POPULAR MECHANICS
MAGAZINE
WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

LET'S SEND TV AROUND THE WORLD
by Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff

RIDE A JET FIGHTER INTO THE NIGHT

See page 98

In This Issue
"World's Toughest Uphill Race" Proves CHAMPIONS Tops For Sustained Power

The Pikes Peak Hill Climb is the world's toughest uphill race. Starting at an altitude of 7415 feet, it runs 12½ miles over 120 hairpin turns and switchbacks, ending at an elevation of 14,110 feet!

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Until recently Private First Class Myron Jarman of Beverly Hills, California, was a student at Santa Monica City College and U.C.L.A. One day he read of the 45 career fields in the U. S. Air Force training program, and recognized his chance to combine his interests and aptitudes in creating a responsible job for himself.

Soon after enlisting he became a student machinist. In the photo, he is "blanking out a lathe model." Under his instructor, Staff Sergeant Albert D. Clark of Loveland, Colorado, Airman Jarman will learn mechanical drawing, blue print reading, use of small hand tools, lathes, milling machines, contour machines, shapers, heat treating and grinding.

After 21 weeks of school, Myron will be an apprentice machinist. As he advances in experience and ability, his rank and pay will increase. He can find a vital and interesting career in the U. S. Air Force.

You, too, can have this opportunity! You can earn while you learn, in the field where you qualify. Find your place in one of the more than six hundred job specialties in the Airman Career Program. For details visit your nearest U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force Recruiting Station.
this month's cover

HIGH IN THE ALPS, two Swiss railwaymen pivot a strange, twin-rotor snowplow on its built-in turntable. The merry-go-round maneuver may well be necessary, for thousands of tons of fresh snow can smother the tracks behind the plow just about as fast as the machine clears the rails. Result: the only instrument for saving the rail line is trapped. The snowplow on our cover can whirl a thumping 1500 pounds of snow a distance of 100 to 165 feet every second. On page 98 you'll find pictures of the plow in action, and on the following page begins the chilling story of how the little village of Blue River, B.C., now is sharpening its plows for the annual battle to clear the Canadian National's rails. Keep a heavy blanket handy when you read about the coldload of frozen pigs, Christmas packages delivered in April, and the 1100 kegs of black powder used to blast through a snowslide that has grown into legend.

IN THIS ISSUE

Taconite Is Tomorrow's Iron
Let's Send TV Around the World
One-Room Railroad
Electric Snowplow
Canada's Battle With Snow Begins
Things to Hint About for Christmas Shoppers
Churches of Modern Design
The Owners Report on the Hudson
Australia Starts Her Own "TVA"
Ride a Jet Fighter Into the Night
Ice Cutting—an Almost Lost Art
They Said Good-by to Broadway

For the Craftsman

Christmas Lighting
Dumb-Waiter Saves Steps
Dinnerware in Wood
Novelties From Tubing
Servicing Automatic Chokes
"Dubbing In" Sound in Your Home Movies
Protect Your Lathe
How to Use End Mills
Shopping for Tools
Radio, Television and Electronics
Clinic for Homemakers

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DECEMBER 1951

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An Offer of Research Facilities to Inventive Americans Who Need Them

The Sinclair Plan is opening up the Company's great laboratories to every American who has an idea for a better petroleum product.

Inventive Americans are often at a loss today. Not because of any lack of ideas, but because of a need for large and expensive facilities to find out if and how their ideas work.

This was no obstacle in our earlier days. The Wright Brothers designed their first airplane with the help of a foot-square homemade "wind box"—and the plane flew.

In contrast, the man with a new idea in airplane design today often needs a supersonic wind tunnel costing millions.

In short, science and invention have become so complex that a man with an idea for a better product often needs the assistance of an army of specialists and millions worth of equipment to prove his idea has value.

Within the petroleum field, the Sinclair Plan now offers to provide that assistance.

Under this Plan, Sinclair is opening up its great research laboratories at Harvey, Illinois, to independent inventors who have sufficiently good ideas for better petroleum products or for new applications of petroleum products.

If you have an idea of this kind, you are invited to submit it to the Sinclair Research Laboratories, with the provision that each idea must first be protected, in your own interest, by a patent application, or a patent.

The inventor's idea remains his own property.

If the directors of the laboratories select your idea for development, they will make, in most cases, a very simple arrangement with you: In return for the laboratories' investment of time, facilities, money and personnel, Sinclair will receive the privilege of using the idea for its own companies, free from royalties. This in no way hinders the inventor from selling his idea to any of the hundreds of other oil companies for whatever he can get.

Under the Plan, Sinclair has no control over the inventor's sale of his idea to others, and has no participation in any of the inventor's profits through such dealings. Moreover, it is a competitive characteristic of the oil business that the new products adopted by one company are almost invariably adopted by the whole industry. This means that the very fact of his agreement with Sinclair should open up to the inventor commercial opportunities which might otherwise be hard to find.

How to proceed: Instructions on how to submit ideas under the Sinclair Plan are contained in an Inventor's Booklet available on request. Write to: W. M. Flowers, Executive Vice-President, Sinclair Research Laboratories, Inc., 630 Fifth Avenue, New York 20, N. Y. for your copy.

Important: Please do not send in any ideas until you have sent for and received the instructions.
THEY GO
BETTER TOGETHER

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When you change to winter oil — remember to add Pyroil — and forget a lot of wintertime driving headaches. In cold weather, you need low viscosity oil to help you get started — but you need the extra protection of PYROIL to keep you GOING. Winter oil quickly drains off piston rings and cylinder walls, exposing them to rust and corrosion caused by dampness and cold.

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GEORGE JERGENSON, who is tinker ing with the modernistic motor scooter, heads one of the most unusual schools in the U.S. It has no full-time faculty members and no clocks. Classes last all day and students fight to get into the Art Center School in Los Angeles. The students handle problems of industrial design and many of their products are snapped up by manufacturers. An outstanding article about this school appears in the 50th-Anniversary issue of Popular Mechanics next month.

Turn on the Molasses
When Michael Day told the story of George W. Rappleyea’s molasses house (September 1951), Mr. Rappleyea thought it might open a market for his revolutionary plastic material in Latin America. The avalanche of mail that resulted from the article changed his mind: North Americans may get it first! Here’s the latest word from him:

To the Editor:

As a result of the announcement in the August issue that the story would appear in September, we received five to ten letters a day from readers who did not want to wait until the September issue appeared. Since the September issue was released, we have been getting 35 to 50 letters a day... on one day alone, phone calls came in from Dayton, Cleveland, Winchester, Va., Dallas and Davenport, Iowa.

This large response constitutes a “consumers’ market survey” far more complete (Continued to page 8).
5 reasons why ACCOUNTANCY

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GET FREE SAMPLE LESSON
I was surprised to learn how many corporation heads read Popular Mechanics. The vice-president of the Bell Telephone System in St. Louis sent me a picture of a very beautiful log-cabin summer home. He had trouble finding a material that would “chink” the space between the logs, and as Plasmo-falt sticks to wood tenaciously he thought it would solve the problem. The vice-president of the International Marine Plywood Company in Mobile flew to Southport in his private plane, wanted Plasmo-falt as a substitute for expensive resin glues for cheap plywood. One of the largest building-contractors in the South thought Plasmo-falt would be good for sealing joints of cut stone. Since I started this letter I was interrupted by a phone call from an official of the firm that owns the largest papermaking machine in the world.

"Those are just a few in what the advertising experts love to call "the upper income purchasing bracket."

We are receiving checks and cash through the mail, and returning them immediately. Our pilot plant will supply the requirements for an experimental contract... [it] produces 100 pounds an hour. The proposed commercial plant will produce 10,000 pounds an hour.

Our policy will be to make at the main plant only the concentrate... State distributors will make Plasmo-falt from the concentrate and furnish it to dealers and contractors to make into brick, building plastic, flooring, paving and sewer pipes...

Plasmo-falt was developed from the two materials available on every world sugar plantation—molasses and bunker fuel oil—to solve the tropical housing shortage. Now your readers have shown us there is a U.S.A. housing shortage just as serious as the one in the tropics. Like the “Blue Bird of Happiness,” you look the whole world over and find it right in your back yard.

George W. Rappleyea,
Tropical Agricultural Research Laboratory,
Southport, N. C.

One of the letters Mr. Rappleyea received follows—and the inventor of the molasses plastic comments that "as long as there are mothers like Mrs. O’Neil, there will be free enterprise in America":

Dear Mr. Rappleyea:

"Home, Sweet Home," the most wonderful words in the world! I have just finished (Continued to page 10)
WILL YOU BE CLIMBING? OR STUCK?

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- Radio Operating
- Television
- Telephone Engineering
- Electrical Courses
- Electrical Drafting
- Electrical Engineering
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- Lighting Technician
- Practical Electrician
- Power House Electric
- Ship Electrician
- Diesel Engines Courses
- Diesel Engines
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DECEMBER 1951
reading for the tenth time “You’ll Build Your Next House of Molasses” in Popular Mechanics magazine.

While at the newsstand looking through various house-plan books (and there are so many picturing cheeseboxes, proclaiming “Build this beautiful five-room, low-cost house for only $9000,” which is really a small fortune for a family of seven trying to live on $200 per month), I happened to glance through a Popular Mechanics hoping to find something on cement-block construction. Instead, I found your wonderful Plasmofalt! I promptly bought my first Popular Mechanics magazine, took it home and read it through six times. . .

Results of your “Home, Sweet Home” (wonderful, wonderful words) article in Popular Mechanics were that it launched us on a plan to build our own home, perhaps hiring some outside help for roof and plumbing.

We have in mind a four-bedroom, low- roof, ranch-type home made of Plasmobricks. . . As soon as Plasmofalt is on the market, we are planning to build the foundation and main walls, at first finishing only the main rooms such as kitchen, bath and two bedrooms for immediate occupancy. Then as our pocketbook allows it, complete the rest of the house. . .

We believe that with our youth, ambition, time and little plot of ground, plus our terrible need of a home for our children, we have nothing to lose.

Please, please let us know how soon we can begin the biggest and happiest project of our lives.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Wm. P. O’Neil.

“Steam Isn’t Dead”

So writes Robert E. Ostwald of Staten Island, N. Y., who was a bystander at the finish of Popular Mechanics’ “race of the relics” between a 1913 Stanley Steamer and a 1911 Stoddard-Dayton in September. Mr. Ostwald plans a new publication for distribution “among steam men.” He has built his own steamcar, basically a Studebaker 1940 with a Stanley Steamer engine.
WHAT AUTO Every MECHANIC Wants to Know

A motor vehicle is a machine of many parts, each part designed and constructed for its own special function. All good mechanics, like good doctors, should know the working theory and operation of each part and understand what causes trouble and how to remedy it.

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DECEMBER 1951
WHERE-TO-BUY-IT INDEX
Source of supply appears after items commercially available

AUTOMOTIVE
Car watch (Oldsmobile Div., General Motors Corp., Lansing, 21, Mich.) 79
Lightweight battery will start car at 45 degrees (Auto-Start, Inc., Chicago) 82
Graphite spray (AP Paris Corp., AP Bidg., Toledo, Ohio) 82
Barrel-shaped rubber boosters inflate to improve spring action (Lift-O-Matic, Inc., Chicago) 82
Sports car 125
New 1958 Lincoln Continental 9 offers gas economy (Hoffman Motor Car Co., 65 E. Water St., Chicago, Ill.) 79
Electric sports car (Johnson Motors, Inc., 322 W. Van Buren St., Chicago) 125
Builds one-man powered by motorcycle engine 132
Aluminum scrap auto costs $100 and 250 hours of work 135
California Oil Co., engine (California Oil Co., 125 S. Colorado Ave, Barner, N. J.) 132
Tissue filters oil (Handy Filter, Inc., 601 State St., Sacramento, Calif.) 132
Lock-on lug covers discourage would-be tire thieves (Richard M. Dohler Co., Inc., 919 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.) 132

AVIATION
Fog fighter 90
Canvas parafoil keeps cooling cool 120
Rocket metal is flight-testeved without leaving the ground 131
"Pint sized" preservers 129
Beaching gear has new boats 137

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS
Four heavy-duty toys (Charles William Deepke Mfg. Co., Rosslyn, Ohio) 104
Silencing machine (Hoffitz Mfg. Co., New York City 17) 105
Shave rack (Crown-Craft Products, 246 5th Ave., New York City 14) 106
Lunch bag (Landers, Frary & Clark, New Britain, Conn.) 105
Wickless lighter (Parker Pen Co., Jamestown, N. Y.) 105
Church kit (M. A. Sales Co., Livermore, Iowa) 106
15-piece tool kit (Hoffitz for Cutlery, 331 Madison Ave., New York City 17) 106
Jiffy label tape (Labelon Tape Co., 100 Anderson Ave., Roch- ester, N. Y.) 106
Aluminum hitch (Kul-Lin Co., 7012 Olive Ave., South Min- neapolis, Minn.) 106
Miniature broiler (Norco Mfg. Co., New York City 17) 106
Belt lighter (Krimstock Bros., 112 N. 9th St., Philadelphia 7, Pa.) 106
Electric floor sifter (Romart, Box 8012, Chicago 17) 106
Slade projector (Three Dimension Co., 4858 W. Addison St., Chicago 41) 106
Handy memo pencil (Gaylord, Dept. MO 24, 5th and Hamilton, Pittsburgh, Pa.) 107
Floor conditioner (Red Devil Tools, Irvington, N. J.) 107
Safety-tube plug (Noma Electric Corp., Noma Bldg., 55 W. 13th St., New York City 11) 107
Floating knife (Hoffitz for Cutlery, 331 Madison Ave., New York City 17) 107
Star finder (Tri-G Co., Linden, Minn.) 107
Christmas-tree lamp shade (B. Grabel & Sons, Inc., 1153 Madison Ave., Paterson, N. J.) 107
Christmas-tree apron (British Products Co., Inc., 380 E. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio) 156

FARM
Plastic "tent" foguates soil (Firestone Plastics Co., Fort- town, Pa.) 78
Aragua harvesters (Trombley Mfg. Co., 1204 S. Van Buren St., Chicago) 106
Blacksmith shop travels to farms 121
Strawberry weeder is hand cranked 121
Cut-and-know scraper (101 KI N. Dlw., 125 West 23rd St., N. Y.) 126
Airport Bidg., Box 5267, Amarillo, Texas) 128
Refrigerator "shock coils," filters and aerates milk 130
Streptomycin cures plants 127
Tractor light (Harlan Mfg. Co., Inc.,Giving, Iowa) 156

HOUSE AND HOME
Self-sticking felt (Products Research Co., 528 San Fernando Rd., Glendale 3, Calif.) 96
Rotary snowplo voltage sidewalks (Jari Products, Inc., 2538 Pillsbury Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.) 110
Outdoor fireplace built in three months (Majestic Co., Hunting- ton, Ind.) 120
Plastic gasket seals casement window (Draftrite Products Co., 6 Canterbury Drive, Dayton 9, Ohio) 121
Electric shovel (Svensen Mfg. Co., Inc., 1877 Burlington St., St. Paul, Minn.) 120

INDUSTRY
Hydraulic gravel mining 88
Concrete test 98
Welded steel rods strengthen masonry (Cedar Rapids Block Co., 201 S. Ave. W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa) 103
Chemical bonds rubber to steel 88
Machine planers iron 103
Machine can be transferred (Hartington Mfg. Co., 261 W. Main St., Hartington, Nebr.) 98
Nonvibrating chain drive (Morse Chain Co., 7601 Central Ave., Detroit 8, Mich.) 100

MEDICAL
Mobile electric lift raises and transports patients 111
Compact aspirator 119
Miniature camera (Dolby Corp. of America, 118 E. 28th St., New York City 10) 119

MILITARY
Jeep power plant 82
Lightning staltic, revolue 104
Remote steering for ships disabled by enemy fire 120

(Continued on page 14)

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12
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(Continued from page 12)

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PHOTOGRAPHY

Projector attachment (York Industries, 1931 Lansing St.,

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Print-a-minute camera photographs oscillograph (Fairchild

Camera & Instrument Co., 81-86 Van Wyck Blvd.,

1, N.Y.)

Inexpensive underwater movies (Pennjohn Underwater Photo

and Equipment Co., Ardmere, Pa.)

RECREATION

Game for small lawn combines billiards and croquet.

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Gas-electric boat can crawl or zoom.

Water "tooboggan"

TOYS AND NOVELTIES

Plastic "sandwich" house...

Suitcase piano...

"Flying" house...

He sells sea shells...

Temple of miniatures...

Tongue doll (Efranee by Co., 200 8th Ave.,

New York City 10)

Nonswat mosquitoes

MISCELLANEOUS

Bus rolls down highway to radio...

Expanding mixer (Fishere Scientific Co., 417 Forbes St., Pitts-

burgh 19, Pa.)

Bomb windows (Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., 632 Duquesne

Way, Pittsburgh, Pa.)

"Scoutmobile"

Test couplers (Bellevide Aluminum Co., 1200 Cedar St., Rock-

ford, III.)

Space station?

What makes salmon run?

Shoulder roller...

Propeller-equipped rudder may eliminate tugboats...

Race-horse relaxer...

Wheels for broom (J.B. Mills Co., 310 W. Monument Blvd.,

Dayton 2, Ohio)

Concrete tank is "wind tunnel" in electrical prospecting...

"Peel pais...

Flashlight magnet grip (Sheridan Style Crafts, Box E, High-

land Park, Ill.)

Pigeon preventive (National Bird Control Laboratories, 1025

W. Lake St., Chicago 7).

Craftsman and Shop Notes Index

AUTOMOTIVE

Gas-cap lock kept from freezing by plastic bowl cover...

Car touch-up with shoe polish...

Repairing dented car molding...

Springer contrived with rubber strip...

Water level in car radiator checked with dip stick...

No-draft ventilating system improves car heater...

Auto skid chains kept tight with rubber strip...

Kitchen tongs clamp pistons in cylinder while repairing

brakes...

Thawing car-door lock...

Faulty acceleration of car sometimes may be caused by slip-

ping belt...

Extension cord to operate starter of car having solenoid

switch...

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Inexpensive Christmas decorations...

Novelty Christmas trees...

"Protection" of fire prevention regarding Christmas tree...

Christmas-tree stand...

CLAMPS AND FIXTURES

Homemade clamp for light work...

Eyed clipper supported by floodlight clamp...

Soldering-iron stand improvised from empty tape spool...

Nonstop clamp grips small parts...

Soldering clamp for small work...

Stands for supporting stock trailer easily adapted as axle

blade...

Accuracy plus speed in aligning work attained by using this

cramp...

Universal clamp on milling machine...

FARM

Harrow disk anchors standard for rural mailbox...

Pig, pest poison safely...

Wire along front of nest prevents rooting...

Old implement lever and quadrant has many uses around a

farm...

Fuel tank mounted on trailer provides farm "gas truck"

Automatic poultry fountain...

HOUSE AND HOME

Single-door clothes closet made into wardrobe type...

Tubular furniture padded with length of hose...

"Flying" hanger finds room...

Door provides wallpaper-pasting table...

Candle wax used to clamp broken pottery...

Pouring spout formed in milk carton...

Dryer garments indoors...

Cork holder...

Hog pin helps lace baby shoes...

Paraffin has many uses that will help lighten the home-

maker's tasks...

Keeping bed slats from falling...

Toothbrush on polish applicator cleans perforations in shoe...

(Continued to page 16)
If you believe that you have an invention, you should find out how to protect it. The first step is to have a search made of the prior pertinent U. S. patents. If a report on this search indicates that the invention appears patentable you can apply for a patent, and the specifications and claims should be prepared.

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Victor Corp., Camden, N. J. ; transistor amplifying devices, Bell Telephone Laboratories, 403 W. St., New York City, for sale; polyethylene magneto-electrical Broadcasting Co., New York City). W279

Radio-set testing units for experimenters.

Tuberculosis Sick Fund (Non-profit) 57-19 Crescent Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y., for portable magneto-electrical Broadcasting Co., New York City).


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Taconomite is Tomorrow's Iron

By Clifford B. Hicks

Near the Little Town of Aurora, Minn., a rough gravel road strikes north from Highway 35 and snakes through the spruce and birch wilderness that smothers the iron range. The road skirts a weed-grown railroad track for a mile or more, then crosses over and comes to an end smack up against one of the most modern and significant factories in the world.

Inside the huge factory, men are at work 24 hours a day, seven days a week, turning out mud balls. You might call them half-billion-dollar mud balls, for if this factory and similar plants ring the bell, about that much money will be scattered across the iron range. The cash will be used to turn out lowly mud balls—and cinders—by the millions of tons. They'll be remarkably rich in iron, iron extracted from a rock almost as tough and unmanageable as flint.

Taconomite promises to be America's newest—and probably richest—treasure. One look at the jagged rock would convince you it wouldn't even make a good gravel road. Yet steel and mining companies already have committed some $43,000,000 just for research on the stuff. It's highly probable that another $150,000,000 will pour out
before long. But these commitments are mere pennies compared to the huge investments that may follow later.

Making iron out of worthless rock isn't a new process—a small plant near Coleraine, Minn., started treating low-grade sandy ores as far back as 1910. After World War II, all the big steel companies started wrestling with the knotty problem of how to force the stubborn rock to surrender its iron content. The significant news is that now, for the first time, huge taconite plants are looming above the tall pines of the iron range. They represent a new basic industry.

The industry is based on Nature's work of a billion years ago. That's when the story of the wilderness factories really started, though in those days there wasn't a footprint, animal or human, across the face of the primeval world. A vast ocean covered the northern part of what, aeons later, was to become the United States. For millions of years the water patiently deposited a sediment on the ocean floor, a gelatinlike accumulation with a high iron content. As the ocean receded, the gelatin turned into a layer of flint-tough rock. Then even this blanket of rock was drifted over with tons and tons of various surface materials.

Eventually, vast forces within the earth tilted and folded the rock, exposing it to slow but sure erosion on the surface. Water percolated down through the tilted layers in a few places and, over a long period, cut the rock and washed away much of the sand, leaving pockets of fluffy, earthy material rich in iron. Then came the glaciers, scraping away many of these pockets.

And last came men who discovered the remaining pockets and began ripping them out. In 100 years man took 2,300,000,000 tons of ore from the Lake Superior deposits. That's a lot of ore, but actually it's only the raisins in a vast, rich cake.

Nature didn't have time to complete her work before man started gouging the ores from the ground. On the western end of the Mesabi, Nature's job is half done. Here miners have found big deposits of ore with the rock broken up, but little of the resulting sand leached away.

The result of this billion-year erosion is a broad range of materials in the Lake Superior region, from high-grade ores with more than 50-percent iron to tough taconite with 30 percent and less. The in-between

![Big shovel bites into a plain rock quarry that will yield iron. Above, taconite can be fused into cylinders instead of pellets](image)

**TACONITE—FROM SOLID ROCK TO BLAST-FURNACE PELLETS**

From left to right are the steps in making taconite pellets. Big chunks of solid rock are crushed into smaller pieces. These are further crushed into a powder, and the iron-rich particles separated from rock by magnets. Iron-rich powder then is "snow-balled" into pellets and baked.
stages, where Nature started but couldn't finish her work, are called "intermediate" and "wash" ores. Miners concentrate wash ores simply by washing away the grainy sand with water. Intermediate ores can be smashed to sand-size particles, then treated like wash ores. For the past decade about 25 percent of the shipments from Minnesota have been these concentrated ores. Now at last, miners are shipping taconite.

Today, when blast furnaces are turning out a swelling river of molten metal, authorities report there's cause for worry but no cause for panic in surveying our iron-ore reserves. Some experts say that, roughly, about two thirds of the direct-shipping ores in Minnesota have disappeared. According to these authorities, the remaining rich ore will last anywhere from 15 to 37 years. Meanwhile the blast furnaces will devour ever-higher ratios of wash and intermediate ores.

With these rigs, miners are test-drilling all over the iron range to learn extent of the taconite deposit...
Steel companies, though, think in generations instead of years. Where will America find its iron when the direct-shipping ores and even the intermediate ores are exhausted? Steelmen already are importing Venezuelan ores and casting long looks at the deposits up Labrador way. But even more earnestly they are tackling taconite, the hard rock that serves as flour in the vast cake. One authority has estimated that there are 67 billion tons of taconite underlying the Lake Superior area. That's a whale of a cake.

Can iron be extracted economically from this flinty rock? Research men say yes. Inside their factories in the wilderness they propose to do the same job, in a few minutes, that Nature could accomplish only in a billion years.

"We'll make it work, too," says an old-time mining engineer. Then he adds grimly, "We've got to!"

Here's the problem, sample size. The miner of the future will blast a chunk of hard rock from the earth. He'll grind it to particles as fine as sifted flour, then patiently sort out the iron-bearing particles from the plain rock particles. Most difficult of all, he'll stick the iron bits back together again to cook up a diet acceptable to the blast furnace.

Down in Ashland, Ky., the Armco Steel Corporation has a million-dollar plant going full blast, making 70,000 tons of iron-rich mud balls a year. But the major investment will go to the iron range itself. The big Aurora plant of Erie Mining Company is the first of several such factories. At Virginia, Minn., the Oliver Mining Company now is constructing a plant to produce a million tons of taconite concentrates a year. At Babbitt, Minn., another plant will be turning out pellets very shortly. This big factory is the first installment of Reserve Mining Company's $70,000,000 project at Beaver Bay, Minn., which by 1955 is expected to roll out a thumping 2½ million tons of pellets each year. It's a major revolution in the steel industry.

Turn up the gravel road off Highway 58 and you'll find concrete evidence of the revolution. The Aurora plant of the Erie Mining Company is perched on the edge of its own iron mine. Actually, it isn't a mine but a plain rock quarry that yields everything from boulders to pebbles.

