

• New Ideas and Gadgets •

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☛ **POWERFUL FLOODLIGHT** that throws a light one-fourth mile has a built-in red safety flasher for emergencies. Suitable for hunting, fishing, traveling or the home, the lantern, made of durable plastic, is resistant to rust, saltwater, fungus, acid and greases, and is completely watertight and shock resistant. It is powered by a six-volt dry cell battery and has a convenient four-way switch.

• Science News Letter, 86:64 July 25, 1964

☛ **ATOM MODEL KIT** for students contains components for the study of atoms, ions, radicals and molecules, and the energy levels of electrons. Consisting of 350 pieces in various colors, and an illustrated manual for assembly instructions, the kit helps understand visually from three-dimensional materials concepts of atomic structure, types of chemical bonds and quantum mechanics.

• Science News Letter, 86:64 July 25, 1964

☛ **MINIATURE GRANDFATHER CLOCK** to delight a young child or add a decorative touch to a room, stands eight and one-half inches tall. The handpainted replica, available in red, blue, black or ivory, has a 36-hour spring movement and comes complete with winding key and pendulum.

• Science News Letter, 86:64 July 25, 1964

☛ **PLUG CARRYING CASE**, shown in photograph, containing 12 individual com-



partments is convenient for carrying, storing or washing plug baits. Especially suitable for surf fishermen, the impact-resistant lightweight case hangs readily accessible from the user's belt. The lures, visible through the transparent cover and sides, can be easily selected as needed. Drain holes at the bottom of each compartment permit escape of trapped water.

• Science News Letter, 86:64 July 25, 1964

☛ **CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM** weighing less than three pounds is designed to protect personnel in industrial and chemical plants, mills, mines, warehouses and garages from harmful and sometimes fatal effects of carbon monoxide exposure. The portable device will detect the gas and sound an alarm automatically if the concentration exceeds 100 parts per million, giving ample time to take preventive action. Easy to use and maintain, it is simply plugged into a 110-volt AC outlet.

• Science News Letter, 86:64 July 25, 1964

☛ **SILICONE MOLDING MATERIAL** for making fine detailed copies of rare art objects or original work in industry or at home cures quickly at room temperature. The object to be copied is placed in a mold box and covered with the liquid silicone which solidifies to form an easily removable flexible mold. The material is non-sticking and requires no parting agent.

• Science News Letter, 86:64 July 25, 1964

☛ **RULER-LETTER OPENER** for home or office is a combination ruler and letter opener set. The unit consists of a ten-inch rule that also serves as a holder for a stainless steel letter opener. When not in use, the letter opener is safely sheathed while its handle becomes a part of the ruler. Made of walnut finish hardwood, the set comes in a gold-colored gift box.

• Science News Letter, 86:64 July 25, 1964

• Doctors Are Reading •

Altitude Not Factor in Heart Death Rate

► **ALTITUDE APPARENTLY** has no effect on the death rate from heart disease.

Three Denver researchers have reported that the death rate from heart disease caused by hardening of the arteries or high blood pressure was not affected by the altitude in that mile-high city, or in Peruvian cities, one way or the other.

The "age-adjusted" death rate for persons with hardening of the arteries does not vary with altitude, a team of physicians reported in the Archives of Environmental Health, 9:21, 1964. Neither did the death rate from high blood pressure or heart disease caused by high blood pressure show any consistent variation related to altitude.

Fatal cases of coronary thrombosis and high blood pressure at high elevations apparently are rare, but the death statistics over a period of four years show that fatal heart disease or high blood pressure are just as likely to occur in Colorado and Peru as at low elevations.

Drs. William E. Morton and John A. Lichty, with Donald J. Davids, all of Denver, reported the analysis of mortality statistics.

Seat Belts Important During Pregnancy

Pregnant women should continue to wear seat belts up to the time of their delivery, the Journal of the American Medical Association, 189:172, 1964, questions and answers section informed a Seattle questioner. Stillbirths have occurred in a number of cases when the mother-to-be was thrown against the dashboard or steering

wheel. Lap-type belts should be worn low, and "serious engineering consideration" should be given to harness-type seat belts in this country, a Chicago physician pointed out. This type of belt would protect a pregnant woman from a severe impact that sometimes involves the abdomen.

Fat People Not Hungry

Some people eat when they are hungry, but not the fatty types, two Pennsylvania psychiatrists have found.

Overweight persons are largely insensitive to the hunger pangs that tell normal people when to eat, Drs. Albert Stunkard and Charles Koch of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, said in the Archives of General Psychiatry, 11:74, 1964.

During a four-hour test, these researchers found "strikingly" different patterns between obese and nonobese men and women. Every 15 minutes the doctors asked these persons if they felt hungry, while contractions were recorded by means of a balloon inserted and inflated in the stomach. The contractions did not appear to differ between the fat and the thin.

The housewife denies hunger because she eats in the secrecy of her kitchen, the researchers said. A fat man, who must do his overeating in public as a rule, takes refuge in a jovial assertion of appetite.

Robert C. Griggs, a University of Pennsylvania medical student, collaborated with Dr. Stunkard in a second study on "nay-saying" or denial of hunger.

• Science News Letter, 84:64 July 25, 1964