEVEL METER** and octave band analyzer combined in one instrument weighs less than four pounds and can be held in the hand. Useful for solving noise problems, it is simple to operate. Direct readings are made from one meter.

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☛ **DRAFTSMAN'S DESK LAMP** of Swedish design moves in position at the slightest touch and can swing to illuminate a desk or table area six by three feet in size. The lamp hood is insulated to reduce heat. Available in gray, black or brown enamel, the lamp comes partially assembled in a kit.

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☛ **BURIED HEATING GRID**, embedded in concrete, keeps walks and driveways free of snow and ice and warms concrete chicken brooding areas. Consisting of a flexible plastic mesh fused to a layout of electric heating cables, the grid is installed just below the surface of the concrete. Units operate on 120 volts and are available in different sizes.

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## Nature Ramblings



## Do You Know?

► **ANIMALS** don't just move; they walk, crawl, jog, trot, glide, fly, hop, skip and/or jump.

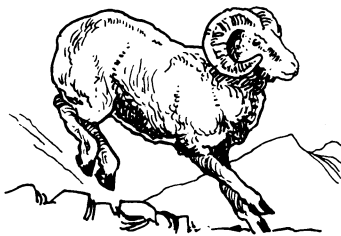
Admittedly, the most popular movement for mammals is the "walk." With four-legged creatures, walking means that the fore and hind limbs are used in a crisscross pattern. In a slow walk there are usually three feet on the ground at once, but in a fast walk, only one hind foot and one forefoot might touch the ground.

A "trot" is a quick walk. The animal is suspended above the ground between times when it is supported by a hind foot and forefoot. The "gallop" involves a different pattern, with both hind feet or both forefeet on the ground at one time, followed by leaps into the air, like the mountain sheep.

"Ambling" is the movement of both limbs on one side, then the other limbs. Seasickness from a camel ride comes from the animal's amble. "Leaping" is a sort of advanced gallop, but leapers have dispensed with using fore limbs.

There is also a variety of movement patterns for climbing. Some mammals climb

### Animals on the Move



in a crisscross fashion, using the fore limb of one side with the hind limb of the other. Others use both limbs of one side simultaneously.

Other climbers, like the squirrels, "gallop" up a tree. And swinging from limb to limb, "brachiation," is the efficient motion of monkeys.

Some mammals take to the air. The "gliders" merely sail from tree to tree on wing-like membranes stretched between fore and hind limbs. Bats are the only true "flyers" of the mammals.

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The use of *antibiotics* has caused an increase in fungal infections.

More than 80% of *farmers* in the U.S. own part of the land farmed.

Dehydrofrozen *foods* which are about 50% of their original weight and bulk are being used more and more by restaurants, hospitals and food manufacturers.

*Sugar* is used in the preparation of a binding resin for plywood.

An explosive-driven *anchor* has been developed to moor tankers in open sea areas.

Neither punishment nor trying to remove the causes is an effective means of curbing *jealousy* in a child.

*Astronomers* use three different kinds of devices for detecting light, the eye, photographic emulsions and photoelectric surfaces.

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