Old-time miners swear that taconite is tougher than anything but old-time miners. Ordinary mining drills chew themselves right out of existence trying to penetrate the stuff. Luckily, the new jet-piercing drill came along just in the nick of time. The drill is a towering, searing flame-thrower, using oxygen to create fantastically high pressure...
First step in producing toronite pellets is to quarry the hard rock. Jet-piercing drill (1) uses oxygen to burn holes through the rock, which then is blasted loose (2). Big shovels (3) scoop up the boulders and drop them into trucks (4) which carry them to the factory. There they are dropped into a bell-shaped crusher (5) which smashes them into smaller pieces. In the grinding mill (6), tumbling steel rods or balls crush the rock into powder-size particles. Finest bits overflow with water in the classifier (7) while the larger particles are carried away by the huge corkscrew. Fine particles then flow into the separator (8). Magnets inside the whirling drum attract the iron-rich bits, while plain rock particles are not affected. Magnetic material in the form of a heavy mud goes into balling drum (9) which rolls it into millions of pellets. These are baked in an oven (10) to form them into hard balls which won't break apart in the shipment by railroad car or boat (11 and 12).
Bus Rolls From Highway to Rails

Busses in Germany soon may turn off the highways and start rolling down the rails. In tests for the German Federal Railways, two four-wheel carriages were slipped under a bus to support it on the rails. The back wheels of the bus rest on the rails to provide traction, yet the two carriages support the weight. In the tests the bus was driven up a ramp and the carriages then were pushed beneath the vehicle, but if the system becomes standard the busses will be lifted by hydraulic pressure. Railway officials say the busses can travel 50 miles an hour down the rails. It is planned to run the road-rail busses to remote rural sections which have no rail service.

Plastic "Tent" Fumigates Soil

Weed and insect pests are completely eliminated from seedbeds by covering the plots with a plastic "tent" and fumigating the soil before planting. The tent is a lightweight vinyl film, gastight and moistureproof. A low framework of boxes and boards is erected over the bed, and the sheet of plastic unrolled to cover the framework. All the edges are sealed with packed-down earth. Cans of methyl bromide, the fumigant, are opened beneath the cover, which is left in place for 24 hours while the gas released from the chemical kills all plant and insect life in the soil. The bed then is aerated 48 hours before planting. The fumigant comes packed in handy storage cartons.

Expanding Mixer

Slender enough to slip through the narrow neck of laboratory flasks and bottles, an expandable mixer opens like an umbrella to four inches wide. In addition, its shape can be altered to produce the particular type of stirring, mixing or agitation required by the technician. It is especially suitable for stirring food products and biological preparations that should not be exposed to air.
Bomb Windows

Glass-plastic windows of a new design won't blow into a room, frame and all, from the blast of a heavy near-by explosion. The windows, developed by the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, open up like doors if an outer layer of glass is broken. A pane consists of the outer glass, a middle layer of plastic which extends beyond the glass edges and is bolted to the frame, and an inner layer of four triangular-shaped pieces of glass. When the outer glass is broken, the inner glass segments open like doors with the plastic serving as hinges. The window can be temporarily repaired with adhesive tape, a bolt and washers or even chewing gum.

Car Watch

Movement of the steering wheel winds a new car watch automatically. The timepiece, optional equipment on the 1951 Oldsmobile, is mounted on the steering wheel. Turning the wheel actuates pendulum weights to wind the watch's Swiss movement. Five miles of city driving or 20 miles of highway driving will keep the watch running about two days. It also can be fully wound by rotating a flange around the face. A red arrow on the dial can be set at the departure time when starting a trip, then checked upon arrival to show the elapsed time. The watch is shock-resistant and antimagnetic, and the protective lens is made of shatterproof plastic.

Lightweight Battery Will Start Car at 65 Degrees Below Zero

At a temperature of 65 degrees below zero, a new lightweight storage battery will immediately start a car. Furthermore, the battery is expected to save large amounts of lead, and it maintains its charge for a long period. Developed at the University of Michigan under sponsorship of the Army Ordnance Corps, the battery is made by lead-plating certain materials ordinarily corroded by sulphuric acid. Aluminum, brass, iron or copper can be used in the battery. In tests it has operated effectively in temperatures from 165 degrees above zero to 65 below. Due to its low self-discharge rate it can start a car after it has been stored all winter. Research men who developed the battery expect it to be available commercially.

DECEMBER 1951
BUTTERFLIES and leaves, wheat stems and feathers—almost anything of natural beauty—may show up in the colorful handiwork of Spencer Smilie. The Beverly Hills, Calif., craftsman has developed a unique method of molding plastics around such objects without pressure. Most lamination processes require immense pressures. Smilie bakes crushed plastic crystals in pans to form large sheets. Then he places the leaves or butterflies between two sheets and bakes the "sandwich" until the plastic has melted and completely encased the objects. The sheet then is cut and fashioned into lamp shades, bowls, screens, murals and tabletops.

**PLASTIC “SANDBICH” ARTISTRY**

Smilie polishes a huge bowl, four feet in diameter, decorated with leaf design. Right, he prepares a plastic “sandwich” for heating in his baker’s oven.

Artist works out a beautiful pattern of wheat stems in a mold. Occasionally he uses impressions of natural objects instead of encasing objects permanently.

Decorative screen, made of large curved panels of plastic, has a gleaming leaf design. The craftsman does his work without subjecting plastic to pressure.
Color of leaves tends to fade during baking, so the artist points them first with a special dye which enhances their natural color.

Huge bowl has a lacy design made with real ferns. Design is first embedded in a flat sheet of plastic, which is then reheated and worked into shape of bowl. Smilie fastens curved sections of a screen together. It has a wheat-stem design. Such screens sometimes are used as light baffles to cast a colorful glow.
Jeep Power Plant

Through the classic GI system of scrounge, borrow, modify and make-do, officers and airmen at Haneda Air Force Base in Tokyo have built a roving power plant for quick servicing of airplanes. The Jeep-mounted unit replaces cumbersome and time-consuming generators and compressors required to service aircraft. Four different power sources are available on the Jeep. An alternating-current generator powers lights, drills, soldering irons and other tools. A direct-current generator produces at least 200 amperes for starting aircraft engines. One air compressor yields 100 pounds of pressure for air rivet hammers and drills, while another produces 1500 to 2000 pounds for servicing hydraulic units on the planes.

Lightweight Revolvers

Snub-nosed revolvers of various types are being tested by the Air Force as possible replacements for the .45-caliber automatics now in use. Developed to Air Force specifications, the new .38-caliber models all have 2-inch steel barrels, but the frames and cylinders are made of a lightweight aluminum alloy.

(A new attachment converts any 16-mm. movie projector to a slide projector showing single frames of filmstrip.

Graphite Spray

Synthetic graphite under aerosol pressure makes it easy to lubricate new or rebuilt automotive engines before the final assembly. Two or three ounces of graphite, according to the manufacturer, sprayed on engine parts provide a tough, oil-retaining and acid-resisting film that protects the parts during the critical break-in period. The graphite is sprayed by pressing a button on the container.
Microwave towers could march up West Coast, jump the Bering Strait, traverse Asia, Africa and Europe

Illustration by Leydenfront

By Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff
Chairman of the Board, Radio Corporation of America

BEFORE Popular Mechanics celebrates many more birthdays — the magazine will be 50 years old next month — the television screen in your living room promises to be far more than just a fascinating stage for domestic events and entertainment. It may well be a picture window with an instantaneous view of the whole world.

We know the scientific principles for sending TV signals soaring across oceans and linking continents. Only details and economics must still be worked out. When they are, the horizons through your TV picture window will move out to the corners of the world. At the flick of a dial, you'll be able to bring the sound and sight of exciting events in distant lands to your armchair side. They will be the events going on at the instant — not yesterday's or last week's.

You'll watch the progress of an expedition moving through the heart of Africa, an international sports event in Scandinavia, a shopping excursion in an Oriental bazaar, a beauty contest in progress on a beach in Rio, an international meeting of minds
being held, perhaps, somewhere in Europe. How can these wonders be achieved? Although the range of television signals is limited today, several specific ways of beaming programs around the world are known. One is to set up chains of microwave relay towers that would march across the countries of the globe like rows of pins on a battle map, each one picking up, boosting and sending signals along to the next.

Such a network of towers, spaced about 20 to 50 miles apart, would have to girdle the world by land routes. If you look at your map you'll see it's possible. From Patagonia to Alaska, one tower chain would link the west coasts of the Americas, with tie-in chains to major cities. Across the Bering Strait from Alaska to Asia is only 40 miles—a normal hop between towers. You can actually walk to Russia in the wintertime when the channel is frozen over.

From here the tower chain might trail down across Siberia, China, India, Iran and Iraq, where it would split—one branch heading out across the deserts and the veldts of Africa; the other probing up into the countries of Europe. Thus the world would be encompassed by one communications net.

There's nothing fantastic about this idea.
There were plans for a telegraph land line over the same route exactly 90 years ago. Engineers had begun to build it when Cyrus Field came along with his Atlantic Cable. Furthermore, no wishful thinking is involved in the practicality of long chains of microwave relay towers. Last summer, men and trucks laden with materials beat their way to America's high spots, erecting the 105 towers that now link New York and San Francisco by microwave relay. True, it wasn't an easy job. Sites had to be chosen carefully to avoid having the microwave beams cross flat areas of earth that might reflect and distort them. Since the waves follow line-of-sight paths, towers had to be high—but not so remote they couldn't be reached in case of breakdown in deep winter snows. Old maps used in the first surveys were fine, but when the men got to the location they'd picked, they found new radio stations and farm buildings there ahead of them. Such problems always will face us. But the point is that, despite troubles, the first microwave relay chain is a
Artificial islands spaced 200 miles apart could carry 1000-foot towers for relaying signals across Atlantic reality, and can be expanded indefinitely. It’s no daydream to say that the Americas will be linked before many years pass.

Not everyone knows what microwave relay is, so take a closer look at this new chain of towers across the United States. You may have seen them from the highways—massive spires of steel and concrete, some more than 100 feet tall, jutting from hills and mountain tops like untapered versions of the Washington Monument, and each crowned by four huge antennas that resemble overgrown loudspeakers on a soundtruck. The net operates in extremely high-frequency ranges, where the radio waves are very short—about three inches, actually. You get an idea of how short that is when you know that the radio waves you receive on the standard band of your own radio are about 1000 feet long.

Those three-inch waves are called microwaves, and they have some remarkable
characteristics. They refuse to follow the curvature of the earth, but take a straight-line route off into space. Like light waves, they have the annoying habit of reflecting off flat surfaces such as lakes or sandy plateaus and messing up the signal. But, also like light waves, they can be focused into a narrow beam and directed in a line-of-sight path at any target we may choose. And that's where the towers come in. Each one is like a big reflector, that picks up a beam from the one behind it, catching the focused radio waves in a funnel-shaped antenna. The beam is then brightened by amplification to restore the intensity it may have lost en route. Up it goes to the "lens antenna" on the other side of the tower roof, where it is focused into a straight, narrow ray again and aimed at the antenna target on the next tower some 25 to 60 miles away. The reason for having two pairs of reflectors on each tower is so that signals can be beamed in both directions at the same time.

The beauty of microwave relay is that it can be made to handle all kinds of traffic. Not just television programs, but multitelephone messages, telegraph signals, frequency modulation, facsimile—even ultrafax, the fantastic system by which all of Gone With the Wind was transmitted in 2 minutes and 20 seconds—can be carried by this amazing radio-relay system. Unlike cables and land lines, storms don't affect the tower networks because (Continued to page 240)
Hydraulic Gravel Mining

Pounding against a wall of rock and clay under terrific pressure, 1500 gallons of water a minute separate the clay from the rock in a hydraulic gravel pit. The clay is washed away with the water and carried to a settling basin where the water clears for reuse. The rocks, washed to the base of the cliff, are hauled to the crusher for final cleaning. About 80 percent of the clay and dirt is washed from the rock in the mining operation, thus cutting processing time to a minimum. Two pumps are used in the operation. One, a 250-horsepower model, pumps the water from the settling basin. The other, 300-horsepower, is a booster pump that produces the required pressure.

"Scootermobile"

When Sgts. Robert J. Petry and Raymond A. Romberger of the 315th Air Division (Combat Cargo) landed in Japan, they soon began to long for some means of private transportation. Deciding to try their ingenuity, they started collecting parts for a "Scootermobile." First to join the pile of parts was a six-horsepower engine, followed by a discarded jinrikisha horn and Japanese motorcycle transmission. Wheels and brakes were taken from a broken-down scooter and other necessary parts, including axles, were collected in a near-by town. Two weeks of sparetime work plus one six-day rest leave were required to assemble the vehicle which, Sergeant Petry says proudly, "has one reverse and three forward speeds, seats three besides the driver and does 40 miles per gallon using regular gasoline."

Concrete Test

Engineers at the University of Wyoming are working on a valuable, nondestructive test for measuring the strength of concrete structures. The new test uses sound waves, the speed with which they pass through the concrete providing a measure of its strength. The new test can be made on the actual structure without destructive effect.
Our art director is the boss of just one room in his home. In it he operates his own hand-painted railroad. Lift the bridge at the door to see what you can do with a . . .

ONE-ROOM RAILROAD

By Clifford B. Hicks

ON THE FACE of the boss not long ago appeared a strange, harassed expression. He pitched his problem to me in the form of an assignment.

“Take a run out to Frank Beatty’s home and look over his model railroad,” he ordered. “Tell Frank it’s a very nice little railroad indeed, but break the news to him it’s no different from thousands of other layouts. Make him understand we can’t use a story on just another basement railroad—we need something special. Then maybe he’ll throttle down the railroad lingo around here.”

Frank has been art director of Popular Mechanics for 10 years. He’s a nice guy,

Beatty, 20 years a commercial artist, adds wispy clouds to the background he painted around the room.
Below, control panel is located just beneath four-track classification yard. All wires run under track shelf.
With his art training, Beatty is adept at scaling down a drawing and free-lancing his model locomotives.

"Casey" Beatty has nothing extraordinary in the way of rolling stock, nothing unusual in switching gear. But his layout is unique because he has combined his hobby—railroading—with his talent as an artist; he's thrown in a good measure of ingenuity as a home craftsman, and he's shown other model railroaders how they can build a fairly elaborate track layout without wasting a square foot of basement floor area.

The best way to describe Beatty's layout is to tell how it grew. Three years ago he bought his son Tom an electric train. Basement space was at a premium so he had to...
Double-deck bridge spans the doorway, swings up when not in use. Precise fit avoids disastrous derailments

run the train on a 4 by 6-foot sheet of plywood, hinged to the basement wall. Tom and the other small-fry engineers of the neighborhood had fun with it; so much fun that Pop bought some kits and built several scale-model buildings for the layout.

Trouble was, the buildings were scaled for HO trains—much smaller than Tom’s electric job. A normal man would have replaced the few buildings to fit the train. Not Frank. He built a new train to fit the buildings.

He started with a short length of HO track (5/8 inch between rails) and, still rolling backward into his hobby, constructed a caboose to fit the track. By then the bug had really stung him, and in the resulting fever he worked through a good many midnights to build a small switch engine. The reason? He wanted a loco to pull the caboose that fit the track which was scaled to the buildings that were wrong in the first place.

Next he needed a long track on which to maneuver his masterpiece. Long before, Frank’s wife, Ruth, had assigned him his own space in the basement—a 15 by 15-foot

(Continued to page 228)
The 1952 Models already out and those about to come out show no more than the ordinary amount of changes. In other words, they are face-lift jobs, to which the industry has become accustomed during the postwar years. Occasionally, there has been a "radical" change which soon becomes standard throughout the industry, and once in a while the industry is startled by some innovation such as the high-compression engine, a new type of automatic transmission or a power-steering device.

But with the dual-economy and two-sided operations in which the automotive industry finds itself, even the present changes, small though they may appear, are an achievement.

The 1952 Dodge, now on display, is the first of the Chrysler lines to be shown in dealers' showrooms. Exterior changes are mainly face lifting, with a redesigned front grille, new wheel covers and hub caps. Inside, however, there are more changes. Dodge is using a new textured-weave upholstery. In the Coronet models, rayon is combined with cotton for more durability.

As optional equipment, Dodge is offering the new tinted glass which reduces glare and heat inside the car. Unlike the General Motors cars which use the tinted glass, Dodge's is not graduated, with a heavier tint at the top, but is the same density throughout.

All 1952 Dodges will offer Gyromatic transmissions and will also have waterproofed ignition systems, electric windshield wipers and Oriflow shock absorbers.

The first 1952 DeSotos show less change than an ordinary yearly shift in new cars. Outwardly, the only distinguishing marks are the revised name plate and the tailights. The taillights have one bar of chrome across instead of two.

Inside, the upholstery is made of rayon combined with cotton in varying textures. Tinted glass will be offered as optional equipment in a limited number of 1952 cars.

But there is something new ahead for DeSoto buyers. Early in 1952, the real 1952 models will be shown, embodying the new V-8 engine, power steering and many sheet-metal changes which will affect the looks of the car. The early 1952 will have the same six-cylinder-engine used in the 1951 car.

Major changes are predicted for the 1952 Lincoln. This division of the Ford Motor Company has not done as well in its race with Cadillac and Chrysler as has the Ford car in its efforts to "beat Chevrolet." So Benson Ford, general manager, and Joseph E. Bayne, sales manager, are eagerly awaiting some time in February or March to show their dealers in the Lincoln-Mercury division what their offering is. And from advance reports, it will be a real challenge to the luxury field.

The new Lincoln will be new inside and outside. The long-heralded V-8 high-compression engine will compare favorably with Cadillac, and with Chrysler's Imperial and New Yorker. The introduction date for public showings is around mid-March, unless it is postponed again.

Ford and Mercury have been set back to some time in March. The scarcities in

(Continued to page 276)
During World War II, Harry Langdon, 49-year-old technician from Prescott, Ariz., became intensely interested in the serious problem of fog over airports.

While in charge of a salvage section of the Naval Bureau of Aeronautics at San Diego, Calif., Langdon recalls testing a jet engine one foggy night when he noted that the jet blast tended to clear fog from the immediate vicinity of the engine. From this observation, he decided upon experiments to determine what effect, if any, hygroscopic material would have on fog. This material soaks up moisture.

He attached a hopper to the exhaust tail pipe of the salvaged jet engine. The hopper was filled with hygroscopic matter and, with a worm-gear arrangement, he fed this material into the jet exhaust so it would be blasted into the fog. "I was able to punch big holes in the heaviest fog of the season at San Diego," recalls Langdon. "I knocked holes in fog 1000 feet thick."

When his Navy employment terminated, Langdon continued the experiments. Returning to Prescott, he subsequently developed new equipment, now being tested for the U. S. Air Force at the USAF Reserve Base (Municipal Airport) in Long Beach, Calif.

Components of the latest fog-dispersal units include a mobile stand with attached fuel tank (for diesel oil), a combustion chamber lined with firebrick, a jet fuel injector with ignition system and a fan for supplying an air blast into the after-burner. The units are connected in parallel with a
portable field generator, which sparks the ignition system and activates the fans. Equipped with four-foot stacks, the stainless-steel casings of the units weigh about 275 pounds each. Rate of fuel consumption per unit per hour is 12 to 15 gallons. The hygroscopic matter is loaded into a stainless-steel can about the size of a two-pound coffee can, which is located just below a circular hole in the chamber wall.

The temperature within the combustion chamber reaches 1300 degrees, which, according to Langdon, is sufficient to melt the hygroscopic matter. “After the hygroscopic material is blasted into the fog, I just let nature take its course,” says Langdon.

He plans to space the units 100 feet apart along one side of a runway, and promises to “clear out zero-zero fog sufficiently to permit an aircraft to land.”
Welded Steel Rods
Strengthen Masonry

Adding strength to masonry walls, a steel reinforcing member prevents cracks and provides more rigid construction. Available in 10-foot lengths, the electrically welded reinforcing comes in widths for walls from 4 to 13 inches thick. It ties face brick to backup blocks. It reinforces all double-wall construction. It can be used with concrete blocks, clay tile or brick. Placed between the courses, the reinforcing is embedded in the mortar to make a strong bond.

Tube Couplers

Lengths of metal tube can be joined in almost any pattern with new couplers, then dismounted and used again. The couplers make it possible to construct scaffolding, worktables, supports and other frameworks without damaging the tubes. When a connecting bolt on the coupler is tightened, two wedge-shaped metal pieces press firmly against the sides of the tube. To loosen the bond, the bolt is turned in the other direction. A special type of coupler, flat on one side, makes it possible to bolt a framework to the floor or wall.

Suitcase Piano

You don’t need muscles of steel to carry a portable piano that weighs only 37 pounds and folds into a case that looks like a large piece of luggage. Invented by Karl Gage, the piano has a four-octave keyboard and a lid that raises to become the music rack. The legs and pedal fold to make the piano easy to carry. It is designed for schools.

Self-Sticking Felt

As easy to apply as adhesive tape, a reinforced felt tape seals out dust and also deadens rattles and squeaks. Its adhesive back holds it firmly in place when applied with finger pressure. The felt can also be used as pads on objects that may scratch adjacent surfaces.
Take a Peek at Our

BIRTHDAY PACKAGE

It’s for you!

With the January 1952 issue, Popular Mechanics Magazine celebrates its 50th Anniversary. For a year the editors have been planning and assembling for you the greatest magazine in a half century of Popular Mechanics.

Here’s just a glimpse of what you can look for next month — probably the biggest picture magazine ever printed:

★ About 500 pages — your regular Popular Mechanics plus a big bonus . . .
★ 700 pictures — packed with action, excitement, nostalgia . . .
★ 16 pages of full-color photographs and paintings . . .
★ Prize-winning pictures of our Golden Anniversary photo contest . . .
★ The story of Fifty Years of Craftsmanship . . .
★ Great articles on aviation, science, automobiles, radio and television by Eddie Rickenbacker, Karl Compton, Charles F. Kettering, Lee deForest . . .
★ The Owners Report on the Buick by Floyd Clymer . . .
★ Popular Mechanics’ Hall of Fame — the 50 outstanding scientists from 1902 to 1952 . . .

We’ve dug into our past . . .

for pages of history you’ll remember from the good old days . . . the story of the 1907 International Balloon Race . . . Winston Churchill’s prophecy of the atomic bomb . . . quaint advertisements and nostalgic inventions from the days of the back-yard hammock and the horseless carriage . . .

Make a date to pick up your birthday package . . .

It will be on the newsstands December 28. Although we’re printing more copies than ever before, they won’t last long. Ask your dealer now to save your copy, or send your order today for a whole year of anniversary issues.
Novel snowplow is mounted on a turntable, which in turn is mounted on a single truck. No need for a "Y" in the tracks to reverse the plow—two men merely revolve it on turntable.

ELECTRIC SNOWPLOW

SNOW — up to 1500 pounds of it — is hurled a distance of 100 to 165 feet per second by a snowplow on a rail line in Switzerland. The plow is pushed by an electric locomotive, which also provides power for the two whirling rotors. Scoops force the snow into the rotors which throw it to either side of the track. The use of two side-by-side rotors eliminates the "dead corners" which are inevitable when a single, large rotor is used. The twin rotors also reduce the power required to push the plow. The machine clears a strip more than 10 feet wide and moves along at a speed of one to six miles an hour. Two men can reverse the direction of the plow anywhere along the track by pushing it around on the turntable truck on which it is mounted.

Plume of snow geyser up from the electric plow, which clears a strip more than 10 feet wide and travels one to six miles per hour.
Blue River, B.C., is the spot to watch when the big snows start falling. Here is where . . .

Canada's Battle With Snow Begins

By Harry Rowed

BLUE RIVER is a compact little village in British Columbia's valley of the North Thompson River. In summer garb it has the flowered and lawned appearance of most settlements in Canada's western mountains. Fish abound in glacial streams of the vast alpine area at its back door. Summer at Blue River is a time for relaxation. There is little direct contact with the outside world beyond the fact it is a divisional point on Canadian National Railways' main line, and each day sees transcontinental passenger trains halt for brief intervals while locomotives are switched and new crews take over.

About mid-September a different atmosphere pervades the village. Blue River's citizens, majority of them railway people, become weather conscious. Each morning snow appearing on the balding summit of Mount Cook and other near-by mountains creeps a fraction lower into the valley timber. Homeowners check roof supports while men in the railway shops are assigned
Snow fighters with heavy-duty rotary plows clear C.N.R.'s tracks near Blue River, which consistently records heaviest snowfall of any point along network.

Giant snow melter (below) and trained “snow battling” crew are always on the alert during critical snow season to keep tracks clear in Montreal terminal.
hours for overhaul of snow-clearing equipment, the wedge plows, the huge rotaries, spreaders and locomotives which must be ready to shunt out on the main line with winter's first fall. For Blue River consistently records the heaviest snowfall of any point along the 25,000 miles making up Canadian National’s gigantic network of rails.

Blue River’s winter can ride in overnight. Huge “pancake” flakes literally sift into the virtually windless valley and falls of fresh snow four feet in depth are more commonplace than unusual. Homes are covered to their eaves and resourceful residents spade out windows and door openings, often funnel to the neighbor’s rather than digging out deep paths. This gives them two strata of traffic . . . , a labyrinth of subterranean passages between homes and shops, with break-throughs here and there to make contact with the solid upper surface. Blue River’s youngsters don skis as toddlers; to get to the other side of the yard, they simply herringbone to the roof top and coast down the opposite side.

For the railwaymen winter presents a more serious picture. The snows mean “S.A.P.” calls in the middle of the night, the soon-as-possible summons to get out for snowplow duty. It means days and nights of endless work as the railway battles the elements, to clear the lines, even to free marooned trains snowbound in the mountainous passes.

Secret of snow fighting in the Rockies is preparedness, and the ability of both men and machines to move promptly to the scene of rail blockades. Even in midsummer, the rotaries stationed in known snow belts like Blue River are being checked, extra parts are being spotted for immediate emergency pickup, and men are being groomed for the rough schedules ahead.

Tom Young of Jasper, Alta., a retired railwayman with 48 years of snow-fighting experience in the west, likes to relate the story of the frozen hogs, his railway’s first lesson in preparedness, or lack of it. Young, posted at Lucerne, B.C., as locomotive foreman in 1915, just after the young railway (Canadian Northern) had been transferred to the operating department, was advised that en route was the first shipment of livestock ever to be hauled to the coast over the new rails. As top brass of the railway and the packing company were watching the shipment with vigilant eyes, the train and its cargo of pigs were to receive special attention. A storm was brewing so Young wired that a rotary snowplow should precede the train over the section from Mount Robson to Blue River. Unfamiliar with mountain storms, a superior overruled the request and the stock train chugged past Lucerne without escort. When Young and his crew finally were permitted to get into action, the train was stalled near Albreda in a blizzard which completely covered the cars. The pigs were frozen stiff. Chortles Young today: “The railway learned a lesson. Since then they’ve always tried to beat the storm to the draw.”
Tom Young, like most of the mountain snow battlers, broke into the business on western prairies where windblown snow packs with dust to cement hardness. Once, in early days of prairie railroading, a new line north of Brandon, Man., was blocked from mid-December to spring. Young, then a locomotive engineer operating a rotary, delivered Christmas parcels in March and April. Constant vigilance and improvement in the mechanical equipment now has boosted Canadian National snow crews to a ranking of most efficient in the world.

Their resourcefulness was put to its most severe test during the winter of 1950. In January of that year both of Canada’s transcontinental lines faced almost insurmountable snow conditions in the great canyons of the Fraser River. Rotaries, bulldozers, extra locomotives and more than 300 men were sent to the C.N.R. area where warm weather, following on the heels of unprecedented snowfall, unleashed tons of snow from high country couloirs and rock depressions. Slides balked all rail traffic for almost two weeks, trapped passenger trains, almost endangered the economy of the west coast. While the weather tightened after the thaw with blizzards and (Continued to page 274)
Chemical Bonds
Rubber to Steel

Silicone rubber now can be joined to steel in a permanent bond stronger than the rubber itself. The secret is a new gluelike chemical. The thin chemical “primer” also will bond rubber to glass, ceramics, aluminum, tin and copper, according to General Electric chemists. Development of the bond will increase the usefulness of silicone rubber in such applications as engine and instrument mountings. The liquid simply is brushed on the surface and permitted to dry. Then the rubber to be glued is clamped against the steel surface under light pressure at about 250 degrees F. The resulting bond withstands temperatures of 85 degrees below zero to 500 degrees above, and has a strength of about 700 pounds per inch of holding area.

Asparagus Harvester

Asparagus harvesters ride on a tractor-drawn trailer that carries them along the rows. Each picker sits in a comfortable seat and fills the crate in front of him. At the end of each row, the full crates are removed. The trailer was built by a welder in Demotte, Ind., for John Kooy, asparagus grower.

Machine Staples Iron

Reinforcing rods for concrete are stapled together by a hand tool developed in Germany. The tool, which eliminates hand-tying of the rods, is simply an oversize stapler using heavy binding wire. The staples hook over one rod and around the transverse rod, clamping the two rods firmly together.

Sources of available products described in this issue are indexed on pages 12, 14 and 16. Sources of further information on other articles are listed in the WHERE-TO-FIND-IT LIST, which is available to readers without charge from Bureau of Information, Popular Mechanics, 200 East Ontario Street, Chicago 11
FOUR HEAVY-DUTY TOYS for the young construction engineer include: 1. Combination earth scraper and hauler, above right, made of auto-grade steel; 2. Road grader, right, fitted with individually mounted, rubber-tired wheels; 3. Mobile crane, below right, equipped with a clamshell bucket that bites deep into a sand pile; 4. Fire truck fully equipped with extension ladders that look and work like real ones.
SLICING MACHINE has steel blade with serrated edge that will stay sharp for years.

WICKLESS LIGHTERS, in pocket and table models burn butane gas, table style giving 10,000 lights from a single cartridge of fuel. Empty fuel tanks are replaced by low-cost cartridges.

SHAVE RACK in barber-pole design holds razor, brush and used blades.

CHURCH KIT contains everything needed to build a musical church for holiday decoration in homes, stores and offices. Opening church door starts music box which plays a Christmas carol.

LUNCH BAG with adjustable over-shoulder strap looks just like a purse.

DECEMBER 1951
Things to HINT ABOUT for CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS

(Continued from preceding page)

MINIATURE BROILER in wrought-iron stand can be used on dining table. It is fired with denatured alcohol.

15-PIECE TOOL KIT, imported from Germany, folds in leather case only seven inches long. Safety handle locks tools in place automatically upon insertion.

JIFFY LABEL TAPE comes in handy container with serrated tear-off edge. Waterproof and acid-resistant, the tape sticks to metal, paper, glass or plastics.

BELT LIGHTER, below, is easy to slide on and off. Small and compact, "sure fire" buckle holds chrome-finished lighter which has full-size fuel capacity.

ALUMINUM HITCH enables children to tow a wagon behind their tricycle or bicycle. Tricycle hitch fastens to the frame bar and bicycle model bolts to the rear fender and axle to distribute wagon weight.

ELECTRIC FLOUR SIFTER is another timesaver for the housewife, making it possible for her to sift flour completely in a single, easy operation. "Deep well" container holds over three full cups of flour.

106 POPULAR MECHANICS
SLIDE PROJECTOR with tray-loading changer is fitted with powerful blower for maximum slide cooling.

SAFETY-FUSE PLUG for tree-lighting sets contains two cartridge-type fuses to guard against overloads.

HANDY MEMO PENCIL styled in maroon plastic holds a full yard-long roll of memo paper in its barrel.

FLOATING KNIFE for well-equipped fishermen has cork handles, three-inch blade and a marlinespike.

FLOOR CONDITIONER weighs only 19 pounds. It "sweeps" a wide path in scrubbing, polishing, waxing.

STAR FINDER is a pleasant pastime for young and old in learning to identify stars and constellations.

DECEMBER 1951
With a seating capacity of 200, glass chapel in Palos Verdes Hills of California brings exterior beauty inside.

CHURCHES of MODERN DESIGN

Virtually nothing but glass surrounds those who worship in an unusual little chapel in the Palos Verdes Hills of California. The chapel was designed by Lloyd Wright, who felt that the beauty of the surrounding countryside should be brought inside the church. Wall and roof trusses are made of %8-inch redwood laminates, and the panes which form the walls and most of the roof are %4-inch plate glass. Portions of the roof are blue tile to provide partial shade below. The true appearance of the chapel will not be apparent for 25 years or more, when a recently planted grove of redwoods will have grown tall enough to protect the structure and provide shade.

Extreme beauty in simplicity is readily apparent to visitors at the new Oneonta Congregational Church of South Pasadena, Calif. Its exterior architecture is in the form of an overturned ship, with the ribs supporting the roof. The chancel reredos, uniquely constructed of cast stone, is pierced by 64 tiny stained-glass quatrefoil windows that tell the story of religion from the beginning of Judaism to modern times.

In Kansas City, Mo., the St. Francis Xavier Church is shaped like a fish, giving churchgoers a clear view of the sanctuary and altar from either side of the 88-foot main isle. Between the large statue of St. Francis Xavier and the main entrance, a long cement canopy over the driveway protects people as they leave their cars during rainy weather.

To provide shade, portions of roof are covered with blue tile. Plate-glass sides can withstand 55-m.p.h. wind.
Turn this modern church upside down and it would look like an early-day ship, with heavy ribs supporting the roof. Simplicity is main design feature.

Constructed of cast stone, chancel reredos of Oneonta Congregational Church, right, is studded by 64 stained-glass windows that tell story of religion.

Choir loft and pulpit, below right, show the beauty of simple lines maintained in "ship shape" church.

Modern in every respect, St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Kansas City, Mo., includes a soundproof room for mothers equipped with loudspeaker system and fitted with a large plate-glass window that permits mothers to see the altar during the services.

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., photo
Rotary Snowplow Cleans Sidewalks

One man can quickly remove snow from sidewalks and driveways with a small rotary plow. Instead of shoving packed snow to one side, the new plow chews it into a powder and hurls it through an adjustable casting chute to out-of-the-way places. A rotary rake breaks up the snow before it is scooped into the mechanism. The plow clears a path 16 inches wide in one pass. It is self-propelled, powered by a 1 1/2-horsepower gasoline engine.

Canvas Parasol Keeps Cockpit Cool

Shading the cockpit from the desert sun, a canvas "parasol" keeps ground-crew technicians cool as they work in cockpits while ground-testing jet planes at Muroc, Calif. Developed by Northrop Aircraft technicians, the canopy straps to the fuselage, keeping the entire cockpit areas in shade. Test pilots also like the parasol because it keeps the plane interior cool during preflight make-ready at the hot air base.

Christmas-Tree Lamp Shade

Simply by replacing the shade on a table lamp with one decorated like a fir tree, you can have a Christmas tree for any room in the house. Cone-shaped, the "tree" is realistically colored and even has projecting "twigs" and "branches" on which to hang ornaments. In rooms and small apartments where the traditional tree is impractical, the lamp-shade version makes a convenient substitute.

If you do not find the information you need in the index on pages 12, 14 and 16, sources of further information are available without charge from Popular Mechanics. Write to the Bureau of Information, 200 East Ontario St., Chicago 11
Mobile Electric Lift Raises and Transports Patients

Just one nurse can move a hospital patient from a bed to a stretcher or wheel chair with the aid of a new electrical lift that can be wheeled from one room to another. The patient is supported by broad straps that pass beneath his body and are fastened on either side to a framework of aluminum tubing. When the nurse operates the controls, cables draw up the framework to lift the patient off the bed. He then can be moved anywhere in the hospital. The lift also permits changing bed linen without disturbing the patient, and can be used to weigh bedfast patients accurately. It has a capacity of 1000 pounds, providing a wide safety margin for any patient, plus heavy plaster casts.

Barrel-Shaped Rubber Boosters Inflate to Improve Spring Action

Installed inside coil springs, air-inflated rubber cylinders improve or restore spring action under all driving conditions. The cylinders are inflated to any desired pressure. When mounted inside the rear springs, they permit adjustment for overloads and prevent bottoming of the suspensions on rough roads. On the front-coil springs, the rubber boosters decrease the tendency to lean on curves.

Print-a-Minute Camera Photographs Oscillograph

Copying the image on the screen of a cathode-ray oscilloscope, a recording camera adapted from the Polaroid print-a-minute camera provides engineers with a valuable research tool. Designed for use with any standard five-inch oscilloscope, the recording device consists of an adapter that locks against the tube face, a hood that assures proper focus and the Polaroid-Land camera with several changes including a special f:2.8 or f:1.9 lens for close-up work.
Game for Small Lawn Combines Billiards and Croquet

Features of croquet and billiards are combined in a new lawn game laid out on a court measuring only 10 by 20 feet. The game thus can be enjoyed on a small lawn. In the game, which can be played by two, three or four persons, each player tries to drive his ball into a succession of pockets. In order to earn the privilege of shooting for a pocket, he first must hit one or more of the balls in the same play. The equipment, including mallets, plastic balls, wickets, pockets and string for making sidelines is conveniently stored in a lawn table. The same equipment can be used to play the conventional game of croquet where a larger area of lawn is available.

Porpoise in Harness Pulls Surfboarders

Porpoise-power is the newest means of locomotion for surfboard enthusiasts at Marineland, Fla. "Flippy," a dolphin being used in experiments to determine the I. Q. rating of these water-dwelling mammals, fills the assignment with utmost ease.

Space Station?

In years to come, a giant "doughnut" 200 feet in diameter may be traveling constantly around the earth 1075 miles up in the sky. That's the prediction of Dr. Wernher von Braun, credited with inventing the German V-2 rocket and now an Army rocket expert. The space station would be carried to its orbit in a three-stage rocket, and assembled by men in pressurized suits. They would then live in the outer rim of the doughnut, kept in place by a synthetic "gravity" produced by its rotation around the hub.
HOW DO mature salmon find their way back to rivers in which they were born to lay their eggs and die? Prof. Arthur D. Hasler of the University of Wisconsin thinks they do it by smell. He introduces different odors to minnows; one odor just before feeding; another when an electric shocker is operating around the feed trough. The fish soon learn to go to the trough when the feed odor is introduced; to stay away when they smell shocker odor. Fish are graded as they swim into or out of zones where food and shocker bars are. They learned to distinguish the odors of 12 different water plants. Hasler also discovered that rivers have individual odors and fish can tell them apart. Thus, he reasons, salmon catch a sniff of their “home” river’s odor in the ocean and trace it back upstream like a bloodhound.

Fish are identified during smell tests by colored beads which are attached to them with a fine wire.
The OWNERS REPORT on

We use this car for: (check)

THE POPULAR MECHANICS MOTOR SURVEY
AS CONDUCTED BY FLOYD CLYMER

I am the owner of a 1951 Hudson. Model: Pacemaker 
Super Six 
Commodore 
Hornet 
Commodore Eight 

I have owned it about 4 months. Speedometer mileage is now 22,000

I use regular gasoline 
- I use premium (high test) gasoline special racing

My approximate gas mileage in the city is 
MPG: in country.

I CHANGE OIL every 1500 miles; I ADD OIL - one quart every 1500 miles.
My car has: Standard transmission 
Hydra-Matic Drive

Overdrive 
Super-Matic Drive

How does the car handle on the road? Excellent track car!

Maneuverability seems to be: Excellent Average Poor

Acceleration is: Outstanding 
- Very Good 
Average Poor

Curb and Road Clearance is: Satisfactory 
- Too High 
- Too Low

Why did you buy a Hudson?

Stuck in car racing

What features about the car do you especially like? Dependability and

I believe that it's the (select mechanically improved

It's increased visibility? Yes: it's body styling in general? Yes

If you own a Hudson Hornet, what is your opinion of it's new 6-cylinder engine?

Very good above average in workmanship

What do you dislike about the car?

Have you ever owned a Hudson before? Yes 
If so, how many? one

Would you buy another Hudson? Yes 
Possibly 
No

Do you secure good dealer service? Yes 
Average 
No

How would you rate your new Hudson? Excellent 
Good 
Average 
Poor

GENERAL INFORMATION

What type of engine would you prefer in your next new car? In-line 
- V-type 

Cylinders: 6 
8 

Valves: Side 
Overhead

Based on my present experience, I want my next car equipped with: Standard trans.

Overdrive 
Hydra-Matic Drive

Super-Matic Drive 
Other type automatic

Please state reasons:

Do you like the new, low-pressure, super-cushion tires? Yes

Do you carry the recommended pressure? Yes 
No 
How much more? 6 lbs.

Please answer all questions ( ). Your name will be held in strict confidence.

Please mail promptly to:
FLOYD CLYMER
1268 SO. ALVARADO ST.
LOS ANGELES 6, CALIF.

(Use other side for additional remarks.)

ACCELERATION TEST

Hudson Hornet 4-Door Sedan
With Hydra-Matic Drive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>¼ mile from zero</td>
<td>19.70 sec - Drive range only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ mile from zero</td>
<td>31.80 sec - Drive range only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 30 m.p.h.</td>
<td>4.30 sec - Low range only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 60 m.p.h.</td>
<td>13.70 sec - Low and Drive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top speed (by speedometer) - 108-110 m.p.h. Actual top speed about 8 percent less
The true test of an automobile begins when the owner takes the wheel. This is another report from owners of cars who answered questionnaires sent by Popular Mechanics to 1000 Hudson owners from coast to coast.

By Floyd Clymer

The fraternity of Hudson owners seems in general to be just as enthusiastic about its choice of car as any other group we have yet surveyed. In fact there seemed to be an exceptionally high percentage of “repeaters”—owners who bought the 1951 Hudson because they had driven one or more Hudsons in the past and were satisfied.

Of all owners who answered the direct question, “Would you buy another Hudson?” only one percent said “No.”

A Minneapolis insurance man said he bought a Hudson because his family had driven Hudsons since 1921. This sort of reply was quite common, as was the reason given by a Washington, D.C., transportation supervisor: “I have owned Hudson products since 1926 and saw no reason to change.”

Dotted lines indicate where mechanical brakes apply if the hydraulic system should ever fail.
Percentages From P. M. Poll

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owners of Hornet models</th>
<th>36%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacemaker models</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owners of Standard transmission</th>
<th>30%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydra-Matic transmission</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overdrive transmission</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super-Matic transmission</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Use premium gas | 45% |
| Use regular gas | 54% |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gasoline Mileage:</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comm. B</td>
<td>15.1 m.p.g.</td>
<td>18.6 m.p.g.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hornet</td>
<td>13.7 m.p.g.</td>
<td>17.1 m.p.g.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacemaker</td>
<td>16.4 m.p.g.</td>
<td>19.5 m.p.g.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Change oil | 99% |
| Average mileage for change of oil | 1579 |
| Owners who add oil (change periodically) | 3% |
| Average mileage for adding oil | 1422 |
| Maneuverability excellent | 84% |
| Maneuverability average | 15% |
| Maneuverability unsatisfactory | 1% |
| Acceleration outstanding | 40% |
| Acceleration very good | 47% |
| Acceleration average | 11% |
| Acceleration poor | 2% |

**Best-Liked Features**

| Step-down feature | 91% |
| Visibility offered | 98% |
| Interior finish | 95% |
| Body styling in general | 95% |

(These percentages are based on the answers to direct questions on the questionnaires)

A Seattle clothing man remarked: “My wife and I have just about played the field in cars — many different makes — but we never have found anything like a Hudson. My wife says it drives itself, and that’s about right. ... What an automobile!”

In reply to one of our survey questions, “How does your car handle on the road?” 84 percent of the answers were “Excellent.” This complimentary proportion is unusually high for our surveys.

“I gave that Hornet the worst beating of any car I ever tested,” says Clymer. “It’s a wildcat on wheels.”

“It rides as easily as a streamlined Pullman,” said a St. Louis, Mo., telephone-company manager.

One Los Angeles couple responding to the survey said they use their Hudson exclusively for stockcar racing. “It is an excellent track car,” they wrote. “We do not drive this car for pleasure; it is strictly a business enterprise. So far this year its earnings stand at $5500. We can’t complain.” (Hudson Hornets have won a
Both rear and front seats of the Hudson are 64 inches wide, and when stood on end alongside the Hornet are higher than car majority of important stockcar races during 1951, including first and second places in the 500-mile N.A.S.C.A.R. stockcar race at Darlington, S. C., which is America's foremost stockcar race.

A Los Angeles race driver who owns a Hornet for private use said: "All mechanical parts are the best. My car would perform much better with a Borg-Warner-type automatic transmission. The Hydra-Matic shifts through the lower gears very fast... The first gear should be eliminated, and it should start in second gear."

Here are a few comments on the new Hornet engine:
"It has the fastest acceleration in high gear of any car I've ever driven."—Memphis, Tenn., manufacturing foreman.
"Very good on getaway and also on long trips."—Milwaukee, Wis., estimator.
"The best, smoothest, most powerful car on the market."—Detroit grinder.
"The six-cylinder Hornet is very good, but a bit noisy."—Minneapolis accountant.
"Pickup is excellent, but top speed is not equal to my 1949 Commodore Six."—Minneapolis department manager.

**ECONOMY TEST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MILES PER GALLON</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>16</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MILES PER HOUR AT CONSTANT SPEEDS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At constant 30 m.p.h.</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At constant 40 m.p.h.</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At constant 50 m.p.h.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At constant 60 m.p.h.</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At constant 75 m.p.h.</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cross-Country Mileage**

- Detroit to Chicago (car new, traffic heavy) 16.10 m.p.g.
- Chicago to Denver, Colo. (via Kansas City) 17.20 m.p.g.
- Denver to Salt Lake City (over Rocky Mountains) 16.70 m.p.g.
- Salt Lake City to Los Angeles (via Ely, Nev.) 19.80 m.p.g.

"It is a wonderful motor; with a V-8 engine it would be the best car on the road."—Washington, D. C., clergyman. And a San Antonio, Tex., salesman writes: "If Hudson were to come out with a V-8, I would be the first to give it a try; however, if they don't I'll stick to the Hornet in '52 and trade my wife's car in for another Hornet. Hudson owners are bound to give their cars a good boost—they are excellent automobiles. I like the low cost of upkeep, safety and performance."

All automobile owners have their special peeves, and Hudson owners are not exempt.
"This car was not designed for inclement weather," wrote a Fayetteville, N. C., Telephone supervisor. "Rain seeps into doors and comes out through the upholstery. Very irritating." Said a Salina, Kans., man: "It is the first car I ever owned in which I had to wear a raincoat and rubber boots when it rained."

A second complaint dealt with inadequate trunk space. "The spare tire takes up too much baggage space," wrote a retired policeman in Nashville, Tenn.

Some other miscellaneous dislikes:
"The door latches are hopeless. Doors have to be slammed hard to close tightly."—San Jose, Calif., operating engineer.
"The paint is very poor."—Dayton, Ohio, federal-government worker. This man also wrote: "As far as I'm concerned, the Hudson is a fine car but the dealer service I have received could stop me from buying
At end of a test, Clymer’s Hornet opens its “mouth” as he examines engine that used one pint of oil in 2750 miles.

Emergency handbrake lever is conveniently located for operation by the right hand. Below, owners like the “step down” feature of the Hudson; attractive door fittings are recessed.

The survey showed that 80 percent of the owners replying received satisfactory dealer service.

“The car is good, body is exceptional, but it is about $500 to $700 overpriced.” — Ephrata, Wash., welder. (Overpricing was mentioned by several owners, such as the Gary, Ind., insurance executive who said: “The car is way overpriced. Perhaps this is why it has high trade-in value.” Most previous surveys showed many owners who thought all makes overpriced.)

“The Hornet body seems to be noisier than it should be; it could be helped by insulation and undercoating.” — Nashville, Tenn., finance executive.

“The front seat does not conform to the driver’s back.” — Minneapolis manufacturer.

“The ‘step down’ interior is hard for children—also hard on women's narrow skirts.” — Warner Robins, Ga., physician. (Of those who replied, 91 percent like the “step down” feature.)

“The dealer who sold me the car has spent a lot more on it than I have—or would.” — Salina, Kans., architect.

How does the Hudson compare with other makes as to gasoline consumption? Apparently about the same for cars of comparable size and horsepower. Many owners wish they could get more mileage, but that holds true of any car on the American market.

A Rome, Ga., transportation executive said: “I don’t get the mileage on my 1951 Commodore Six that I did on my other Hudsons. My average was 20.4 miles per gallon over 244,000 miles on the 1940 model, and 18.8 on the ’48 model for 86,000 miles. Up to now I have been getting 15 and 17 miles per gallon on the new model.”

However, a frozen-food salesman of Madison, Wis., was pleased with his mileage. He wrote: “On a recent trip to the West Coast in a ’51 Pacemaker, I averaged 19.6 in gas mileage; there was no oil consumption at a cruising speed of 65 miles per hour. Absolutely troublefree. I felt as though no other car could give me more per dollar.”

The survey showed that Hudson (Continued to page 260)}
Compact Aspirator

Developed at the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Field, a compact aspirator drains liquids from the mouth of paralyzed or unconscious patients during evacuation flights to hospitals. Patients with bulbar polio tend to discharge an unusual amount of saliva which may drain into the lungs because the muscle at the entrance to the windpipe is paralyzed. The aspirator prevents the saliva from drowning the patient. It is powered by an electric motor that plugs into a plane's electrical system. The aspirator is also valuable in the evacuation of soldiers with mouth wounds or basal fractures of the skull. Previous aspirators have been too large for use in operational aircraft. The new aspirator weighs only 25 pounds.

Miniature Camera

Researchers and doctors can take sharp, close-up photographs of surgical incisions, the mouth and throat and other body cavities with a small camera equipped with a built-in stroboscopic light unit. The light source is a small ring-shaped tube around the camera lens that provides strong, shadowless lighting. The daylight quality of this illumination permits use of daylight color film. The whole light unit is part of a stand that is equipped with a pistol-grip handle. Masking frames covering various areas mount on the front end of the stand to provide accurate framing of the subject matter.

Shoulder Roller

Road shoulders are rolled and surfaced during widening operations by a machine that moves along with one wheel in the ditch. The axle of the roller is adjustable to keep the machine level with the roller as much as 25 inches below the road surface. It is powered by a four-cylinder gasoline engine, and travels at a top speed of 3½ miles an hour. The large roller prevents the crushed stone from being "shoved" aside during compression.
Outdoor Fireplace Built in Three Hours

Using standard concrete blocks and other materials readily available from local building-supply dealers, the average handyman can build an outdoor fireplace in about three hours. The unit rests on a six-inch reinforced concrete slab and is constructed around a strong, all-metal fireplace insert which has a heavy angle-iron frame, cast-iron bottom grate and grill in removable sections. Cement paint is applied to the finished fireplace to harmonize with other lawn furnishings.

Propeller-Equipped Rudder May Eliminate Tugboats

Normally, ships can steer only when they are moving, because of the characteristics of the rudder, but a new German invention enables ships to steer even with engines stopped. It is called an "active rudder," and it has a propeller that forces a stream of water past the rudder surfaces. An electric motor inside a torpedo-shaped section of the rudder drives the propeller. Thus, even with the ship at a standstill, the movement of water past the rudder provides steerageway. It is claimed that the rudder permits steering into docks and may eliminate the need for tugboats.

Remote Steering for Ships Disabled by Enemy Fire

When enemy fire has disabled a ship's steering stations, a new "electric helmsman" guides the vessel by remote control. The instrument is controlled by a small knob on top of a metal box that is hung on a strap around the user's neck. It is plugged into the steering-control system at outlets located at widely separated, strategic points throughout the vessel. In addition to possible combat use, the device can be utilized for "close in" direction of docking, breeches-buoy transfers and other normal or emergency maneuvers. The unit was developed by General Electric engineers.
Blacksmith Shop
Travels to Farms

Handicapped by the loss of one hand, David Boley still carries on his services as a blacksmith by rolling his shop right into the barnyard of customers. The complete shop has been built in a panel truck, which is fitted with a long telescoping rack that carries an anvil and a big machinist's vise. A portable forge straddles the telescoping rack when the shop is closed for traveling. Horseshoes are stored on the sides of the truck.

Strawberry Weeder Is Hand Cranked

Moving slowly and regally across a strawberry patch, Robert V. Lewis weeds the garden comfortably from the seat of his home-made “chariot.” Lewis, a retired businessman and now a successful strawberry farmer of Salmon Falls, Me., built the floorless chariot so he could weed his plants without suffering a lame back. He cranks two handles to move along between the rows. His cultivating tools rest on an adjustable tray in front, and overhead there’s a big sunshade to keep him cool as he weeds.

Plastic Gasket Seals Casement Window

Slipped snugly over the inside edge of a metal window frame, a vinyl-plastic gasket seals out drafts and dust. It also seals out heat in air-conditioned homes and offices. The flexible lip of the gasket is compressed between the frame and the window, eliminating all metal-to-metal contact. The gasket, available in 38-inch lengths, can be left in place all year without deterioration, if desired. Installation requires no tools except a pair of scissors and takes about five minutes for each window.

Multiply the number of seconds in a billion years by the speed of light (186,000 miles per second) and you’ll discover how far away are the most distant objects seen through the 200-inch Hale telescope at Mount Palomar.
ALMOST LIMITLESS mobility will be possible for United States air striking power when the U.S.S. Forrestal is completed in 1955 as the world's largest aircraft carrier. Plans call for the 59,900-ton ship's keel to be laid next summer. The Forrestal will be the Navy's first flattop with a retractable bridge, clearing the flight deck of any obstructions to take-offs and landings. It will have an over-all length of 1040 feet and an extreme width at one point of 252 feet, making it capable of handling the largest carrier planes. The twin-engined P2V Neptune patrol bombers can take off from, but not land on, the biggest carriers now in service. In addition to four catapults for launching, the ship will have four elevators to raise planes to the flight deck quickly, and Escalators to carry airmen up from the ready rooms. More comfort and efficiency for the Forrestal's 3500 men, including her air-group personnel, will be provided by air-conditioned quarters. The craft's equipment will include some 1600 electric motors, graduated in size from .02 to 300 horsepower, and will have about 750 tons of steel piping and tubing. A secret television system will aid aircraft in landing. The giant ship, named for James V. Forrestal, the late secretary of defense, will cruise at a speed of 30 knots. The estimated cost of the new carrier, which will be built by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, is $218,000,000.

Artist's concept of U.S.S. Forrestal, which will operate as a floating, heavily armed air base, with 3500 men, and planes capable of carrying atom bombs.
CARRIER DISPLACEMENT

Langley (1921) 11,050 tons

Lexington (1927) 33,000 tons

Franklin D. Roosevelt (1945) 45,000 tons

New Carrier 59,900 tons
With its 125-horsepower gasoline engine wide open, the "convertible" fishing boat will hit 33 miles an hour.

**Gas-Electric Boat Can Crawl or Zoom**

It may not catch the fish, but a "convertible" boat should help sportsmen bring back more of them. Equipped with two power systems—one uses gasoline, the other electricity—the boat is owned by Gene McDonald, president of Zenith Radio. To get to the fishing grounds fast, McDonald opens up a 125-horsepower gas engine and zooms along at 33 miles an hour. Once there, he cuts in the electric drive and trolls quietly without clutch slippage at one to four miles an hour. The 1/2-horsepower electric motor runs 12 hours on a fully charged battery.

Remote-control unit simply plugs into any of several outlets located about the boat.

Key to the dual-power system is a clutch-disconnecting device that eliminates clutch drag while the boat is electric-driven.
Cattle Scratcher

Cattle rid themselves of lice and skin diseases with a device that rubs oil into the skin. Two oiling “wicks” run from the center post to the base. As the wicks are moved by the cattle, a ratchet cranks a chain through the oil in the post, transferring it to the wicks, which consist of steel washers strung on a steel cable.

Sports Car

Top speed of a new custom-built sports car is 125 miles per hour, and it can accelerate from standstill to 60 miles an hour in only 8½ seconds. The sleek car, built as a gift for baseball’s Ted Williams, is powered by a six-cylinder Nash Ambassador engine equipped with an aluminum racing head. Body panels and many structural parts are aluminum. The $25,000 car was designed by William Flajole of Detroit.

Water “Toboggan”

Speeds of 40 miles an hour are possible on a homemade water “toboggan” powered by a 12-horsepower outboard. The bow of the toboggan, which supports the motor, is made of aluminum. At slow speeds the driver is partially submerged. The toboggan, made by Vern Perry of St. Paul, Minn., weighs about 120 pounds.
ROARING THROUGH tunnels that honeycomb granite mountains, thousands and thousands of tons of water will do double-duty for Australia, providing both power and irrigation. Located near the capital city of Canberra, the project will be the biggest engineering project south of the equator.

Engineering-wise, it is a job that, in many respects, is more ambitious and complicated than the world-famed Tennessee Valley development after which it is patterned. Set up to handle the tremendous task by the Australian Federal government and the state governments of Victoria and New South Wales is the “Snowy River Hydroelectric Authority,” similar to our TVA.

New project, extreme left bar, will triple kilowatt output of the two Australian states.
Ambitious power and irrigation projects are afoot "down under." Aussie engineers are drilling one tunnel 30 miles through solid granite, and in another—precisely horizontal—water will flow in two directions!

This board has jurisdiction over an area of almost 5000 square miles, which is called the roof of Australia and contains the Snowy Mountains and Australian Alps. In it is Australia's highest mountain peak, the 7316-foot Mount Kosciusko.

This mountain region has an average elevation of 3000 to 7000 feet and is snow-clad from four to six months of the year. It is a natural reservoir, which releases stored water during the summer when it is most needed.

Four rivers have their beginnings in these mountains. They are the Murrumbidgee and its tributary the Tumut, the Murray and the Snowy. The Murrumbidgee eventually flows into the Murray, many miles to the west. The Murray is Australia's largest river, 1600 miles long. It irrigates flatlands adjacent to it before flowing into the sea.

The Snowy River, which begins on Mount Kosciusko, receives most of the region's run-off waters. In its short dash of 300 miles southeast to the Pacific, it drops 7000 feet, carrying half a million gallons of water per minute.

To prevent these waters from being wast-
ed, the plan calls for storing them at the higher elevations. After their power has generated electricity, they will be diverted into the Murray and Murrumbidgee River system for irrigation. The Snowy River flows through the country which has adequate rainfall, while the other two, flowing west, pass through land which becomes progressively drier.

Seven major dams will be built with a total storage capacity of 4 1/4 million acre-feet of water. Plans call for 16 power stations, most of them deep underground, immune from any air attack even with atomic bombs. Eighty-six miles of tunnels varying in diameter from 20 to 45 feet will be cut through rock. Almost 500 miles of race lines (concrete-lined water channels) will pick up mountain streams at high elevations and lead them to various collecting points.

In the Snowy-Murray section of the project, a dam at Jindabyne will divert all the Snowy River except its main tributary, the Eucumbene. This will be done through a main tunnel 30 miles long under the mountains to the Swampy Plain River, a tributary of the Murray.
This tunnel will be one of the world's largest. Parts of it will be 3000 feet under the mountains. It will vary in diameter from 30 to 45 feet and will be drilled through solid granite.

Spencer Creek is the highest tributary of the Snowy and it will be dammed to form the Kosciusko Reservoir for the storage of 30,000 acre-feet of water. A tunnel will take the water to Guthega River Pond, where the first power station of 60,000 kilowatts is to be erected.

Four power stations will be built along the 10 miles of tunnel from Kosciusko to Island Bend Reservoirs. At Island Bend, a vertical shaft, 1000 feet long, joins the main tunnel to Swampy Plain River. A power station will use the force of this long fall of water down from the high reservoir.

Five more power stations will be built along the main tunnel, making a total of nine altogether. These will generate 1,680,000 kilowatts for the Snowy-Murray section.

In the other half of Australia's "TVA," the Snowy-Tumut section, the main dam will be built near the town of Adaminaby. This reservoir, formed by damming the upper Eucumbene River and its tributaries, will provide storage for the Tumut system.

Here the engineers propose one of the most remarkable aspects of the whole project—a tunnel 15½ miles long and perfectly level so the water can flow in either direction. The 24-foot tunnel will run from Adaminaby Reservoir through the dividing mountains to Tumut Pond on the other west end of the Tumut project is Adaminaby Reservoir which will submerge part of this 400-inhabitant village.
side. Tumut Pond will get additional water from the upper Tooma River through race lines and a five-mile tunnel. If this water, added to the flow of the upper Tumut River into Tumut Pond, is more than necessary for power generation, the surplus will flow back through the level tunnel into the 1,000,000-acre-feet storage at Adaminaby. When there is less water than needed for power generation in Tumut Pond, the water flow is reversed, from Adaminaby storage into Tumut Pond.

The river from Tumut Pond drops 2000 feet in 11 miles to Lob's Hole, where another dam with a storage capacity of 50,000 acre-feet is to be erected. A 12½-mile tunnel from Tumut Pond will carry this water to Lob's Hole through two power stations.

(Continued to page 246)

Workmen are transported by truck to Tumut Pond over snow-covered roads at altitudes of almost 4000 feet.
Mechanical Refrigerator Can Be Transferred From Car to Car

Fabricated in a “package” form which is quickly installed in a reefer car, a mechanical refrigeration unit costs one third as much to operate as the conventional ice method of cooling. A 28-horsepower gasoline engine powers the compressor. Two 155-gallon fuel tanks, mounted under the car, supply the engine. This is said to be more than enough for a transcontinental trip. The complete unit, including controls, weighs about 1100 pounds and can be transferred from one car to another in a few minutes. A control panel is installed on each side of the car adjacent to the refrigerating unit. It includes thermometers, thermostat and a system of signal lights.

New French Simca 9 Offers Gas Economy

Operating economy is a feature of the new French Simca 9 that travels 28 miles to a gallon with a full load at a constant speed of 56 miles an hour. Its four-cylinder engine has a compression ratio of 6.7:1 and develops 45 horsepower at 4400 revolutions per minute. Described as a four-passenger car, it measures 13½ feet over all and weighs 1900 pounds. An additional feature of the car is a jack which can be placed anywhere under the front or rear bumper or either side of the car.

Refrigerator “Shock Cools,” Filters and Aerates Milk

“Shock cooling” milk to below 40 degrees in less than one minute, a milk cooler also filters and aerates the liquid before it flows into precooled cans. The flow of milk is automatically shut off as each can fills. A refrigerating unit cools the stainless-steel aerator, which lowers the milk temperature 56 degrees in a minute.

The United States has eight advanced types of jet fighters and five jet bombers in production; jet pods have been added to the U. S. intercontinental bomber, one eight-jet bomber has been tested, and two new eight-jet, long-range bombers are scheduled to fly late this year.
"Flying" House

Supported only at one end by three concrete "stems," a German building appears to be floating in air. The building was erected to demonstrate a new construction technique. It can be set on a plot as small as 10 yards square. Three concrete columns support a huge balcony. The roof is cantilevered in a similar manner. The designers say the structures could be used as auditoriums and restaurants. The building will support 1900 persons.

Rocket Metal Is Flight-Tested Without Leaving the Ground

Undergoing all the hazards of high-speed rocket flights without moving from the laboratory bench, metals are tested under simulated flight conditions. It has been found that the temperature of the outer skin of missiles goes up as much as 80 degrees a second to a high of 1500 degrees. In the laboratory these heat conditions are simulated by electric currents. Heat changes are measured by thermocouples. Stress is provided by heavy weights. One of the most successful metals tested is a cheap grade of low-carbon, cold-rolled steel.

Credited with a top speed of 600 miles per hour, Britain's jet bomber, the Canberra, covered the distance from London to Melbourne, Australia (12,677 miles), in 25 hours and 27 minutes at an average speed of 490 miles per hour.
**Electric Sports Car**

Operating on a 24-volt battery, with a ¾-horsepower electric motor on each wheel, a miniature sports car will go 35 miles an hour. It has seven forward speeds and travels 200 miles on one battery charge. The entire body can be lifted up to simplify work on the chassis.

**Streptomyacin Cures Plants**

Certain plant diseases may be controlled by streptomycin, according to tests by Prof. Peter A. Ark of the University of California. The tests show the drug to be effective in treating seeds infected with certain diseases, such as bacterial speck and canker of tomato.

**Builds One-Man Car Powered by Motorcycle Engine**

Powered by a motorcycle engine, a one-man car built by Theron W. Huish of Los Angeles speeds along at 60 miles an hour and travels 38 miles on a gallon of gas. The body is a reinforced, surplus airplane drop tank. The car has conventional motorcycle wheels and tires, with front and rear mechanical brakes. Springs, axles, steering gear and the frame were made by hand. The 10-foot car has a wheelbase of 85 inches.

**Aluminum-Scrap Auto Costs $160 and 2500 Hours of Work**

Using scrap aluminum, Conrad Greenemeier of Denver, Colo., has built a car that travels 45 miles on a gallon of gas. The little auto is powered by a 6-horsepower industrial motor and rolls along on airplane tires. Greenemeier reports he spent about $160 and 2500 work hours in building the car.

There are 8,300,000 trucks operating in the U.S. now, compared with 4,850,000 at the peak of World War II.
Capsules Start Cold Engines

To provide easier starting for diesel and heavy-duty gasoline motors in subzero weather, an auxiliary fuel is now available in capsule form. The fuel, packaged in 7 and 17-cc. capsules, is placed in a special tool permanently connected to the intake-manifold system. The tool has a dual purpose of puncturing the capsule and priming the engine. Capsule packaging, reports the manufacturer, prevents all spillage and evaporation, and eliminates wastage usually accompanying the pouring of such liquids. In addition to its use in diesel engines, the fuel is suitable for tractors, cranes, shovels and draglines.

Tissue Filters Oil

Ordinary toilet tissue is the filtering element in a new oil cleaner for automobiles. The aluminum housing for the filter has a universal mount for installation on any car. The roll of toilet tissue, which slips inside the housing, removes dirt, dust, grit and other abrasive materials from the oil. One roll of tissue is effective as long or longer than a conventional filter cartridge, according to the manufacturer, and it costs several times less than a conventional filter cartridge. When the motorist wishes to change the filter he merely loosens a wing nut, removes the cover, takes out the old roll and inserts a new one.

Lock-On Lug Covers Discourage Would-Be Tire Thieves

Tires are locked to the car by a simple, tamperproof cap that covers the wheel lug so it cannot be loosened by a would-be thief. The cap comes in two sections. One of these sections is placed under the nut. When the nut has been tightened, the top portion of the cap is placed over the nut and locked in position. The locking device can be used on all wheels, including the spare.

Popular Mechanics provides two sources of information concerning articles published in each issue: the WHERE-TO-BUY-IT INDEX on pages 12, 14 and 16, and the WHERE-TO-FIND-IT LIST, available without charge from the Bureau of Information, 200 E. Ontario, Chicago 11
“It’s an old-lady’s airplane, really,” the Commander said as they strapped me in the cockpit to . . .

Ride a Jet Fighter

By Thomas E. Stimson, Jr.

FIGHTING with your eyes closed at better than 500 miles per hour sounds like a nightmare and yet that, literally, is what the Navy’s crack night-fighter pilots are learning to do.

In their new and secret F3D killer jets they can be catapulted from a carrier in pitch-black darkness, track and shoot down enemy aircraft without ever seeing them, and land again with only one short look over the side, a peek that they get about two seconds before their wheels hit the deck. Aside from that, radar and other radio circuits can do all their seeing for them.

Today, at Moffett Field, Calif., the pilots of Composite Squadron Three are working on the new tactics that the plane’s radar eyes make possible. Over a large area off San Francisco Bay that is restricted for their exclusive use they fly almost every

Ground-crew member uses illuminated wands swinging up and down to guide F3D pilot to parking location

Crossing wands overhead means “Stop” to the pilot of plane waiting to take off into the darkness
night on blacked-out missions. Usually they work in pairs with one plane simulating an oncoming enemy bomber and the other making the kill.

Playing blindman's buff with other planes at close to sonic speeds isn't my idea of fun, and when Westinghouse and Douglas arranged with the Navy for a representative of Popular Mechanics to participate in a practice mission, I took it up with Comdr. Richard E. Harmer, the squadron's commanding officer.

"Just a ride around the field after lunch is all I need," I suggested, "in the daylight."

"Nonsense," he replied briskly, "The pilots are asleep now. They don't come on duty until dark. I'll put you down as radar operator on Lunatic 88. That's code for Lieut. George C. Hathaway's plane. The F3D is an old-lady's airplane, really. You'll enjoy a real operations flight."

But you begin to appreciate that night fighting isn't the world's safest job when you start dressing after dinner in the red illumination of the pilot's ready room.

"Nylon shirt? Take it off," one of the pilots advises. "Nylon sticks to the skin if it burns and there's always a chance of a cockpit fire. No nylon."

You strap on a .38 revolver loaded with tracer bullets and pull on the Mae West survival vest, its pockets and straps loaded with gear that includes a can of shark repellent and a folded radar reflector that can be seen on a plane's scope 10 miles away. The orders are to jump if the plane gets into trouble over the water during a night flight. You don't jump, actually, you slide. You get out of an F3D by going down a chute in the rear of the cockpit. By the time you can get your hand on the rip cord you are free of the aircraft and are slowing down to a safe opening speed.

"That sheath knife at your left shoulder," a pilot instructs you, "that's for just one job. The chute pack in the cockpit also contains a one-man life raft. If you have to leave the plane in a hurry you may accidentally inflate the raft while twisting..."
Even though radar permits flying blind, a helper cleans off cockpit's transparent canopy—just in case.

around in your seat. Then you can't get out. The raft is too big for the escape chute. That's where the knife comes in. Grab it and stab the raft.

You'll get down to the water, you reflect grimly, and then what do you do, swim a hundred miles or so?

One man lends you a cloth helmet with earphones, another contributes a crash helmet that fits over it. The crash helmet will keep your head from being slammed into cockpit projections if there is severe buffeting. "Rest your head firmly against the backrest during the take-off," you are told.

The Navy's Douglas-built F3D Skyknight, like its "opposite number" the F-94 produced for the Air Force by Lockheed, is designed for catching and destroying enemy bombers including those that are carrying atomic weapons. Each of these planes can do the job at any altitude the bomber can use and in any kind of weather.

The F-94 is powered with a jet and afterburner, the F3D with two jets. Each carries a pilot and radar operator and each is a big airplane, judged by World War II fighter standards. The F3D, for example, weighs about the same as a DC-3 transport. It carries as much fuel in its fuselage as does a Flying Fortress. With a pair of 300-gallon fuel tanks carried outboard on its wings it could cruise across the country nonstop.

Aside from its basic use as a night fighter, the F3D is also being tested by Navy airmen as a patrol plane, as a light bomber, and even as a close-support vehicle.

Its pair of Westinghouse axial flow turbojet engines delivers more than 6000 pounds of thrust, equal to a good 6000 horsepower at 325 miles per hour or twice that at 600 miles per hour. More than half a ton of Westinghouse radar is carried by the plane,
Diagrammatic drawing shows the intricate and compact F3D, which carries as much fuel in its fuselage as a Flying Fortress and matches a DC-3 in weight.

Sketches across bottom of pages show an F3D which has been guided by ground radar station to a point where the fighter's radar operator picks up target with the various antennas housed in non-metallic portions of the nose, tail, tail tip and fin. The radar installation is described as a "self-contained searching and striking unit" and Navy spokesmen won't go into much greater detail about it.

One of them, however, puts it this way: "Any modern all-weather fighter should be capable of detecting another aircraft some distance away with its own equipment, though it may be guided into the general area by a more powerful search station on the ground."

"Radar should be able to tell a pilot whether the unknown aircraft is a friend or foe, and it should warn him if an enemy gets on his tail."

"After a pilot brings his plane close to the target, electronics should be able to do all the rest. That is, radar should be able to 'lock on' to the target and constantly figure out the range and deflection, and automatically fire the guns or rockets at the instant when hits are assured."

Tonight I'd be able to see what radar could do, but I wouldn't see how it did it. I was occupying the "scopie's" seat and I'd need months of instruction to operate his instruments. Tonight we'd simply play target for another F3D.
In the dark cockpit Lieutenant Hathaway helps to tie you down. The only light comes from the faint red glow of the instrument dials. With or without radar, a first qualification for a good night-fighter pilot is that he must have exceptional night vision, and red is the one safe shade that doesn't reduce his ability to see in the dark.

Chute straps are buckled, safety belt snapped on, then the shoulder straps. Phone wires are plugged in. The oxygen mask is handy although for tonight's medium-altitude flight it won't be needed in the pressurized cockpit.

"You'll have to do some copiloting," Lieutenant Hathaway comments. "Those switches at the right, snap them on one at a time when I'm ready to start the jets. And the knob that controls the plane's lights is right at your elbow. You'll turn off the lights when we are told to darken ship. Now, set the cockpit altimeter at zero."

The cocked-up wings descended and locked into place while we taxied to the head of the runway, then the plane raced along the marker lights between Moffett's two big dirigible hangars and climbed away from the ground. I was thinking that this was just like any other take-off when I noticed the 100-foot hand of the altimeter. It was winding around the dial with the speed of a stop-watch needle. We were really going up!

The F3D has power-boosted controls and a cigarette lighter, two items that help describe the plane in terms of high performance and comfort. In normal flight the plane is smoother than most transports and yet many F3D pilots wear G-suits to keep from blacking out while maneuvering at high speed. To help make up for the punishment that the crew may receive, everything possible is done for their comfort, which explains the lighter and ash trays in the cockpit.

At 10,000 feet, well offshore in the hazy moonlight, there were suddenly two extra yellow moons right in front of us. "Those are the exhausts of Lunatic 3, the other night fighter," Hathaway says. "We're looking right into his tail pipes." He applied the fuselage brakes and I surged forward, tight against the shoulder straps. There had been no sensation of speed until now; the brakes gave you an idea of the forces involved at the speed we were flying.

In tonight's problem, one of the stations (Continued on page 238)
Helicopter Litter Carrier Eliminates Claustrophobia

Providing complete protection from cold and wind without creating a sense of confinement, a new litter carrier has been developed for the Bell helicopter. The carrier is an aluminum platform that mounts on the skidtype landing gear. A transparent-plastic cowl serves as a windshield to protect the head and shoulders of the injured man. Warm air is piped inside the cover to keep the patient comfortable. Previous litter carriers were covered with fabric, and the dark interior bothered patients suffering from claustrophobia, or fear of confined spaces.

Race-Horse Relaxer

Mechanical horsepower takes race horses for a long walk after they've worked out on a track at Yonkers, N. Y. The horses are tethered to the long bars of a mechanical merry-go-round driven by a small motor. The mechanical trainer leads them on a three-mile-per-hour walk for a slow cool-down, eliminating the need for a human trainer to exercise the horses.

“Pint Sized” Preservers

Junior-size life preservers have been designed for children on overwater flights in military transports. Previously there has been no special protection for youngsters traveling with their parents to new duty stations if their planes were forced down at sea. One size is for tots from six months to six years old and the other fits those up to 14. The preservers are like the grown-ups’ version, except that the carbon-dioxide cylinders and inflation valve are located behind the neck out of the wearer’s reach—to prevent tampering with the devices.

(In Guatemala, where corn is expensive and bananas are cheap, agricultural chemists have discovered that ripe bananas, including skins, are as good as corn for fattening pigs.)
INJURY caused by man-made shells led to a new career that Rudy Hanacek of Cleveland has built on a foundation of thousands of sea shells. Until wounded in the leg while in the Marianas with the Sea Bees, Hanacek had been a machinist. During months in a hospital, where he attended handicraft classes conducted by the Red Cross, the subject that interested him most was the making of jewelry and other novelties from sea shells.

On returning home, Hanacek found that his leg injury would not permit him to resume his old trade operating machine tools; long hours on his feet would be too much. So he turned to the shellcraft he had learned during his convalescence.

Hanacek has developed numerous little kinks and methods of his own. For example, he worked out a special recipe for a cement-plaster to fasten shells together and to fashion bases and other molded details. He adds colored pigment to the plaster mix as required.

His shell products range from elaborate religious shrines to simple, humorous animals. His most popular item has been a planter for ivy, cacti and other small house plants. It consists of two large snail shells (from a form of whelk) cemented together,

Two novelty shell lamps flank a lighted shrine. The lamps' soft glow doesn't affect images on TV screens.
with smaller shells embedded in the cement for decoration. It rests on a molded-plaster base decorated with small embedded shells.

Hanacek's trays, made of large, flat shells, are useful as sewing aids and for holding bobby pins and other small objects on the dressing table or desk. His shell lamps feature large shells that conceal small electric-lamp bulbs. When a lamp is burning, its shells become translucent and display various color patterns. Television has created a considerable demand for these shell lamps, for their soft glow will illuminate a room without affecting the image on a TV screen.

Conch shells and the like have to be ground on an abrasive wheel to smooth the edges and remove sharp points that might cause injury. Many shells have to be bleached or dyed a brilliant color to improve their looks. After Hanacek has assembled a piece of shell sculpture and the cement has set, he finishes it with transparent varnish, and glues a piece of felt or soft cloth to the bottom.

As added decoration, the dog above has ears made of pine-cone segments and the doll consists of pipe cleaners, ribbon and 37 small sea shells.

Humorous figures of birds and animals are among Hanacek's specialties. Here he applies varnish to a group of birds while a turtle awaits its turn. Below, part of the wounded veteran's menagerie. The fabric on which the display rests is used to cover the bottoms of shell articles.
ICE CUTTING
—an almost lost art

By Marjorie and Grant Heilman

On runners, the power saw makes a scoring cut. Guides on each side control the width of the blocks.

Snow is tamped into the scoring cuts to prevent water from running in and freezing solid again.

CHANCES are that some future generation will be puzzled to discover a tumble-down shed with insulated double walls, standing forgotten beside a pond. And near by may be a few giant saws, some heavy steel bars and hooks, all rusted by the dampness. But it will be unlikely that this finder will recognize these tools of the ice-cutting trade because by then ice cutting will probably be a lost art.

Even today it has all but disappeared in the United States. Although there are still small operations going on, most major cutters have...
been compelled to quit. The Handy family in northern Vermont is among the last survivors. Once, the rasp of Handy saws could be heard on ponds all over the top of the state. But nowadays the Handy operation is confined to one pond just north of Lyndonville, and its annual haul is only about 4000 tons.

Major reason for the disappearance of ice cutting has been, of course, mechanical refrigeration. Ned and Charlie Handy claim they can produce natural ice for about one third the cost of artificial ice. However, their competition comes from refrigeration units that do

Key blocks, first to be taken out, have to be cut loose by hand. The rest are broken free with a chisel.
After ice is scored and a loading channel opened up, strips A, B and C are cut by hand to free the blocks away with the need for any kind of ice.

There are plenty of tricks to ice cutting. It takes planning to get the maximum ice with a minimum of work. First step is the scoring of the ice into blocks 22 inches by 44 inches. Ordinarily, ice is about 15 inches thick when cut and the circular saw used to score the ice cuts about nine inches deep. This leaves the ice solidly together, but allows it to be broken apart into blocks with a blow from the heavy breaking chisel. The circular saw has a 30-inch blade with replaceable teeth. It is powered by a four-cylinder gasoline engine. The whole unit is mounted on skids, from which steel rods extend to hold guides that can be set for any desired block width. The guides slide in the adjacent saw cut to serve as a ripping fence for the saw.

While the ice is being scored, a curved channel is cut with a handsaw to provide access to the loading chute. Then a hand-saw cuts a strip adjacent to the access channel. Only the lengthwise cuts are made by the saw as the crosscuts can be broken out with the big chisel. Once this first strip has been removed, there is room to work.

A second strip, running the length of the pond and at right angles to the first strip, is cut and broken out, two or three blocks at a time, leaving a narrow channel down the center of the pond. As these blocks are broken out, they are loaded one at a time by the power saw. The power saw scores the blocks about eight inches deep, so that they can be broken apart easily. Another set of guides slides under the blocks, set for the lengthwise cuts. After the blocks are broken apart, they are cut to any desired width and loaded into long, narrow storage bins where they can be kept for several months.

Teeth on the 30-inch blade of the power saw are replaceable. The saw scores the ice with 9-inch cuts while the chisel breaks out the blocks. Large sections are broken into blocks by driving a heavy chisel into score cuts made by the power saw.
broken free, large sections adjacent to them are split off and broken into individual blocks. As cutting progresses farther from the loading channel, it becomes more important to keep sections of blocks intact so they can be moved to the loading area more easily.

Before each cut, snow is packed into the scored ice just beyond the point where the cut will end. This prevents water from seeping into the blind cut and freezing.

After the ice on one side of the center strip has been removed, the men at the handsaws again go to work. They cut two long lines to remove a strip across the far end of the pond. This ice is floated along the de-iced section to the loading channel. Now, as the crew works back toward the loading channel, whole sections of blocks are broken out by chisel after they have been sawed free at the shore line. The whole object is to cut so there is always an area of solid ice between the section you are cutting and the loading channel for the crew to walk on.

Blocks are hauled up a chute into the icehouse by a power-driven cable. At the top, the ice slides on another trough into the building.

By now, the 500-pound cake is sliding rapidly. Workers dig into it with pike poles and swing it into place as it comes off the trough. Layer by layer, the blocks are piled up. It's a tough job, bucking these fast-sliding blocks, and anyone who happens to get in the way of one of them is likely to end up with a broken leg.

The top layer is insulated with a coating of sawdust. The house itself is well insulated and kept tightly closed.

That's the story of ice cutting. If you happen to be up North and see an ice-cutting crew on a pond, you'd better stop for a look because it soon may be as extinct as the dodo!

Here's an ice pond in full operation as seen from the top door of the icehouse. Blocks can be seen floating into the loading channel where they are picked up by the cable and hauled to the top of the chute to slide into the house. Workers ride ice floats like lumberjacks on logs.
Concrete Tank Is "Wind Tunnel"

Serving the same function in electrical prospecting as a wind tunnel does in aeronautics, a large concrete tank is used to improve methods of locating ore below the earth's surface. Nearly any condition, so far as relative electrical conductivity of ore and earth is concerned, can be simulated inside the tank. Running over the top of the tank is a wooden track which supports the measuring devices, the electrical equipment and the ore body to be studied. By placing a small particle of metal that represents ore buried in a part of the tank, researchers study the action of an oscillating magnetic field set up by a near-by generator. This is what happens when an electric prospecting device is used in the field. These studies are being conducted at the electromagnetic laboratory of the University of California at Los Angeles.

Wheels for Broom

Large brooms for sweeping big floor areas are maneuvered with less effort when equipped with a new two-wheel chassis. The two casters permit the operator to wheel the broom backward on the return stroke instead of lifting it. The chassis is mounted on wood-backed brooms with lag screws; a special attachment is available for fastening it to metal-backed brushes.

"Peel Paste"

Movie makers, by using a new "peel paste," can strip wallpaper off their sets in a few minutes, making the walls available for reuse almost immediately. The paste, which has supplanted the usual starch pastes, is a mixture of glycerin, cellulose and water. The glycerin keeps the paste flexible even after it dries.
Beaching Gear Hauls Flying Boats Ashore

CAPABLE of crawling under a 300,000-pound flying boat in the water, floating it toward shore and then carrying it on dry land to a parking platform, this seaplane beaching gear resembles floating docks used to handle large surface ships. Built for the U.S. Navy, the gear is self-powered, can submerge itself, move forward, backward or sideways. It has two flotation units spaced to accommodate the hull of a flying boat. Separating these units is a horizontal platform on which is located a removable pallet with adjustable wheels on which the plane hull rests. The gear is propelled by two engines located at diagonally opposite ends of the floats. As the shore is approached, the operator transfers power from the propellers to three Caterpillar treads, mounted in tricycle-gear fashion, which move the plane over normal beaches. A tractor or winch is used to transfer the wheeled pallet, on which the plane rests, from the beaching gear to a repair platform ashore.
LITTLE THINGS are big things to William G. Klassen of Hagerstown, Md. In his Temple of Miniatures—a 13-foot exotic structure weighing over a ton—Klassen has depicted the fabulous court of Louis XIV and the sixth-century knights of King Arthur.

This hobby of Klassen's requires plenty of spare time and patience. Only a few simple tools are used. So filled with materials is his room in the Alexander Hotel, where he is maître d'hôtel, that he can hardly move around. Extra chests of drawers keep his supplies in order.

His work is done to a scale of one inch to the foot, although, of course, he has no blueprints to work with—the ideas he uses coming from a combination of research and imagination.

Once a year, Klassen puts his handiwork on display in the hotel lobby. It can be shown complete, as it is here, or in sections. Below, King Arthur's Court
The court of Louis XIV boasts a real marble floor which was once part of a soda-fountain counter. The stairway and balustrades in the rear look like marble, but they were carved from pine wood and painted to match the floor. Incidentally, he put 23 coats of paint on them!

Ingenuity is an essential part of Klassen's hobby. He uses inexpensive materials to reproduce luxurious decorations. He makes crystal chandeliers of cheap glass beads and candleholders from midget plastic pipes. The knights of King Arthur's Court wear armor devised from metal mesh used in ladies' handbags. Their helmets are plastic Easter eggs cut in half, painted silver and surmounted with decorations.

Each of the many turrets on the Temple of Miniatures has as its base a plastic drinking tumbler on top of which are a pepper shaker and a knob from a lamp shade. The uppermost piece is an inverted golf tee. The temple, made of carved wood, is given a stonelike appearance by a paint that is mixed with gravel.

Klassen estimates that he works on each scene about 700 hours, not including planning and research. He doesn't call it work, though, it's relaxation to him and right now he's intent on finishing scenes from early America featuring Mount Vernon and Monticello.

Klassen has turned his hotel room into a workshop. He uses a few small power tools, but most of his work is by hand.

Below, four separate items, left, form one of the many turrets that decorate the temple. Bottom, Louis XIV's salon.
Nonvibrating Chain Drive

Running almost as smoothly as a V-belt, a newly designed chain drive can transmit as much as 5000 horsepower at speeds up to 3600 revolutions a minute. The new design combines, for the first time, the ruggedness of a gear drive with the smoothness of a belt. Providing for tremendous increases in speeds with much narrower widths than conventional drives, the chain eliminates the need for costly shaft extensions. A six-inch chain does the work of a 24-inch belt. Basis of the design is a chain-and-sprocket-engagement principle that gets rid of the slapping common to previous chain drives. It also runs quieter and cooler than former designs.

Navy Scientist Invents Test to Spot Color Blindness

Color blindness has long baffled science, but today more information on the subject is becoming available. One of the newest devices to detect the many different types of color defects has been invented by Lt. Comdr. Dean Farnsworth of the Navy's Medical Research Lab at New London, Conn. On it a person who is extremely color deficient will match a gray spot on a transparent disk with a red, violet or green spot on a master diagram beneath. Others, not quite so deficient will say the gray doesn't quite match any spot, but is close to one of them. The device not only shows up color defects, but immediately indicates which colors an observer confuses.
Talking Doll

Make-believe mothers have a new playmate in a doll that talks when a button is pushed. The secret of the doll is a built-in record player operated by two standard flashlight batteries. The disk record is four inches in diameter and plays for about one minute. When the button is pushed the doll sings songs, laughs, recites nursery rhymes and says her prayers. The front of the record player can be removed when the batteries need replacing. Pushing the button automatically starts the record revolving and places the needle in the proper place at the beginning of the recording.

Flashlight Magnet Grip

You can aim your flashlight anywhere you want when it is held in position by a magnetic holder that grips an iron surface. A swivel joint enables you to swing the light in all directions. The magnet has a 27-pound grip, strong enough to hold on curved surfaces as well as flat ones. It is adjustable to fit any standard flashlight.

Inexpensive Underwater Movies

Underwater movie cameras—custom-made until recently—now are available for the amateur photographer. A new 16-mm. camera is driven by a small power pack of flashlight batteries. From 1000 to 2000 feet of film can be run through the camera before the power has been depleted. The camera has a cast-aluminum housing and weighs 3 3/4 pounds underwater.

DECEMBER 1951
To Di and Drich Bowler the stage was glamorous enough if they could eat regularly. But they traded one successful career for another and, heading west with a pottery "bug" and their ingenuity,

They said

GOOD-BY to BROADWAY

By Rafe Gibbs

Lungs protected by a respirator, Drich Bowler glazes a handmade plate. A 12-inch fan draws the excess material out of the air
IN NEW YORK CITY on January 1, 1951, there were over 50,000 persons seeking a livelihood in the theatrical profession, one way or another. By the end of this year, five percent will have decided that they just can't eat regularly enough. What then?

These artists who walk away from the bright lights face a difficult problem. Most are afraid to turn to some other creative art. But not two young Thespians named Di and Drich Bowler.

In 1946, chucking good Broadway stage parts, the Bowlers migrated west in a Jeep, seeking the simple, secure life—*with a form of art thrown in*. Although lacking both money and experience, they wound up establishing their own successful pottery business near Bliss, Idaho.

Drich, who had served with the Air Force in the South Pacific during World War II, had some GI-Bill education coming, so he and Di first enrolled in pottery making at the University of Idaho, doing odd jobs to help the budget. As a thesis project, Drich built a kiln. Now estimated to be worth about $1000, it cost only $70 to build. The secret—most of the parts were obtained from junk yards.

Came June of '47 and the Bowlers loaded their prized kiln in a trailer behind their Jeep along with Wanda, a goat they had acquired to cut down milk costs on their new venture. Their destination was Hagerman Valley in southern Idaho, noted for its lush, irrigated crops nudging parched sage. Through the valley winds the Snake River, and along its banks are buttery, red-clay deposits.

At a bend in the river the Bowlers picked their homesite, three cheap acres with a three-million-dollar view — sage-covered hills that blended into willows on the river. Around a picture window to frame that view, the Bowlers built their combined home and pottery workshop — with borrowed funds, sweat and ingenuity.

Construction block made of pumice from Idaho's Craters of the Moon was utilized
for the walls of the modern, flat-roofed home. Water-mellowed driftwood picked up from the banks of the Snake became beams and decorative pieces.

"Building plans were sometimes changed daily to make the driftwood fit," says Drich.

But the end product is both practical and beautiful.

Vital to pottery making are the right humidity and temperature. This called for more ingenuity, more improvising.

Handy to the Bowlers' place are some springs. Tapping these as a water supply, Drich rigged up a highly efficient air-conditioning unit. Utilized in it are a vegetable atomizer and an old furnace blower, driven by an equally old electric motor, to pull saturated spray through a baffle filter.

As the house took form, so did the props for pottery making. The kiln—and Wanda—had arrived safely, but more was needed.

Assembling such parts as the flywheel from an old Chevrolet and the bearings from two discarded engine blocks, Drich constructed a standard potter's wheel for about two dollars.

That project was easy. But also required was another wheel with variable speed for certain ware such as large bowls. Taking a transmission that had once powered a mobile-gun unit during the war, Drich soon had a second wheel he didn't have the money to buy.

In pottery making there are inevitable failures—ware that cracks in the first firing. If the imperfect ware is ground up, however, the materials can be used again.

Search for a grinder ended on a faded Indian trail. There the Bowlers found a stone mortar and pestle used by the red men for grinding corn.

"We had finished grinding out corn on the Broadway stage," says Di, "but decided the mortar and pestle would be just the thing for grinding up our pottery grog. It was, too—but slow."

That was also the comment of Jim Henry, a plumber and ex-miner, when he saw Drich one day squatted Indian fashion before the mortar, laboriously oscillating the pestle.

"Got something at home I think you can use," he said.

Next day Henry returned with a small ore-crushing mill. It was soon crushing 40 to 50 pounds of cracked pottery per hour.

That speed-up started Drich thinking about a quarter-century-old washing machine Di had acquired. With hesitation he broached an idea to his partner in pottery.

"We're taking too much time mixing our clay by hand," he said. "Why don't we use the washing machine?"

Di had washed clothes by hand in a Greenwich Village cold-water flat. Why not in Idaho? "Okay," she agreed.

With the washing machine the Bowlers found they could mix a week's supply of clay in two hours.

Since then, the profits have been coming
Ore crusher, once used by an assayer, now grinds up imperfect pottery. Material then can be used again in. You can find the Bowler's handmade Snake River pottery, bearing the seal of a Western rattler, in smart gift shops from Sun Valley to Manhattan. But they've worked hard for the applause.

There were times when money was so short that Di took to teaching school at near-by Gooding. Drich traded time in a neighbor's hayfield for carpentry help.

Their successful venture is the story of two artists who never let their creative urges die, who found what they had sought on Broadway beside an Idaho river.

Recently the Bowlers adopted a baby boy, a handsome, chubby masterpiece. Not long ago the lad became ill. Rushed to the doctor's office, he received a shot of penicillin. Di and Drich were worried, busy parents. Then in the evening the fever abated and the lad fell asleep. The clock said 11 p.m.

The Bowlers, though, wouldn't call it a night. They put on their smocks, began to turn the potter's wheels, to feel wet clay taking shape in their hands. The tired lines seemed to spin away with the movement of the wheels. The Bowlers were creating, and in their hands they held happiness.

Pond, formed by damming a spring to supply power, has a more important use—it's stacked with trout!
Tractor Light
Double protection against night accidents is provided for trailers by a taillight with an auxiliary light at the end of a 35-foot cable. The main mounting is permanent but the extension can be stretched out and clamped on pulled vehicles. Its cable is on a spring-driven reel to maintain constant tension and prevent tangling. The extension light becomes a floodlight when the red lens is swung aside.

Pigeon Preventive
Pigeons don't like a new puttylike chemical. It's a gelatin compound which prevents pigeons, starlings and other feathered pests from roosting on the ledges of buildings. The chemical is applied with a calking gun to favorite roosting spots. Ribbons of the compound are run along the surface two or three inches apart. One application lasts a year.

Nonswat Mosquitoes
Making ferocious mosquitoes from gourds is the unique hobby of Herbert Klein, a cafe owner of Conroe, Tex. Klein uses long, curved gourds for the bodies, cup gourds with pointed ends for the heads and beaks. Sheet plastic forms the wings, pipe cleaners the antenna and legs. Klein paints a grotesque face and striped body on the resulting monster. So appealing are the mosquitoes that tourists have left a backlog of orders—at $15 per insect.

Christmas-Tree Apron
Covering the floor beneath the Christmas tree to protect the carpet, a red plastic apron, five feet in diameter, also forms an attractive background for gifts. Resistant to fire and water, the circular apron is quickly cleaned with soap and water. Three snap fasteners hold it closed after it has been slipped around the tree.
Sparkling like a gem in a snowy setting, this ranch house says "Merry Christmas" to all who come within view.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

FROM THE GREEN HILLS of southern California to the snow-clad landscape of New England, Americans traditionally celebrate Christmas by adorning their homes, business establishments and public buildings with elaborate decorations. Your home, too, can spread the cheer of the holiday season, so join in the fun and "outshine" your neighbors on Christmas Eve. If the budget is strained, as it often is around Christmas, you'll be surprised at what can be done with only a few dollars and some odds and ends of hardboard, oilcloth and evergreen trimmings. Strings of colored lights and possibly a floodlamp or two are, of course, essential for after-dark lighting.

A wooden frame, a string of lights, some greens and a red bow form a striking wreath for the front door.
The little balcony is an ideal spot for setting up this oilcloth Santa, but there are many places on or near the house where he'll look just as effective.

Utilizing minimum tinsel decoration, this house is dramatized by colored floodlights hidden under the second-floor overhang and behind the evergreens.

In scene from a Christmas-poem series, cutout child figures “hang” stockings on a simulated fireplace displays but, in many cases, you will find that the cost of the lights is the only extra expense involved.

The three photos above picture a portion of a unique neighborhood project that depicts scenes from a famous children’s poem. After the residents had built the various scenes in their home workshops as part of the cooperative effort, the settings were assembled in their proper order, one in front of each house. With each scene illuminated by a weatherproof spotlight, the entire poem could be viewed in proper sequence by passing motorists. Sketches made for all the settings were followed closely when building the props. The figures are bandsawed from hardboard or waterproof plywood and “dressed” in cloth.
remnants or painted to simulate clothing. Brightly colored yarn is used to represent hair. Other parts of the scenes, such as the fireplace and bed, are also assembled from plywood or hardboard and painted to suit. Note that the line of the poem corresponding to each scene is lettered on a hardboard panel, which is mounted so the lettering can be seen clearly from the street. The entire sequence is dismantled after the holidays and stored for use the following year.

The elaborate display pictured below features the ever-popular reindeer in a brilliant Christmas setting which attracts parents and their youngsters from miles around. The reindeer is modeled from papier-mache or plaster of Paris mixed with tow or excelsior. This is applied to a form of screen wire or hardware cloth fitted over a wooden or metal frame. The completed figure is finished with white texture paint.

For outside decorations, be sure that your strings of colored lights are the type made especially for outdoor use, and that the floodlamps and spotlights are of the weatherproof type. If you do not have a standard outdoor receptacle, use a protected outlet on the porch or in the garage. If one is not available, you can run an extension cord from the house. Pass the cord...
thru a hole drilled in a board and fit the board directly under a lower window sash. If the window is not fitted with a burglar lock, it can be locked against the wooden insert with a stick wedged between the top of the sash and the window casing.

The following two pages detail several ways of making simple and effective Christmas decorations, but these are just a few of the hundreds of different ideas which can be employed. The upper right-hand detail on the next page shows how evergreen trimmings can be used to form a large wreath around a door or window. A horse-shoe-shaped wooden frame is built to the desired size and poultry wire or hardware cloth is stapled to the frame. A string of lights is fastened to the wire and sprigs of evergreen are inserted through the mesh so they completely conceal the wire but leave the lights exposed. The wreath is topped with a large oilcloth bow.

Another popular doorway treatment is attained by installing a large candle on either side of the door. The candles can be made in several ways depending on the type of lighting to be used. One of the simplest candles consists of two pine boards or lengths of hardboard mounted vertically, one in front of the other and separated by spacer blocks. A string of colored lights is fastened between the boards, and a floodlamp or spotlight is mounted on the upper
Lengths of ordinary downspout provide form for giant candy cane. Peppermint stripes are duplicated by wrapping spirally with strips of red and white oilcloth spacer block to cast its beam from the top of the candle. A flame can be simulated by clipping a spiral of wire to the floodlamp lens and covering the spiral with colored cellophane. Candles also can be improvised by covering a wooden frame or half of a cardboard rug-shipping tube with translucent plastic or oilcloth, using a spotlight at the base or a string of lights inside the tube.

The life-size Santa pictured on the following page, and also shown in full color on page 158, is supported by a wooden frame, with lengths of stiff wire being used to hold the arms in position. The jacket and trousers are made of red oilcloth. These are fitted over the frame and stuffed with old

One homeowner used his large picture window to display this cheery greeting. He painted the scene on the inside of the window with show-card colors.
Shadow picture of the Three Wise Men, above, is one of many silhouettes which are attractive when set on window sill or on the lawn. Colored lights are hidden between cutouts and light-colored background clothing or papers to fill them out. A Santa Claus mask and hat, gloves, belt and cotton trim complete the outfit.

Two varieties of lawn cutouts are detailed below. These are of hardboard or weatherproof plywood, held upright with a stake driven into the ground. The Santa cutout at the left is illuminated with a clear spotlight, the shadow cast by the cutout being tinted with a color-capped floodlamp concealed behind the figure. The angel cutout at the right is drilled to allow the lamp sockets to be inserted through the cutout from the rear thus outlining the figure with a number of white or colored lights.

Certain photos and information courtesy General Electric Co.
Gas-Cap Lock Kept From Freezing By Plastic Bowl Cover

When a lock-type gas cap is used on the filler tube found on older-model cars, water can be kept out of the lock by covering the cap with a plastic bowl cover and thus lessen the chance of freezing. A suitable size to fit snugly over the cap can be purchased at a dime store. Another stunt that will prevent the lock from freezing is to place a few drops of glycerin in it. J. Shields, Bloomington, Ill.

Car Touched-Up With Shoe Polish

One motorist temporarily refinishes worn and faded spots on his car with shoe polish. After washing the car, the polish is applied to the spots with a cloth and rubbed like wax. Then, regular wax is used over the entire body.

P. R. Wilson, Brooklyn, Ont., Can.

Curling Iron Used to Stuff Rag Doll

The difficulty of inserting cotton or other padding in the narrow parts of rag dolls can be overcome by using a curling iron. The tool is used like tongs to place the padding and, with the jaws closed, it also can be used for tamping.

Single-Door Clothes Closet Made Into Wardrobe Type

In order to make accessible the area on each side of the door to a small clothes closet, one homeowner widened the door opening, refurred it and hung two 24-in. doors, which close together and are held by friction catches. This permitted installing the clothes-hanger rod parallel with the length of the closet, and provided extra space on the inside surfaces of the doors for attaching shoe bags, a tie rack and a rack for holding purses. Note that a small chest of drawers utilizes space under one end of the hanger rod, on which clothes such as suits, shirts and blouses are hung. The full-length, overhead shelf is within easy reach.—Harold W. Wyatt, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Fish Lure Provides Key Holder

A plug-type fish lure, mounted on a plaque with wood screws and hung on the wall, makes an appropriate key holder for the angling enthusiast. The barbs and points of the hooks should be filed off and the entire unit finished with a coat of spar varnish.

George Kapitan, Bronx, N. Y.

Nicks and scratches in furniture and woodwork can be repaired by staining them to the proper tone and then covering them with two coats of clear shellac.
There are few toys that delight a little girl like a walk-in playhouse. This plywood cottage is a yard toy that will bring many hours of pleasure and it is small enough for indoor use in rainy weather or during the cold months.
COTTAGE

DESIGNED to be set up or taken down in just a few minutes, this quaint little play cottage collapses to form a compact unit that can be stored under a bed or in a closet. The sides, roof and trim are cut from three 4 x 8-ft. sheets of plywood, and a few lengths of solid stock are required for uprights, plates, cleats and ridge board. Although 3/8-in. plywood was used on the original house, 1/4-in. plywood or hardboard will serve the purpose. If the house is to remain outdoors during the summer months, be sure to use weatherproof (marine-type) plywood for the walls and roof. Note in the details how the corner uprights of the sidepieces are fitted with bolts which engage notches cut in the corner uprights of the end panels. Wing nuts lock the uprights together for quick assembly. The ridge board is notched to fit over the gables and drilled to receive dowels inserted near the upper edge of each roof panel. Valances and cleats form channels near ends of the roof panels. The channels engage the edges of the gables. Sills, lintels and doorway trim are glued and screwed directly to the plywood panels, but the window boxes are given the effect of depth by mounting them on 3/4-in.-sq. spacer blocks fastened to the plywood. If the house is intended primarily for outdoor use, it will be worth while to include a raised floor to keep the children off the damp ground. The floor can be made by screwing a sheet of plywood or hardboard to 1 x 2-in. joists set on edge. The joists should be spaced not more than 12 in. apart. To facilitate storage, make the floor in two parts, hinging them together if desired. Notch the corners of the floor to clear the uprights when the walls are set up around it. The floor can be painted with porch enamel or marine varnish, and made even more attractive by covering it with a remnant of linoleum. Paint the walls, roof and trim of the house in bright colors and, if you wish, hang plastic or oilcloth curtains at the windows. Although a door is not necessary, a simple one can be made by hinging a plywood panel to the doorway, fitting the panel with a knob-type drawer pull on each side.

DECEMBER 1951
Tube Unit Concentrates Breath When Blowing on Campfire

Finding a bellows too cumbersome to carry on hikes, but wanting a blower to aid him in starting campfires, one boy scout devised this handy “helper.” A length of rubber hose was fitted at one end with a short piece of ¼-in. copper tubing and at the other with a wooden mouthpiece as indicated in the detail. Note that in using the blower, the camper need not put his face near enough to the fire to be in danger of burns from flying sparks.

Russell B. Smith, Minneapolis, Minn.

Inexpensive Christmas Decorations

Decorating your home for the Christmas season need not be an expensive proposition if you utilize materials which, in most homes, are already at hand. For instance, to letter greetings on door and window panes, use a thick paste of flour and water. Sprinkle coarse salt over the lettering while still wet and the result will be an appropriate, frosty appearance. If desired, greatly magnified snowflakes can be taped to the panes around the lettering. These are provided in realistic designs simply by cutting out sections of intricately patterned paper doilies. On windows fitted with Venetian blinds, a novel effect will be attained by pasting or taping a large, seasonal picture to one side of the blind when the slats are closed, and cutting the picture in strips by drawing a razor blade along the edge of each slat. When the blind is open, the picture will not be visible, but a pull of the slat cord brings it suddenly into view. Fine cones always can be counted on to help supply a Yuletide atmosphere, and can be used in a number of ways. But first, brighten them up by brushing with rubber cement and then sprinkling liberally with metallic powders. Tie the cones to the Christmas tree with ribbons, use them in making wreaths, or fasten three or four of the cones together to form a holder for candles. And if you wish some giant-size candles, make them by placing regular candles vertically in tin cans and then filling the latter with melted paraffin. When the paraffin has hardened, cut the bottoms out of the cans to make the giant candles easy to remove. If you use milk cartons as molds, square candles can be made in the same way. Colorful, miniature Christmas trees are made by inserting long knitting needles through the centers of paper plates, and slipping tree-ornament balls over the needles. Place the largest balls at the bottoms of the needles and graduate them in size to the tops. Adorn the edges of the plates with crinkled foil paper or lace from a doily. The names of family members and guests, printed in befitting colors on the dinner dishes or glassware, will serve as a unique way to place the diners, and at the same time add to the spirit of festivity. Use red nail polish for the lettering, and trim it with clear nail polish tinted green by adding a crushed food-coloring tablet.

Bottle Warmer Used as Gluepot

An electric baby-bottle warmer makes an ideal gluepot that is especially useful for heating small quantities of glue. Often a warmer that has outlived its regular use can be utilized in this manner. The glue container is a tin can of a size to fit into the warmer.—Ken Murray, Colon, Mich.
WOOD and hammered metal are utilized in novel and attractive combination in these decorative candle trays. Although two designs are detailed, construction is essentially the same. In both designs, the base is scrollsawed from plywood or hardwood such as birch, and the outer edges are smoothed with fine sandpaper. The base is finished with shellac and wax. The metal trays and candleholders should be cut from colonial brass, which is a reddish-gold color. One tray is heart-shaped, the other round, and both have scalloped edges as indicated in the details below. After the trays have been hammered, buffed and lacquered they are attached to the wooden bases with brass escutcheon pins. On both designs, the candleholders are cut to the shape indicated on 1/2-in. squares and are attached to the trays with pins before bending, as indicated in the left-hand detail below. The candleholders also should be covered with a coat of clear metal lacquer to prevent tarnishing.
Homemade Clamp for Light Work

There is no trick to making a small bar clamp if you do it as indicated in the sketch. This one consists of a suitable length of steel rod threaded on both ends, two steel or aluminum jaws, a piece of tubing and a wing nut. The jaws can be any size required, one being drilled and tapped to take the rod and the other drilled to slide freely over the rod. Different lengths of tubing are used as spacers.

M. B. Birge, Hinsdale, Ill.

Staples Insulated With Rubber Pads

When insulated staples for electrical work are not at hand, try this trick. Use regular staples padded with small pieces of rubber cut from an inner tube.

Protecting Sportsmen's Equipment

Expensive sporting equipment, such as binoculars, telescopes, cameras and compasses, can be kept dry and free of dust on hunting or fishing trips with the aid of a plastic bag of the type used for storing food in refrigerators. Place the article in its case and then put the case in the bag. In this way, the case also will be protected from damage.—Richard Hanscom, Elmhurst, Ill.

Razor Blades Stored Safely When Embedded in Eraser

Hobbyists or craftsmen who use razor blades in their work can keep them from being dulled when stored in a tool kit or drawer by embedding them in an eraser. This also will make the blades easier to find when needed and will prevent cutting your fingers accidentally. Several blades can be kept in a large eraser.

Repairing Dented Car Molding

Slightly dented car molding often can be bumped out by using a lead die that is cast in the proper shape from an undamaged section of the molding. To make the die, first remove the molding and use fine sand to block off a section on the inside about 2 in. long, and fill it with molten lead. When the latter has hardened, place the dented area of the molding over a block of wood, slide the die inside the molding to contact the dents and then tap the die against the dents with a hammer. When the repairs have been finished, saw the die in half lengthwise so that it can be removed. A hacksaw blade can be used for this purpose.

D. B. Owens, Toledo, Ohio.
MINIATURE Christmas trees that add a novel touch to gay holiday decorations can be assembled from such common items as pipe cleaners, crepe paper, beads, etc. Typical trees suitable for table decoration are pictured and detailed above at the right. A spool wrapped with colored yarn forms the base and a length of \( \frac{1}{8} \) in. dowel serves as a tree trunk. On one of the trees shown a small bell is used as a base. Pipe cleaners are wired to the trunk to form branches, the outer ends of the cleaners being bent up or down, depending on the type of tree desired. By turning the ends up and forcing small colored beads over the upturned ends, a remarkably realistic simulation of candles is achieved. When the ends of the branches are turned down and curved inward they form hangers for bells or other miniature ornaments. After the branches are wired in position on the trunk, both the trunk and branches are wrapped with narrow strips of colored crepe paper. Colored balls or foil stars form effective top ornaments. Stars are wired to the top of the trunk and ball ornaments can be attached with a drop of liquid glue. Another type of tree, pictured above at the left, forms a secondary shade over a reading lamp. Make a tall cone of heavy colored paper, the open end of the cone being of the same diameter as the lamp shade. Cut round, diamond, or star-shaped holes in the cone and glue squares of colored tissue or cellophane paper over them to simulate tree ornaments. Decorate with a fringe and spiral wrapping of tinsel as shown. When the lamp is lighted the effect is attractively realistic. Utilizing the same idea, larger decorative trees can be made by gluing or tacking paper cones in graduated sizes to a length of dowel or a broomstick. The cones should overlap, the largest one being placed at the bottom.
TUBULAR FURNITURE such as a choise lounge or glider used the year round on a sun porch, will not mar a painted floor if the U-shaped legs are padded with a length of garden hose. One wall of the hose is slit lengthwise with a sharp knife and then spread apart to fit over the tubing. The natural curl of the hose provides a self-gripping action as the inside diameter of the hose usually is less than the outside diameter of the tubing. Rubber crutch tips are ideal for capping the open ends of legs that are not U-shaped.

Solving HOME PROBLEMS

LAUNDERED RIBBON does not have to be ironed if it is dried by wrapping spirally around a glass fruit jar. When the ribbon has dried, it will fall from the jar and will be as smooth as though newly ironed.

WALLPAPER-PASTING TABLE improvised from flush-type door is handy for an occasional small job. Just remove the door from its hinges and support it at a convenient height on the padded backs of two kitchen chairs. To protect the door from cuts and eliminate the need for cleaning off paste smears, cover the door with sheets of cardboard. Fasten the cardboard to the door with pieces of masking tape. If a flush door is not available, a panel door may be used by building up the panel recesses with layers of cardboard.
CANDLE WAX CLAMPS broken pieces of pottery together while mending cement dries. After cementing the pieces, drop wax from a lighted candle at intervals over crack. When cement dries, remove wax.

MILK CAN BE POURED from a carton easily and without waste if the opening is shaped to a pouring lip with a teaspoon. Insert the teaspoon in the opening, as above, and press lower edge of the opening outward.

DRYING OF GARMENTS on indoor clothesline can be speeded by using a double line spaced with thread spools. Use enough spools to locate them about 2 ft. apart and weave line in alternate directions through spools. Drape clothes over the double line.

THUMBTACK TAPED TO BOTTLE provides convenient holder for the cork. Press tack through adhesive side of tape and stick tape to bottle. Then impale cork on projecting point of tack. This is especially handy when using polish or cleaning solutions.

TODDLERS’ SHOES are easy to lace when the tips have broken off the laces if the latter are threaded through the holes with a bobby pin. Spread the pin to place it over the lace and pass the pin through the holes as you would a needle and thread.
Harrow Disk Anchors Standard For Rural Mailbox

If the standard that supports a roadside mailbox must be set in soft ground, it can be braced by using an old harrow disk as shown. Just place the disk a few inches underground and then drive the standard through the hole in the disk and into the ground.—G. E. Hendrickson, Argyle, Wis.

Powder Puff on Drawing Board Cleans Artists’ Equipment

A powder puff makes an ideal pen wiper for artists or draftsmen. Thumbed to a drawing board, it also will serve as a handy cleaner for the edges of angles and T-squares.

“Ounce” of Fire Prevention Regarding Christmas Tree

Highly inflammable and difficult to extinguish once they have been ignited, gaily decorated Christmas trees can be turned into blazing bonfires by a tiny spark from an electric cord. Following are a few tips on how to minimize such danger: The drier the tree, the more inflammable, so select one that has been cut late in the season. To keep it from drying out rapidly, saw about an inch off the lower end of the trunk, cut a number of notches in the bark and, after putting the tree in its stand, submerge the latter in a pail or small tub of water. If desired, a pail of wet sand can be used instead, in which case, water should be added frequently. Another precaution to take against fire is that of inspecting the cords and sockets of the tree lights for loose connections or frayed insulation. Also, check to see that a sufficient number of the proper-size electrical fuses are on hand. When decorating the tree, instead of covering the pail and the area under the tree with cotton or a white sheet, as is sometimes done, use metal foil of the type sold for wrapping vegetables. This can be purchased in rolls at a grocery store and attractively crinkled. The foil will not burn if a spark should fall on it. If cheesecloth is used for decorations or for costumes, it can be made fire resistant by dipping it in a solution of water, 1 gal., borax, 9 oz., and boric acid, 4 oz. Dry the material, but do not iron it.

Bess Ritter, New York City.

“Ringed” Pencil Easily Stored

Instead of tying a string loop to a pencil to hang it in the shop or on the kitchen wall, put a ring in the eraser, which makes it easier to hang. A ring can be made of wire, the ends sharpened and then forced into the eraser with pliers.—Benj. Nielsen, Aurora, Neb.

Transferring Typewritten Copy From Paper to Book Cover

Typewritten material can be transferred from a sheet of paper to book covers, or other surfaces that cannot be placed in a typewriter, by the following method: Place the coated side of a sheet of carbon paper against the back of a white sheet of paper, insert both in the typewriter and type the wording desired. With the papers placed back to back in this manner, the typed characters will appear in reverse on the back of the white paper. To transfer the typing, simply place the paper face down on the magazine and rub over the wording briskly with a knife blade. The transferred lettering may be protected from smudging by covering it with transparent cement or fixative.

Walter E. Burton, Akron, Ohio.

Driving a brad into the edge of a cigar-box lid provides a convenient handle to open the box when it is used for storing small parts.
Artificial Plants
By A. E. Fenn

Bare corners and walls of your home, as well as dark niches and mantels where nothing seems to fit in, often can be brought to life with “boxed” artificial plants. Plain arches, windows and similar places, too, can be improved in appearance with simulated “potted” plants. It is possible to make beautiful arrangements so realistic that it is difficult to tell the plants from live ones. Material for making plants of many types is available at little cost. Those pictured in the photo were made by using small-size philodendron leaves in the foreground and large leaves of the same type in the background. Other combinations can be used effectively; such as, philodendron leaves with mother-in-law tongues, apple leaves with sumac leaves, Chinese evergreen with spotted chestnut leaves, or hydrangea with phlox leaves. The leaves, which are of cloth or paper, are bound to lengths of wire with green-colored tape. After the end of the wire is taped, as in detail A, the tape is brought back to the tip of the wire to catch the stem of the first leaf, as in B. Then the tape is wrapped spirally down the wire to engage the stems of the following leaves. The leaves are curved with the fingers and the wire is shaped to suit. To hold the leaf sprays in the box or planter, use a frog made by tightly rolling strips of corrugation cut from a cardboard box.

Paraffin Has Many Uses That Will Help Lighten the Homemaker’s Tasks

A cake or two of paraffin, kept handy in an old teapot or other pouring vessel, will be found helpful in many ways in the home. For example, to make an inexpensive wax for hardwood floors, mix melted paraffin, 1 part, with turpentine, 2 parts. Melt the wax by placing it and its container in a pot of water and then heating the water. Caution: It is a fire hazard to melt paraffin by applying direct heat. A furniture cleaner that is especially effective for removing water marks can be made by mixing a small amount of paraffin with olive oil. The job of scrubbing tile or linoleum floors can be made easier, and the floors will come out brighter, if a half cup of paraffin is added to the scrub water. However, the water must be hot enough to keep the paraffin melted. When mixed in equal proportions with vinegar, paraffin can be applied to gilt and silver trimmings to keep them from tarnishing. To prevent snow from sticking to a snow shovel or dust to a dustpan, just rub a little paraffin on them. Your pot of paraffin also will assist you when it is necessary to perform some handyman’s task, such as driving a nail or screw for hanging a picture. Coat the nail or screw with paraffin and it will be less likely to split wood or crumble plaster. If a furniture caster becomes so loose that it won’t stay in its socket, pour hot paraffin in the socket, insert the caster and, after the paraffin hardens, there will be no further trouble.
A SIMPLE dumb-waiter is "hard to beat" for moving items between floors in the home, especially in a home where food, laundry, packaged goods, etc., must be carried to the second floor. It also will make quick work of taking heavy baskets of laundry to and from the basement, and getting things into the attic for storage becomes a pleasure. The simplest and most inexpensive type consists of a cab, or carriage, which is raised and lowered in a shaft by means of a rope running over a large rope sheave. Such a unit usually is equipped with a manually operated brake so that the cab can be stopped at any floor and held in this position until the brake is released. It is suitable for light loads and is practical for as many as three floors. Similar types are used in restaurants and often in stores for elevating food or goods from the basement. Usually, the upper delivery door is installed under a counter. These units also are operated by hand, but with the elevating crank, traction sheave and brake located in the basement rather than at the top of the shaft as is common practice in other types of installations.

More elaborate types of waiters serving two or more floors are driven electrically by means of a reversing motor. "Send" and "call" switches on each floor operate through a system of relays and limit switches in such a manner that the cab can be sent up or down from any floor. All mechanical and electrical parts necessary in the construction of any type can be purchased from dealers handling elevator equipment.

Two types of hand-operated brakes are detailed below. One is cam-operated, the other is locked and released by means of an over-center lever. In the cam-type brake, the linings are riveted to shoes which pivot from the same point. When the cam is in the released position, the shoes are forced away from the brake drum as shown in the detail, permitting the drum and traction sheave to turn freely. When the cam-actuating lever is moved to the "on" position, as shown by the dotted lines, the brake shoes are forced together by springs, causing the linings to grip the drum tightly until the brake is released manually. In the over-center type of hand brake the lining forms the shoe and is continuous, one end being fixed while the other is attached to the over-center lever. When the brake is in the on position, the shoe contacts the brake drum over approximately one half of its circumference.
The principal advantage of this type of hand brake is its positive toggle action in releasing and tightening the brake shoe without drag or chatter. This is due to the action of the tension spring which snaps the over-center lever to the release, or on, position when the control rope is pulled lightly. The electric, or solenoid, brake is used in the electric-drive installations and, as will be noted in the detail on the opposite page, it is placed between the motor and the worm gear, the drum being on the worm shaft. Operation is similar to the cam-type hand brake, except that the cam is replaced by a solenoid. Each shoe is pivoted individually and when the solenoid is energized the braking action is similar to that of the hydraulic auto-type brake, the solenoid acting to force the arms of the brake shoes apart and bring the linings in contact with the drum. In all types of brakes, the drum should be keyed to the shaft. Do not rely on a pin or setscrew. It should be kept in mind that, in most states, laws governing the operation of elevators and dumb-waiters require suitable brakes on all types of installations. Also, the speed of the cab in feet per minute is usually specified by law.

In the details blueprinted on the following pages no dimensions are given for the various types of installations. The specifications are only general, as each installation offers an individual problem. However, some variations should be noted. In the traction-type system, where the cable is hand-operated or electrically driven, a counterweight is used. But, in the electrically driven winch type for under-counter installation, the counterweight is not required when the cable is wound on a spirally grooved drum. However, when two or more floors are served by the electrically driven waiter, the driving mechanism is installed at the top of the shaft and a traction sheave and counterweight are used in place of the winch. Note that in all types generally it is necessary to install deflecting sheaves in order to bring the lifting cable into the center of the shaft. In the hand-operated, or hand-pull, type serving two or more floors, the pull rope is made continuous by a special swiveling splice and runs through brass guides on both the up and down sides. The traction sheave must be located so that the pull rope clears the cab. Wiring diagrams for two and three-floor installations are given on the blueprint. Note that hatchway-type limit switches are used to stop the cab at the extremes of travel and at any floor between. Although only one set is shown in the diagram, three push-button switches on each floor of the three-landing installation allow the cab to be sent as well as called to any floor.
Hand Grinder Supported By Floodlight Clamp

Where a mounting stand is not available to hold a small hand grinder stationary, try a clamp from a photo floodlamp. It permits adjusting the grinder to nearly any angle desired, and also makes it possible to mount the grinder almost any place.

Henry Hanscom, Elmhurst, Ill.

Safety "Key" Prevents Picking Lock

Even though the key to a certain type of lock is left in the keyhole, some burglars are able to remove the key and open the lock with special tools. However, one homeowner prevents this possibility with a special guarding device, which is made as detailed from a piece of thin metal. In use, the device is inserted in the keyhole and force-fitted by turning it.


Tip for Masonry Repair

When repairing crumbled sections of a masonry wall, remove all loose pieces and clean the area with a wire brush. Then, use a cold chisel to roughen the surface of the area to be repaired so that fresh mortar will adhere to it.

Keeping Bed Slats From Falling

If you have had the experience of bed slats slipping off the rails and causing the mattress and springs to fall to the floor, you will want to try this idea. Just drive a screw eye into each rail in position to take a door hook driven near each end of the center slat as shown.

Rexford F. Mortimer, Altus, Okla.

Speed of Windshield Wiper Controlled With Rheostat

The speed of a car windshield wiper that is electrically driven can be controlled by connecting a rheostat in series with the wiper motor. The type of rheostat used on a car heater is ideal for this purpose and can be obtained at any auto-supply store. In some cases, it may be more convenient to remove the windshield-wiper switch and replace it with the rheostat.

M. H. Hadley, San Jose, Calif.

Toothbrush on Polish Applicator Cleans Perforations in Shoe

Finding the bristles of his shoe-polish applicator too flexible to reach into the perforations and around pinked edges on shoes, one man utilizes an old toothbrush for this purpose. For convenience, the bristle end of the brush was cut off and screwed to the back of the applicator, where it can be used either for cleaning the shoes or to remove deposits of polish.
LIKE ALL DEEP, narrow closets having a clothespole stretched across the back, ours held comparatively few clothes and forced us to wade through a pile of suitcases, shoes and boxes. Moving the pole to the front of the closet was little help, as then we had to work our way through the clothes to reach the things stored in the back of the closet. We finally solved the problem to our complete satisfaction by installing a retractable clothespole along one side as in the lower photograph. Two L-shaped shelves were built at the top of the closet, the lower shelf supporting the clothespole. As a board wide enough to provide clearance for the clothes was not available, we used plywood for the lower shelf. The outer corner of this shelf is hung from the door casing with a length of flat steel, as in the details below. In addition to the top shelves, we installed a shoe shelf directly under the clothes. This is simply a board nailed to the top edge of the baseboard and supported at the front with a flat-steel angle brace screwed to the door casing. With the clothes now hanging on only one side of the closet, we had easy access to the rear, and as the clothes now could be pulled out of the closet for selection, we decided to include drawer space at the rear of the closet. This was done inexpensively by setting up a tier of used filing cabinets, which were painted and lined with wallpaper.
Guard for Garden-Hose Nozzle Provided by Handle-Bar Grip

To pad the nozzle of a garden hose so that it will not scratch the finish of a car, cut the closed end from a bicycle handle-bar grip and slip the latter over the nozzle as shown. This will not interfere with adjusting the water stream or removing and replacing the nozzle. Place the grip so that it extends not more than 1/4 in. beyond the nozzle.

Coloring Copper and Brass

Interesting effects sometimes can be achieved when working with copper or brass by changing the natural color of the metal. For instance, to obtain a brown finish on copper, dissolve a piece of potassium sulphide about the size of a walnut in 1/2 gal. of water. Then add 1 oz. of caustic soda. Clean the copper thoroughly and immerse in the solution for a few seconds, or until it turns brown. Remove and wash in cold water, then dry and burnish the high lights with a piece of fine emery paper, finishing with a coat of clear lacquer. Brass can be given a permanent brown finish with copper nitrate. The latter can be obtained by dissolving scraps of copper in nitric acid. Keep adding the scraps until the acid stops boiling. Caution: Wear rubber gloves and a rubber apron when handling either nitric acid or copper nitrate.

Using a swab of cotton on the end of a stick, coat the surface of the brass. Heat with a blowtorch until the metal becomes first green, and then brown. Dust off the slag and, if not evenly colored, repeat the operation. Burnish the high lights with fine emery paper, coat with ordinary floor wax, and polish. A gun-metal black can be obtained by giving the metal three such treatments and waxing and polishing without burnishing. A mottled-green finish on either copper or brass involves coating the metal very lightly with copper nitrate and allowing it to dry for a few days in a warm place. A coat of lacquer will tone down this finish and time will add to its beauty as the colors intensify with age. To obtain the green patina often desired on copper roof trimmings and outdoor hardware, coat the metal with copper nitrate and allow to dry. If this is done during hot weather, a finish that would require years for nature to effect can be produced artificially in a few days. An antique finish on brass can be had simply by heating the metal with a blowtorch. When the surface turns dark, let it cool, and then wax and polish. Various degrees of heat applied to copper will turn it golden yellow, red or even various light shades of brown. Use gentle heat on copper—not a blowtorch. Antique finishes on heat-treated copper can be had by burnishing, waxing and polishing. To produce permanent black or colored lines on copper, first obtain the desired color or colors by heat-treating the surface of the metal. After it has cooled, paint in the lines with asphaltum varnish. When the varnish has dried, remove the background color with clear nitric acid, and then wash with cold water. Remove the varnish with lacquer thinner to disclose the colored lines, buff the background, wax and polish.

Dick Hutchinson, El Monte, Calif.

Countersunk Nut Tightened With Two Pairs of Pliers

When you have to turn a countersunk nut and haven’t a socket wrench at hand, try this kink. Grip the nut with a pair of thin-nose pliers, then grip and turn the latter with a second pair of pliers, placing them as close to the nut as possible.

Louis Hochman, Sherman Oaks, Calif.
"SCROLLED KITCHEN SHELF"

By R. J. De Cristoforo

USUALLY a small hanging shelf is the answer to the decorative problem posed by a bare wall in the kitchen. Although pictured above as a china and knickknack shelf, this one, with its scrolled cornice, also serves equally well as a storage space for spices and condiments. The back is cut from \( \frac{3}{4} \)-in. plywood and all other parts are of \( \frac{1}{8} \) and \( \frac{1}{4} \)-in. plywood as indicated. Note especially the method of fitting the scrolled parts A, B and C. Part C is notched to fit inside the open end of the shelf while part B is an overlay. After sanding, join all parts with glue and brads and finish in the natural color of the wood with shellac, or in color with two coats of enamel.

Quick Way to Count Typewritten Characters When Taking Speed Test

Typists who make a practice of giving themselves speed tests will appreciate this simple system for quickly counting the number of characters in the test copy. Before starting the test, set the left and right-hand margin indicators exactly 75 spaces apart. For example, set the left-hand indicator at 15 and the right-hand one at 90. Select the test copy from a book or magazine and time yourself while typing it. Then simply count the number of lines typed and multiply the total by 75 to get the number of characters typed. The number of characters typed per minute is found by dividing the total character count by the number of minutes.
A "NEW" BUGGY FOR SISTER

By Louisa and Walter Burton

With a few repairs and a new paint job, Mary's old doll buggy will make a thrilling Christmas gift for little sister—or it will form an appreciated donation to some worthy group that is gathering used toys for the local orphanage. You probably will find that although the buggy looks battered it does not require much in the way of actual repairs and, possibly, little more than a cleaning and painting. First, completely disassemble the buggy, placing the small parts in a jar or box so they won't be mislaid. Clean and repaint the frame, but if one of the steel members has been broken, solder the break or have it welded beforehand. The photos below describe a procedure that is typical for rejuvenating most buggies. If a new lining is needed, corduroy remnants will be found excellent for the purpose.

Apply rust remover to metal parts and rub with steel wool, as above. When clean, rinse parts in rust remover and wipe dry. Old paint is scraped or sanded from the frame, below, or removed with solvent. Broken underframe is repaired by soldering or welding.

Original lining is removed and either laundered or replaced with new material. Gimp tacks are pulled with pliers, as above. Lining of body can be glued to fitted cardboard panels, and hood lining is tacked in place or held with nonstaining glue, as below.
Hood and body of woven fiber are scrubbed thoroughly with soap and water, as above. Rinse off soap and, while fiber is still wet, remove any dents. After fiber dries, paint it the desired color by coating with well-thinned auto lacquer or model-airplane dope.

Cleaned metal parts are repainted with lacquer or enamel. Aluminum paint will simulate original finish, as above. Wheels also are cleaned thoroughly, and spokes and hub caps are painted to suit. Rubber tires can be made to look like new with auto-tire coating.
Water Level in Car Radiator Checked With Dip Stick

The level of liquid in a car radiator can be checked quickly, especially in dim light, with a simple dip stick carried in some convenient place under the hood. A strip of wood or composition board will do. A hole drilled near one end and a length of cord will permit the stick to be hung on a projecting bolt in the car when not in use. On many cars, the stick will ride safely if simply laid on the cowl beneath the rear part of the hood.

Handle on Knob to Open Door When Hands Are Full

An extending rod fitted to the knob of a garage or basement door makes it easy to open the door with your knee or elbow when carrying bulky objects or when your hands are covered with grease or paint. To install the rod, close the door and scribe a line across the knob at a right angle to the doorframe. Then remove the knob and drill a hole in one side to take the rod, and an undersize hole on the other into which threads on one end of the rod can be turned. Another way is to drill only one hole, fill the knob with a fairly thin mixture of plaster and then set the rod in the plaster, after first bending it slightly at the end to help anchor it in the plaster.

No-Draft Ventilating System Improves Car Heater

Especially useful on cars having the type of heaters that take air in from the outside, a ventilating system can be provided with about 15 ft. of defroster hose and eight ports similar to those used on some model Buicks.

Four lengths of hose are attached to holes cut in the shelf behind the rear seat of the car and extend to holes in the fenders. All openings are trimmed with the ports.—Eugene R. Lemieux, Middle Village, L.I., N.Y.

Correcting Windows That "Stick"

Windows that are difficult to open and close after they have been painted can be corrected by the following method: First, smooth the inside surfaces of the stops with fine sandpaper and wipe off all dust. Then, rub the stops with floor wax. Slide the windows up and down several times and apply a second coat of wax.

Charles L. Funnell, Yonkers, N. Y.

[Tied to the string on a child's pull toy, a rubber ring from a fruit jar makes a handle that can be easily grasped.]
DINNERWARE IN WOOD

By Otha C. Spencer

To combine real luxury with easy informality, there's nothing quite like a complete service of wooden dinnerware, done in mahogany or other good turning wood of your choice. Whether gleaming in the candlelight beside your best crystal or waiting for the "hot dogs" at a back-yard picnic, these versatile dishes are right at home. The cost of the wood comes to a small fraction of the price of a complete set of similar tableware. The photo above pictures two place settings, including optional coasters for the tumblers, sugar-and-cream service, salt-and-pepper shakers and large salad bowl. The 14-in. serving plate is not shown, but it is made in the same pattern as the smaller plates.

The plates and bowls are simple faceplate turnings. The same pattern is used for plates of different sizes, only the diameters being varied as indicated in the detail. The small salad bowls also follow the same contours as the large one. A mahogany turning block, ¾ in. thick for the plates and 2 or 3 in. thick for the bowls, is sawed to a diameter about ¾ in. greater than that of the finished piece. The blank is centered on the faceplate and the underside of the plate or bowl is turned. Then the work is reversed on the faceplate, and the top surface is turned, ¼-in. faceplate screws being used so they will not penetrate the thin bottom of the piece. Blind holes formed by the screws on the undersides of the pieces are filled before finishing. Because of their

Contours of bowl turnings are checked with cardboard template as above. Photo below shows hole drilled in exact center of turning squares for salt-and-pepper shakers. Headstock plug fits tightly in hole.
location, the holes are unnoticeable when the service is in use. However, if you wish to eliminate the need for filling screw holes, glue the work temporarily to a block of scrap stock with paper sandwiched between the pieces, and screw the scrap to the faceplate. The large salad bowl is provided with a fork-and-spoon set which is made according to the squared pattern.

The tray for the sugar-and-cream service is made from a rectangular block of ¾-in. mahogany. The inside of the tray is dished out with a round-nosed chisel, the chisel being worked from each end of the tray toward the center to prevent splitting the wood. Note in the details of the cream pitcher that a wide flange is turned on the upper portion of the work. After both the inside and outside contours of the pitcher have been turned to shape, waste stock is jigsawed from the flange, leaving only the blanks for the spout and handle. These are finished by hand with a wood rasp, pocket-knife and sandpaper. The sugar bowl is turned in the same way as the salad bowls. The lid is a separate turning and is completed without reversing the work in the lathe, the top of the lid being turned to the same diameter as the length of the handle before cutting off the stock. After the turning has been cut off, the handle is cut to its rectangular shape with a coping saw.

The salt-and-pepper shakers are tapered turnings, drilled out from the bottom and plugged with a cork. The holes at the top of each shaker are made with a hand drill after the turning has been completed, and a thin score line around the shaker simulates a cap. Turning the shakers is simplified by drilling them first and fitting them with a wooden plug to facilitate mounting between centers. In the exact center of the turning square, a ¾-in. hole is drilled deep enough to allow for any waste at the bottom of the turning and still leave a hole 2 ½ in. deep in the shaker itself. This hole is fitted with a flanged plug turned from scrap lumber, as in the detail, the plug being sufficiently tight to keep the work from slipping. After one turning has been made, the plug is used again for the other shaker.

The pieces are finished by staining, sealing with a thin "wash" of shellac, filling and waxing or varnishing. Applying two coats of varnish that is both alcohol and heat-resistant results in a finish that will remain beautiful for years. The pieces are especially attractive when stained with a two-tone effect. This is done by staining the inside surfaces light mahogany and the outside portions dark.
Salad Bowls

Serving Plates

Salt-and-Pepper Shakers

Fork and Spoon

DECEMBER 1951
Preventing Breakage of Small Drills

The tendency for small drills to break or bend when used in a drill press can be reduced by altering the chuck of the press so that drills can be gripped as close to the cutting end as possible. This is done simply by drilling a \( \frac{3}{16} \)-in. hole vertically in the spindle deep enough to take the longest drill used on the machines.

W. Shields, Bloomington, Ill.

Testing Campfire Wood

When selecting fuel for a campfire or fireplace, remember that hardwood will produce the most satisfactory fire. It is, of course, more difficult to ignite than softwood, but once ignited it produces a hot, slow-burning fire. If you are unfamiliar with the types of woods, a simple test for fuel purposes is to press your fingernail into it where the bark is off. If the surface of the wood dents easily under pressure of your nail, it is softwood.

Warren G. Moore, Hyattsville, Md.

Auto Skid Chains Kept Tight With Rubber Strips

The skid chains on your car should be kept tightly on the wheels to avoid possible damage to the tires, or to prevent the annoyance of having the cross chains strike the undersides of the fenders. Tighteners can be made at no cost by using wide strips of rubber cut from an inner tube and attaching cross chain hooks at the ends of the strips. The hooks can be attached by folding the ends of the strips through them and wrapping rubber bands or fine wire tightly around the folded portion as shown.

C. V. Mobberly, Graysville, Ohio.
RAFTING with short pieces of metal tubing is an interesting and economical hobby as it lends itself to innumerable projects and utilizes the short lengths of stock that usually are discarded as waste.

After you have tried some of the suggestions given, many other uses in projects are sure to come to mind. Suitable scraps of tubing are to be found in most home workshops. Sizes begin at less than $\frac{1}{4}$-in. outside diameter, and the different metals, copper, brass, and aluminum, vary in hardness so that it is easy to select the right one for your particular project. A hacksaw will do for cutting, if you use a fine-tooth blade and are careful.

The photo above pictures attractive pieces of costume jewelry made from $\frac{1}{4}$-in. sections of 1-in. outside-diameter aluminum and copper tubing. Napkin rings, shown in the center photo, are easily made from large-diameter tubing. Those pictured were cut from 2-in. aluminum, which was flattened on one side to form a base. There are, of course, many shapes in which the material can be cut for the rings. The details on page 191 show several ways of doing this. The rings are polished or peened and the inner surfaces are brightened with emery cloth or steel wool after forming.

The toolholder shown in the lower photo at the right is used for storing extension bits and lengths of drill rod, the sections which form the holders being soldered.
together and then bolted to a wooden back. This type of holder can be adapted to screwdrivers, chisels and similar tools simply by changing the spacing between the individual tubing sections.

Tubing forms a ready-made candle socket, and candleholders of various types are designed quickly by starting with a tube section of the desired diameter. The section can be used by flaring the top and bottom ends slightly. This is done by hammering the ends over the rounded end of a metal bar. A base may be added by soldering the section to a piece of sheet metal cut to the desired geometrical shape. The base can be dished, peened or merely left flat and buffed to a high polish.

As shown in the detail directly below, tubing sections provide decorative ferrules for knobs and pulls of various designs. Wood, plastic or metal can be used for the pull itself. The only requirement for attaching the sections is to turn a shoulder on the pull to provide a press fit for them.

Metal-rimmed wooden wheels for homemade toys are shown at the bottom of the page. The tubing sections are cut to size and press-fitted on disks turned to the inside diameter of the tubing. Another way to make the wheels is to press a length of tubing over a wooden dowel or mandrel. Mount the dowel between centers in the lathe and use a parting tool to cut through the metal and partially through the dowel. The wheels are cut apart with a hacksaw after removing the work from the lathe, the narrow hacksaw cut leaving a slight
boss on each wheel to simulate a hub. Finally, the wheels are center-drilled for mounting on the axles.

The wheel rims can be cleaned and polished by locking the wheels together with a bolt and nut, and then holding the rims against a wire brush or buffing wheel. Unmounted sections of tubing can be polished in the same way by slipping them over a rod or dowel. When wire-brushing, use just enough pressure to clean the metal, as pressing too firmly against the brush will result in scratches on the surface.

Broken or loose tool ferrules may be replaced with sections of tubing, as in the photo at the right. Select tubing of a diameter slightly less than the original ferrule and drive the section over the handle tenon with a mallet. If you wish the ferrules to add a decorative touch, hammer the metal or polish it to a high luster.

Kitchen Tongs Clamp Pistons in Cylinder While Repairing Brakes

When relining brakes on a car or when making other repairs that require removal of the brake shoes, you can avoid the necessity of bleeding the wheel cylinders by using this simple tool to hold the pistons in place. The tool is made from a pair of tongs of the type used in kitchens. First, cut the jaws off the tongs, bend the remaining ends inward and then attach a short coil spring between the handles to apply a gripping force. In use, the tongs are placed over the cylinder, as illustrated, so that the ends will hold the pistons in place while the brake shoes are removed.


Paint will wash off your hands easily if you rub them with lard before painting.
Washer Aids Operating Locknuts On Drill-Press Depth-Gauge Rod

Placed between the locknuts on the depth-gauge rod of a drill press, a washer will make it easier to tighten the upper nut against the lower one without disturbing the setting. A regular washer can be used for the purpose by enlarging the hole in it with a drill or a round file.

Preventing Removal of Shoelaces

If your child has acquired the habit of pulling the laces from his shoes, try this kink. Just clip a fishing-line sinker of the split-shot type near the ends of the laces. The sinkers should be slightly larger than the eyelets of the shoes. They can be obtained at any sporting-goods store.

Thawing Car-Door Lock

A frozen door lock on your car that cannot be thawed by the usual methods can be thawed with a piece of small copper tubing about 12 in. long. Heat one end of the tube and then immediately hold it against the lock and blow through the other end. The air being blown into the lock will be heated and will quickly thaw it.

Wallpaper Held While Trimming By Coat Hanger Hooked to Table

To keep wallpaper from rolling up when laid out on a paste table, use this holder made from a wire coat hanger. Just bend it to fit over the roll and then hook it to the end of the table.

Materials for Emergency Repairs Obtained in Medicine Cabinet

When a search through your tool kit fails to provide certain materials or small tools needed to make an emergency repair, satisfactory substitutes for them often can be found in the home medicine cabinet. For instance, adhesive tape is suitable for use in many places that ordinarily call for masking or friction tape. Petroleum jelly is ideal as a lubricating grease, and dental floss is sometimes better for a sewing job than thread. Fingernail polish, whether clear or colored, will serve the purpose where a small quantity of lacquer is vital. Maybe a pair of cuticle scissors, a nail file, or an emery board will provide just the right small tool for some odd job. A medicine dropper will usually "stand in" for a missing oilcan. A worn toothbrush can be used as an applicator, a cleaning tool or even for spatter painting.

Nonslip Clamp Grips Small Parts

Modelmakers or other hobbyists who have need of a clamp that will hold small parts without "creeping" will find this one ideal. Easily assembled from odds and ends, as detailed, the clamp can be closed on the work by hand and then tightened, thus permitting positive placement and avoiding all possibility of slippage.

Ralph Lambert, Los Angeles, Calif.
CHRISTMAS-TREE STAND

By Benj. Nielsen

If you are one of the parents who struggle every year with an unsafe, make-shift tree stand, use this self-gripping one and eliminate your troubles. It consists of two parts bandsawed from hardwood, which fit together at right angles and provide both a gripping and wedging action on the tree trunk. After the openings are bandsawed as detailed, the parts are notched in the manner indicated to form a half-lapped joint at the bottom edges. Saw cuts, run each way from the bandsawed openings, are stopped about 3 in. from the ends. Stop screws, turned into counterbored holes, keep the wood from splitting when the stand is opened to admit the tree trunk.

How to Prevent Rotting of Timbers Exposed in Crawl Space Under House

Rotting of sills and joists in houses having crawl spaces under the floors sometimes is caused by moisture from the soil condensing on them. To determine whether or not sufficient moisture is present to cause such damage, enter the crawl space in the early winter and inspect the sills, joists and other exposed wood surfaces. If, on each of several inspections, the wood is found to be moist or even damp, the condition should be corrected immediately. This can be done either by covering the soil under the floor or by providing more thorough ventilation of the crawl space. The material recommended for use as a soil covering by the U.S. Department of Agriculture is asphalt roofing (not paper), which should be approximately 55 lbs. per roll of 108 sq. ft. All that is necessary to cover the soil properly is to lay the roofing with the edges lapping about 2 in. No staking, cementing or other fastening is needed and the soil need be only moderately leveled before the roofing is laid. Thus, the cost of making the improvement can be kept at a minimum. If conditions are more suited to ventilating the crawl space than to covering the soil, the recommended total ventilating area should be determined by figuring 2 sq. ft. for each 100 lineal ft. of wall around the crawl space, plus \( \frac{1}{8} \) sq. ft. for each 100 sq. ft. of ground area therein. For example, a crawl space that is 20 x 30 ft. would have 100 lineal ft. of wall around it, which, according to the formula, would call for an opening area of 2 sq. ft. However, \( \frac{1}{8} \) sq. ft. for each 100 sq. ft. of ground area must be added to this figure. As the ground area is 600 sq. ft., the total area of all ventilator openings would be \( 2 + \frac{1}{8} \), or 4 sq. ft. If the vents are to be covered with fine screen or louvers, the area of the openings should be doubled. If covered with both screen and louvers, it should be tripled.

To protect sheer stockings from damage, place cellulose tape over rough spots and edges on legs of desks and chairs.

DECEMBER 1951
SERVICING AUTOMATIC CHOKE

Here are several simple checks that car owners can make periodically to assure proper operation of automatic-choke mechanisms

By Ed Packer

Essentially, the automatic choke in your car consists of a choke valve pivoted off-center in the carburetor air intake, its open and closed positions being controlled by a simple mechanism actuated by heat and vacuum. Here's how it works: When you close the starter switch, with all parts of the choke mechanism in the cold position, vacuum in the intake manifold acts on a vacuum piston connected by a linkage to the choke valve, Fig. 2. Movement of the piston, due to manifold vacuum, sets the choke valve in a partially open position and prevents overchoking. In some cars, the initial set of the choke valve is accomplished by operation of a magnetic coil which is energized when the starter switch is closed, Fig. 3. To hold the valve in this position until the engine starts to warm up, two forces are utilized. First, a thermostatic coil, tensioned to the cold position by cooling of the engine, tends to hold the valve closed until heat from the manifold gradually causes the coil to lose its tension. Simultaneously, the flow of air past the partially opened valve opposes the thermostat and tends to exert opening pressure on the valve body, which is pivoted off-center on its shaft, as in the photo below. However, when the engine is cold, the thermostat provides sufficient tension.
on the valve to overbalance the pressure of the air flowing past it. Now, as the engine warms, heat piped from the manifold to the thermostatic coil causes it to release its tension and permit the valve to open as the engine temperature rises. Thus, by the time the engine has reached its normal operating temperature, the valve will be fully opened. A somewhat similar cycle occurs when a magnetic coil is used to set the choke valve for a cold start, except that in this case there are two controlling mechanisms, electrical and thermostatic. In later-model cars the choke is interlinked with a fast-idle mechanism which prevents stalling when the engine is cold by providing a somewhat wider throttle opening than that required for smooth idle at operating temperature. As the choke valve is opened by the thermostat, the fast-idle linkage gradually closes the throttle so that when the engine reaches operating temperature it will be running at its normal idling speed. Many automatic chokes are fitted with a manually operated climatic control, Fig. 1, which provides a means of adjusting the fuel mixture by changing the operating cycle of the choke mechanism. Thus, by setting to lean or rich fuel mixtures as indicated on the cover of the coil housing, you can provide proper fuel mixtures for cold starts at almost any seasonal temperature.

Any condition that causes the operation of the choke mechanism to lag behind the temperature rise of the engine can result in trouble. However, as a rule the remedy is quite simple to carry out. If the mechanism “unchokes” too slowly, one of the first things to check is the condition of the screen in the coil housing. If the screen is clogged, even partially, that's usually the cause of the trouble. A thorough cleaning of the screen frequently will restore the original choke action. Although a comparatively rare cause of trouble in choke mechanisms, it is possible for dirt to find its way into the vacuum passage, Fig. 2, and interfere with the action of the vacuum piston. A few particles of carbon or other foreign matter can cause a partial stoppage of the small passageway and may prevent the initial set of the choke valve by vacuum acting on the piston. When this occurs, it usually is necessary to disassemble the unit so that the passageway can be cleared with compressed air. Another possible source of trouble is an accumulation of grime and hardened oil on the exposed parts such as the choke lever, Fig. 3, and the fast-idle link and cam, Fig. 2. To prevent possible trouble from this source, it's a good idea to clean these parts occasionally by brushing them, either with white gasoline or with carbon tetrachloride.
Caution: Disconnect the battery ground cable before cleaning parts of the engine or carburetor with gasoline. Never oil any parts of the choke or fast-idle mechanisms. The oil will gather dust and eventually cause trouble.

Should the electrically operated unit, Fig. 3 and the photo above Fig. 2, unchoke too rapidly and starve the engine before it is fully warmed up, it is probable that the special insulator, Fig. 3, has been damaged or has deteriorated to the point where it no longer provides insulation between the unit and the manifold. Replacing the insulator generally corrects the trouble. The thermostatic unit in this type of choke should never be altered. Adjustment of choke to carburetor is made on the outside of the unit and requires the use of a special adjusting tool as in the photo above at the right. Some experimentation may be required in order to adjust the climatic control on other types of chokes at the end of each season. Specific instructions cannot always be given, as the unit must be adjusted in accordance with the peculiarities of each engine. Usually it is necessary to adjust the fuel mixture also.

Homemade Blower for Your Jigsaw Keeps Work Free of Sawdust

A jigsaw not equipped with a blower to prevent sawdust from obscuring the line of cut can be provided with a homemade blower of the type detailed. This one is made from a length of large metal tubing that will fit over the spring housing on the head of the saw. It must fit tightly to be as nearly airtight as possible, and may be bushed at the lower end if necessary. A tin can that will fit over the head may be substituted for the tube. The upper end of the tube is closed with a disk, which is then drilled for a short length of copper tubing. This serves as a nipple over which a piece of rubber tubing is slipped to carry air to the pressure foot of the saw. In operation, reciprocal movement of the shaft inside the spring housing of the saw head acts as a miniature air compressor to operate the blower.—James F. Bennett, Lakewood, Ohio.
Milk and other dairy products delivered to your home will be well protected for several hours if an insulated box like this one is used to receive them. It is made from 3/4 or 1/2-in. material, such as waterproof plywood, and is lined with 3/4-in. insulating board. It can be made any size required and can be mounted any place convenient for the milkman. Another method of making an insulated container is to set one box inside another and fill the space between them with loose-type insulating material. Space between the two boxes should be at least 2 in. It is a good idea to cover the bottom of the box with oilcloth or other material that can be cleaned easily, otherwise accidental spillage or condensed moisture from the cool milk bottles may, in time, damage the insulating material. If, instead of being mounted permanently, the box is just set on the steps or walk as shown in the photograph, it can be taken along on picnics to serve as an ice box. In this case, the ice should be put in a watertight container and then placed inside the box.—Mrs. Virginia Hackett, Chicago.

**Pliers Drive Brads Safely**

When mounting a picture in a wooden frame by driving brads into the frame, the possibility of marring the wood can be eliminated by using a pair of the type pliers shown to drive the brads. Pad the lower jaw of the pliers with adhesive tape.

**Soldering Clamp for Small Work**

Bolted to the side of a soldering-iron tray, a spring-type paper clamp is ideal for holding small parts in position for soldering. Often, two clamps placed side by side can be used advantageously to hold two or more parts for assembly.
"Dubbing in" SOUND IN

Coupled counter provides means of "timing" two turntables with movie continuity. Author is making recording

Simple coordinator coupled to projector with flexible cable makes it easy to "dub in" sound in perfect timing with the presentation of your home movies

By M. G. Winterton

ADDING SOUND or dialogue to your home movies injects a professional quality that rates you high with friends who are invited to view your prize vacation shots. Being able to present a smooth-running narration of your experiences makes for greater enjoyment for both audience and operator, as the usual practice of watching the screen and attempting to synchronize voice and music with the changing scene results in an irregular and less-interesting presentation. Actually, "dubbing in" the sound is easy with the aid of this "timer." It may be used directly

A. Spring clamp on clipboard does double duty in holding both plastic cable holder and small notebook conveniently at hand for listing recording data

B. Speedometer cable is placed in half-round notches of plastic holder before sliding under spring clamp on clipboard. Counter fits in notched end of holder

POPULAR MECHANICS
while projecting or, better yet, for all types of home recording, such as tape and wire. It will not interfere with cable-coupled synchronizing attachments on such recorders. A study of the drawings and photos gives a clear idea of its construction and use.

Fig. 1 gives the dimensions and assembly of the plastic holder, while Fig. 2 shows the two small reducing chucks which couple a cable to the projector and counter. These are standard reducing chucks with 1/8-in. collets, the collet housings being fairly soft to cut, file and tap for attaching them to the film-feed sprocket and counter. As shown

C. Plastic clamp mounted on top of standard holds cable in line with the film-feed sprocket for coupling with small reducing chuck fitted to end of cable

D. Standard which supports speedometer cable is held in place by weight of projector which rests on a sheet-metal arm attached to base of the standard
around the paper clamp on a regular clip- 
board so that when the cable is in position 
in the holder, the clamps will hold it 
securely. Photo E shows the unit in place, 
a small lamp, such as one used on a sewing 
machine, being mounted on the plastic 
holder. A notebook of the spiral type is 
placed under the clasp for listing reference 
data, photo A. A cardboard strip pasted 
onto the cover of the notebook permits 
clamping and still allows turning the pages. 

In preparation for recording, the first 
thing to do is to establish a zero mark on 
the film leader so that when the film is at 
that particular point, the counter is always 
at zero. After this, proceed by running the 
projector to the point where the first musi-
cal transition or change is to be made. At 
this point, mark down the exact number 
under a column in the notebook labeled 
“Counter Number.” This arrangement 
makes it a simple matter to backtrack, if 
you happen to “go by” the first time. When 
this happens, reverse the projector and 

start over again as the counter automati-
cally subtracts the correct amount when 
rotated in reverse, regardless of the num-
ber of times the procedure is repeated. 

When you have established counter num-
bers for all the scenes and narration, the 
appropriate recorded music is selected and 
marked down under a column labeled 
“Record.” In cases where only music is 
desired, a notation to that effect is made 
under a column, “Notes and Narration,” 
and when narration is to be used, the actual 
wording is written down in the same col-
um, and given an extra number to design-
ate the exact starting point for the nar-
ration. You’ll find it simply a matter of 
converting scenes or groups of scenes to 
numbers and, when this has been com-
pleted, it is even a more simple matter to 
enter the right musical score. Sound effects
and narration in their proper places in perfect timing with the picture. Thus, the cable-counter combination provides a most efficient means of controlling both turntables and microphone by predetermining exactly when the change should be made.

Here's how it actually works: As a number denoting a change approaches on the counter, you have a chance to get ready. By starting about five digits in advance to make the actual changeover in the music, you'll find this interval just right for the picture. Two turntables and a microphone are plugged into a common mixer, as this is by far the best arrangement. Actually, two persons are better than one to make the recording, as one may take care of the music while the other is left free for the narration. Even with little practice you'll be surprised by the professional results you can attain with this inexpensive equipment. The cable, by the way, should be at least 6 ft. long to keep the microphone from picking up projector noise.

There is a wide variety of suitable counters available, some as war surplus. Some of the smaller and less-expensive ones do not have a hand knob for resetting, but this can be done by merely running the side of the small chuck against the rewind belt as shown in photo F. The counter should register each revolution as one digit.

In using recordings as background music for amateur films, seldom can a record be used in its entirety, as only parts of the record may be suitable for the particular scene. Thus, in order to place the pick-up arm on the record in the correct position for playing the desired portion, the position indicator and scale shown in photo G is most useful. It is also a good idea to number all records used for home-movie purposes. In this way, when making notes of records to be used, it is only necessary to list the number for setting the indicator.

Window Shade Provides Background For Photographing Small Subjects

One amateur photographer, who also builds models and likes to photograph his handiwork, finds a light-colored window shade an ideal background. The shade is hung on brackets screwed to a joist over the workbench where it is readily pulled down when needed. Note that enough of the shade is pulled down so that a portion of it lies flat on the workbench. The subject is placed on top of the shade, thus eliminating the distracting horizontal line usually caused by the edge of a stiff background.

Tom Gribeg, Moline, Ill.

Clothespin Holds Print Tongs On Edge of Developer Tray

Pressing a small plastic clothespin over the edge of a developer tray provides a convenient "hook" for supporting print tongs on the edge of the tray. When the tongs are slipped over the clothespin, as in the photo, they are held out of the way, and any solution is allowed to drain back into the tray.

Stopping Film-Holder Light Leaks

If light leaks have developed in your cut-film holders, the first place to look for the leaks is at the joints where the metal, light-trap strips are fitted into the wooden frames. Tiny cracks at these points usually are the cause of the leaks and, if so, are easily filled with wood putty.
Retractile Lens Brush Always at Hand When Carried on Key Chain

Inserting the bristle end of a water-color brush in a plastic pencil-lead container forms a lightweight lens brush which can be carried conveniently on a key chain. After the handle of the brush has been cut off just above the metal ferrule, a short length of wire is fastened to the brush with a small screw driven into the wood remaining in the ferrule. Then the wire is passed through a hole drilled in the bottom of the plastic container, and the end of the wire is bent to form a loop. The brush is drawn inside the container simply by pulling on the wire loop and is pushed out when needed. The cap of the container keeps the bristles free from dust.—John J. Rea, Urbana, Ill.

Hair Drier Is Useful in Photo Lab

A home-type hair drier can be put to good use in several ways in a photo lab. Blowing either hot or cold air, it can be used to ventilate darkrooms or to quicken the drying of prints and film or mucilage used in mounting. The drier also can be used to raise the temperature of developing solution by directing hot air over it, or to retard cooling by using warm air.

Emergency Substitute for Ground-Glass Viewer of Camera

In an emergency, a substitute for a ground glass can be made from ordinary glass by covering it with strips of cellulose tape. However, before applying the tape, draw your finger over the gummed surface to roughen it. This will cause the necessary deflection of light.

Eugene Lee Burner, Morgantown, W. Va.

Satisfactory close-up lenses can be made by cutting the bottoms out of sink stoppers and inserting ordinary eyeglass lenses in the remaining rings.

Popular Mechanics Plans for Projects in Hardboard

Are you, like many other home craftsmen, experiencing difficulty in obtaining suitable wood for your shop projects? Why not try hardboard as a substitute for wood in some of them? Often called the “wonder wood of 1000 uses,” this board has great structural strength, is hard enough to resist denting and scratching, and can be sawed, nailed or glued. Unlike indoor plywood, it has no grain, is resistant to moisture and can be stained, waxed, varnished or painted.

Believing that many craftsmen and manual-training teachers would be interested in hardboard for their projects, Popular Mechanics has prepared large plans on 36 projects that can be made of this material. The plans include such projects as a dog bed, bird feeder, lawn ornaments, magazine racks, waste baskets, photo frames, clothes hamper, birdhouses, bric-a-brac cabinets, a child’s rocker, etc. There are also plans for larger projects, such as dollhouses, window valances, tool chests, toy chest and a modern desk. All plans are 17 x 22 in. in size and are completely detailed. A postal card with your name and address will bring you an illustrative pamphlet that pictures and describes each project. Plans are 25 cents each and are available from Popular Mechanics Book Dept., 200 E. Ontario St., Chicago 11.
EXPERIENCED MACHINISTS say that neglect and abuse are the main causes of premature "old age" in metal-turning lathes. This is especially true of lathes in small job shops and also in the home workshop, as the machines are put to widely diversified use. Unless properly cared for, the lathes may be exposed to conditions which can cause rust and accumulations of abrasive materials that accelerate wear and affect accuracy. With periodic good care any lathe will retain its precision almost indefinitely.

Avoid damage to the bed ways: On high-quality lathes the V-ways and flat ways of the bed are precision-ground and hand-scraped within extremely close tolerances. Preserving the accuracy of the bed is of the first importance and this can be done in any shop, without loss of time, by careful observance of routine procedures. For example, always place a block of wood across the bed ways, Fig. 1, before attaching or detaching chucks, faceplates or other heavy accessories. Never lay tools, especially files, across the ways. Instead, use a wooden tool tray as in Fig. 2. Cleats across the bottom of the tray should have felt-faced notches cut to fit over the V-ways. When filing in the lathe, never tap the file against any part of the machine to clear it. Clean the file with a file card as in Fig. 3. Avoid using any part of the lathe as an anvil to straighten bent work. Pounding on the lathe bed can destroy entirely the fine accuracy of the machine.

Control grinding dust: The hard abrasive particles thrown off by a grinding wheel will cause considerable damage to the ways and other moving parts of the lathe unless
When a lathe is not in use, keep it covered as in Fig. 5.

**Guard the centers:** Drill the center holes in the work with a center drill having the same angle as the lathe centers, Fig. 6A, to assure good bearing surface. If only one edge of the countersink rides on the lathe center, Fig. 6B, C and D, the center may be scored. Also, the center hole in the work must be deep enough to prevent the point of the lathe center from touching the work, Fig. 6D. As the work expands along its length due to heat generated by the cutting tool, it usually is necessary to adjust the dead center during a prolonged turning operation to prevent damage to the center from excessive heating. Striking the centers with the work while mounting or removing it may also damage the points. When removing the live center from the spindle with a knockout bar, always hold the center to prevent it from dropping on the lathe bed or onto the floor. Avoid scratching or marring centers and taper sleeves by storing them separately from other tools. Centers having the points or tapers damaged will not seat accurately.

**Use the right wrench:** To tighten nuts and cap screws on the machine, use the wrench provided for the purpose by the manufacturer, such as the tailstock wrench, Fig. 7. Don't tap a wrench with a hammer. If necessary, strike it lightly with the palm of the hand. Avoid using pipe wrenches or pliers and make it a habit to remove the chuck wrench from the chuck when not in use. Belt tension on the headstock pulleys should be just sufficient to prevent slippage. Too much tension puts an excessive strain on the bearings and may cause heating and excessive wear.

**Keep lathe clean:** Remove accumulations of steel chips and shavings with tongs, hook or magnet. Then use a bench brush for cleaning. A small brush is handy for cleaning spindle threads, Fig. 8. This always should be done before mounting a chuck or faceplate. To clean internal threads, use a wire scraper as in Fig. 11. Clean the lead screw with a cord of suitable size, holding it taut in the thread while the screw is turning, Fig. 9. Clean the inside of the spindle with a bottle brush.

After brushing, wipe off parts with a rag. Neither brushing nor wiping should
be done while the lathe is running. Don't use compressed air for cleaning a lathe as metal chips and stray grains of abrasive may be blown into oilholes or forced into bearings. To remove heavy oil, use a cloth dampened with kerosene. Before mounting collets, centers, sleeves and drill chucks, wipe tapers clean, as dirt or a chip on the tapers may cause an error of several thousandths of an inch. Chips between gibhs and dovetail bearing surfaces may make sliding members difficult to move. Chips between the base and swivel of a compound rest may cause chattering. The felt wipers at the ends of the carriage, or saddle, should be removed occasionally, cleaned with kerosene and recoiled. Belts should be kept clean and free from oil.

Regular, thorough oiling: Oil specifications vary on lathes of different makes according to bearing tolerances and speeds used. Therefore the manufacturer's instructions on oiling should be followed. Most oilholes and cups require filling daily and more frequently if the lathe is in continuous use. The daily oiling schedule does not apply to motors which usually are fitted with wool-packed bearings that do not require frequent oiling. Oiling always should be done before starting the lathe. To avoid overlooking some bearings, it is best to lubricate the machine in a definite order. In some shops, oilholes and lubricators are outlined with brightly colored paint so that they are more easily located. Wipe off surplus oil that runs outside of oilholes and also close all oilhole plugs and cup covers after oiling to prevent entrance of dirt and chips. Always keep an oil film on the ways even when the lathe is not in use. Before attaching faceplates and chucks, oil the threads of the spindle, Fig. 10, after cleaning them. However, don't oil the taper shank of the centers, spindle-adapter sleeves and drill-chuck shanks, as a film of oil prevents them from seating properly. When the tailstock center is in use, lubricate the point with a thick cream made by mixing dry red lead and machine oil. Keep the mixture at hand near the tailstock and apply it as required.
Handling Rat Poison Safely

Ridding farms and estates of mice and rats has been made simple and safe by use of baits containing warfarin, a newly developed poison that is deadly to rodents but comparatively harmless to other animals and humans unless consumed in large quantities. Fruit-jar lids make ideal containers for baits that are placed about the home. As mice will not wander far from familiar territory, the bait need be placed only in rooms to which it is known they have access. An old box or crate, placed over a tray filled with bait, can be used as a bait station for rats. Portions of the sides should be removed to allow easy entrance. One station placed in the average-sized outbuilding is usually sufficient, although two or three sometimes can be used effectively in large barns. If stations are placed in the open, they should be covered with a piece of roofing paper or sheet metal to protect the bait from rain. As neither rats nor mice will eat moldy or dirty bait, it should be checked at frequent intervals and the supply replenished when necessary.

Tom McHugh, Moran, Wyo.

Large Lathe Dog Made Adjustable for Use With Various-Size Faceplates

It is a simple matter to make a large lathe dog adjustable for use on work where the length of the dog is too great to permit engaging it in the slot of the faceplate at hand. To make such a dog adjustable, drill and tap three or four equally spaced holes in the shank of the dog. Then provide a stud which can be screwed into any one of the holes. The tang of the dog can be removed if desired as the stud, when located in the proper hole, will serve in place of the tang to engage the faceplate. — Frank Butrick, Alma, Mich.

Magnet Holds Jointer Blades When Resetting in Head

The job of installing jointer blades can be made easy by using a strong magnet such as one from a magneto. This is laid on the rear table to extend over the opening, where it will suspend each blade for tightening in exactly the same position.

Ed Packer, Chicago.

Wire Along Front of Nest Prevents Roosting

One of the simplest methods and one of the easiest to install to prevent hens from roosting on the edges of nests is to staple wire in front of them as indicated. The wire should be stretched fairly taut. When installed in this way, the wire does not prevent hens from entering the nests. It does, however, make it impossible for them to sit on the front edges.

To determine which plates in a car battery are short circuited, look into each cell while the starter is being pressed. The water in the cell where the short is located will boil rapidly.
FOR SQUARING small pieces of wood, rounding corners and sanding end grain, you can't beat a large disk sander. The driving head of the sander pictured was adapted from an old wood-lathe headstock, but a grinding head or a small ball-bearing saw arbor can be utilized for the same purpose. In any case, the driving head must be fitted with a faceplate to which the sanding disk can be attached and detached readily when it is necessary to change the abrasive disks. In some instances, a ready-made disk with either a plain or threaded hub to fit the spindle can be utilized. Complete dimensions in the lower detail at the right are not given, as it is necessary to improvise a suitable table mounting, and this will depend on the diameter of the disk and on the type of driving head used. For all-around use, the disk should be 10 or 12 in. in diameter and the table should be fitted with trunnions which permit it to be tilted. The table should be made of plywood, or solid hardwood, and grooved so that a miter gauge can be used to sand the end grain on stock cut to compound angles. Provide a dust chute and bag, as shown, and attach the table trunnions to the machine base, or bench, so the table can be removed when changing the abrasive disks.
End Mills are simply metal-cutting router bits and they are supplied in a variety of sizes and types suitable for a wide range of work in metals of varying degrees of hardness. Milling cutters must be driven at comparatively slow spindle speeds and the relationship of cutting speeds to work feeds is much more critical than that of any woodworking tool. End mills are available with both straight and tapered shanks which adapt them to use in a lathe, drill press or milling machine. Both the end lips and the longitudinal flutes have sharpened cutting edges, which means that an end mill of the type having two flutes and a solid center will cut straight in, like a twist drill, and also will cut sidewise in either direction, depending on the direction of feed and whether the flutes are designed for right or left-hand cuts. End mills of various types are supplied for right or left-hand rotation and also are furnished with straight and spiral flutes.

Cutter types: Cutters in the common sizes range from 1/8 to 3 in. in diameter in solid end mills, and from 1 to 6 in. in diameter in shell end mills. The shell end mill, Fig. 1, fits over a driving sleeve which turns onto the threaded end of the milling-machine spindle. Of all milling cutters it is the most rigid. In solid end mills, the four-flute style with straight shank, Fig. 1, is the most widely used. The two-flute slotting end mill will enter the work and then complete the cut in a transverse direction, but other types having a hole at the center to facilitate sharpening must move into the work from the side. Nominal small-shop equipment should include several small slotting end mills, a set of four-flute end mills ranging in size from 1/8 to 1/2 in., and one or two shell end mills about 2 in. in diameter.

Feed direction: As is the case with all toothed tools, the work should move against the rotation of the cutter, as shown in Fig. 1. In the opposite technique of climb feed, the work moves in the same direction as
END CUTS IN BAR STOCK include a variety of shapes. When cut is centered on the end of work, such as a slot, test center is used to locate work position.

Methods of working: Certain common devices are used for mounting the work, most popular and practical being the milling vise, Figs. 2 and 10. Additional
### SPEEDS for MILLING (All Cutters)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATERIAL</th>
<th>LOW-HIGH F.P.M.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALUMINUM</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAGNESIUM</td>
<td>24000, 12000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAST PLASTICS</td>
<td>24000, 12000</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRASS and BRONZE-_SOFT</td>
<td>150, 300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRASS and BRONZE-MED.</td>
<td>300, 180</td>
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<td>SOFT CAST IRON</td>
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<tr>
<td>MACHINE STEEL</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOW CARBON STEEL CAST IRON-MED.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MALLEABLE IRON MED. CARBON STEEL THERMOPLASTICS</td>
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<td>CAST STEEL</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALLOY TOOL STEEL</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

FOR HIGH-SPEED STEEL CUTTERS: USE ANY SPEED BETWEEN LOW-HIGH LIMITS SHOWN IN BODY OF TABLE. IF SPEED GIVEN EXCEEDS RANGE OF MACHINE, USE HIGHEST PRACTICAL SPEED AVAILABLE.

### Recommended FEED PER TOOTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATERIAL</th>
<th>1/8&quot; and 1/4&quot; END MILLS</th>
<th>1/2&quot; and OVER END &amp; SHELL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOFT METALS PLASTICS</td>
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<td>SOFT CAST IRON</td>
<td>.002 to .004</td>
<td>.002 to .006</td>
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<td>MALLEABLE IRON MED. CAST IRON</td>
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<td>.002 to .005</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOFT STEEL HARD CAST IRON</td>
<td>.001 to .002</td>
<td>.001 to .004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW CARBON STEEL MACHINE STEEL</td>
<td>.001 to .002</td>
<td>.001 to .003</td>
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<tr>
<td>HARD STEEL</td>
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### FEED PER REVOLUTION to FEED IN INCHES PER MINUTE

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WHITE AREAS SHOW PRACTICAL WORKING RANGE FOR BENCH MILLERS. ALWAYS START WITH A SLOW FEED (.003" TO .006" PER REV.) AND THEN INCREASE IF SATISFACTORY.
Mounting methods are illustrated by the various photographs. Where a choice of mountings is possible, the mounting which supports the work closest to the table is generally the most rigid.

On jobs requiring centering of the cutter with the work, such as the slotting job shown in the upper detail in Fig. 3, a test center is useful. If this is chucked and the work centered to it as shown, the cutter which takes its place will also be centered. The six steps pictured and detailed in Fig. 4 are typical setup procedure, the job being to square a shaft. The work is mounted in the vise and the four sides are worked in order as detailed at the upper right in Fig. 4 without changing the vise mounting. Cutting is started with a roughing cut on No. 1 side, after which the work is miked as shown. The simple calculation shows the amount of feed needed—.052 in. The vertical feed is zeroed and the table is then raised .052 in. to set the work for the finish cut as shown in the lower photo. On certain types of work, the technique of making the end of the end mill do most of the cutting, as shown in the detail, is preferable to making a wide, shallow cut employing the flutes.

Speeds and feeds: Suitable speeds for milling are given in the table of speeds and feeds, the general values being about the same as for lathe work. In many instances, when using small end mills, Figs. 5, 6 and 9, the permissible speed will exceed the maximum speed of the machine spindle. In this case, the highest practical speed should be used, usually about 500 r.p.m., if power feed is used, or 900 r.p.m. for hand feed. Otherwise, the speeds listed should be followed closely.

The feed of the work is a more difficult problem to solve because of the many variables in the work, the depth of cut, and the setup. The fundamental basis for feed is feed-per-tooth or, in other words,
the thickness of chip which each tooth in the cutter is required to lift. The table gives the average feed-per-tooth range for various materials. It also converts feed-per-tooth to feed-per-revolution, and to feed in inches, which is the most common expression of milling feeds. Feeds from 1 in. to 6 in. per minute are most practical for bench-miller work because they satisfy the operator's sense of timing. On new work or work of an experimental nature, the simplest approach to the whole subject of what the feed should be is to use the lowest feed available, usually .003 in. per revolution. Then, the feed can be gradually stepped up to full capacity. It is a mistake to feed too slowly as a slow feed produces fine chips that tend to wedge into the flutes of the cutter and cause heating and scoring of the work. The chip should always lift clean and readily clear from the cutter.

**Depth of cut:** The maximum cut with any kind of cutter when using a bench miller is about 1/8 in. More practical values are 1/16 in. for soft metals and 3/16 in. for steel. A lot depends on how much of the cutter is engaged. For example, a 2-in. shell mill working on a 3/8-in. edge, as in the left-hand photo above Fig. 8, can take a deeper cut than when the cutter engages a wider area, utilizing the full cutting width of the flutes. In milling cast iron, a fair average speed is 200 r.p.m., using a feed of .025 in. per revolution (5 in. per min.) with the depth of cut about 3/8 in. In all cases, a general technique which balances maximum cutter speeds with medium feeds and fine cuts will give best results. In a slotting job, Fig. 5, or milling a keyway, Fig. 6, you don't remove all the waste in one pass, but rather make the cut in several passes, maintaining as high a speed as possible. When using very small cutters, often it is best to use a high cutter speed with the hand feed rather than a lower speed with the power feed.

**Drill press and lathe:** Due to its vertical spindle, the drill press offers an ideal work setup for certain types of light milling. The job is commonly mounted on some type of milling table, most useful being the rotary type which has a circular feed as well as longitudinal and cross feeds. Fig. 7. Neither the spindle nor table of the average drill press is rigid enough for heavy milling cuts. Use only small cutters at maximum speed with fine feed and shallow cuts. A lathe fitted with a milling attachment does excellent work and is similar in all mechanical characteristics to the bench miller. The considerable overhang of the milling attachment prohibits extremely heavy cuts, but in all cases the setup is more rigid than any on a drill press. Both solid and shell end mills can be used. Cutter speeds should be maintained with feeds reduced about one half from rates suggested for the bench miller. For smooth work with a milling attachment, use power feeds when possible.
MACHINING EDGES is done easily with work clamped to milling-machine table. An angle plate, left and right photos above, is used to back up the work. When thin stock, center, is being edged, the thrust action always should be down to prevent chattering of work.

SURFACING SMALL WORK usually is done by clamping the stock to an angle plate as in detail at right. Example: Aluminum being cut with shell mill. Cutter speed should be 450 r.p.m., table feed .012 in. per revolution which is equal to work travel of 5% in. per min.

SQUARING A SHAFT, above, is done with an index head. End mill works on underside and automatic stop controls table feed. Machining data: Work is machine steel. Use speed of 450 r.p.m. with feed set at .006 in. per revolution. Cut made in successive passes, .025 in. deep.

CUTTING SERRATIONS ON HANDWHEEL is another indexing job. Setup is shown in photo and detail at left. One pass is used to make this light cut and speeds and feeds are as high as capacity of machine will permit. Work is supported in a three-jaw universal-type chuck.

BEVELING EDGES, above, requires changing the work for each successive edge. Accurate depth of cut is obtained by setting work in contact with cutter, zeroing infeed sleeve and then feeding in a specified distance.

V-CUTS are made by setting the vise at 45 deg. and using vertical hand feed. Vee should be marked on work so cutter can be positioned to work down one side of cut as shown in the detail at the right.
Faulty Acceleration of Car Sometimes May Be Caused by Slipping Fan Belt

When a car won't accelerate properly or cannot be made to hit top road speed, the trouble may be due to a slipping fan belt if the latter drives the generator. A loose belt will, of course, reduce the amount of voltage output by the generator. Thus if the battery is not fully charged there will be insufficient voltage to provide a satisfactory spark at high speed. Also, a consistent low reading on the ammeter may be caused by a slipping belt, even though a well-charged battery may for a short time keep the acceleration of the car normal. However, the battery will soon become discharged under such conditions, and faulty acceleration of the car will follow.

Old Implement Lever and Quadrant Has Many Uses Around a Farm

Lever and quadrant units which can be taken from various types of junked farm machinery can be put to many good uses around the farm. For instance, one farmer mounted such a unit on a feed-lot gate, as illustrated, where it is used to operate the sliding latch. It also could be used to advantage, if installed on a windmill, to pull and hold the control wire. A third use is to lift and hold a gate at the bottom of a feedbin at the desired height.

Making Indexed Files Easier to Use

The difficulty of reading long titles on the index-card tabs of files, in which each tab laps the left side of the following tab (and thus obscures the first word or so of the title), can be overcome simply by reversing the index cards. This will cause the right sides of the tabs to be covered rather than the left, and as a result enough of the first words of the titles will be in view to make them intelligible.

Mrs. Michael Fey, New York City.
Welders will find this angle jig a timesaver when welding together pieces of small work, such as rounds, flats or even narrow plates. It also can be used when welding a small part at an angle to a large, flat surface. Made from two lengths of angle steel that are joined by flat-steel struts, the jig can be made to hold work at any given angle. Thus, welders who frequently have jobs calling for several groups of parts to be welded at various angles can make a separate jig for each group. Large work can be held in a similar type jig if the latter is made from heavier material than indicated.—Herman J. Adolf, Richmond, Calif.

Accuracy Plus Speed in Aligning Work Attained by Using This Welders' Jig

Fuel Tank Mounted on Trailer Provides Farm "Gas Truck"

A privately owned “gas truck” is a real help around the farm, especially when it is used to service motor-driven implements in the field. The one shown in the photograph was made by mounting a 150-gal. oil tank on a utility trailer. A roomy cabinet was installed at the rear of the trailer for carrying lubricating oils, a hose, funnels and other necessary equipment. The cabinet was lined inside and out as a measure of safety and to simplify cleaning.

L. H. Houck, Jefferson City, Mo.

Oil Drum With Ends Removed Utilized as Hood for Ventilating Fan

Instead of going to the expense of having a heavy-duty ventilating fan installed in his shop, one mechanic purchased a small motor, two adjustable shaft hangers and a three-bladed fan, and made the rest of the ventilator from scrap parts. In this case, the unit was mounted over a small overhead window. To make a suitable hood, he cut the ends out of an oil drum and mounted the motor on two lengths of steel angle, which were welded to one side of the drum. The shaft hangers were mounted on a T-shaped bracket made from steel angles and welded to the inside surface of the drum as pictured. Collars placed on the shaft between the hanger bearings take the thrust of the fan and prevent end play.

George R. Harrison, Valparaiso, Ind.
MORTAR-JOINT RAKER can be adopted for use on both old and new work. Although designed primarily for raking old mortar joints preparatory to tuck pointing either brick or stone work, the tool can easily be adapted to the raking of new mortar joints. A one-piece costing is designed to provide a handle and mounting spindles for two rollers which travel on the surface of the masonry and keep the depth of cut uniform. Cutting tool, or raker, is an ordinary 10d nail inserted in the holder as shown.

FLASHLIGHT SCREWDRIVER has a small flashlight built into the plastic handle. Light beam is directed to the point of the driver and spotlights the head of a screw in deep shadow or hidden in total darkness. Light is turned on by knurled knob at the end of the handle. Uses penlight dry cell and is available in two sizes.

TOOLHOLDER FOR BENCH GRINDERS is ideal for grinding a square edge on plane irons, wide, flat chisels and cabinet-scraper blades. Will take any edged cutting tool up to 5 in. wide. The holder is designed so that the tool being ground can be removed from the slide and immersed in a suitable coolant at regular intervals. Base of the holder is attached to the bench and adjustments are provided for aligning the holder.

BUFFING-BONNET CLEANER renews glazed and hard-packed bonnets in a few seconds, saves valuable time in plating and polishing shops. Entirely eliminates tedious washing and dry-cleaning of bonnets used for various purposes. It is not necessary to remove the bonnet from the driving spindle; simply hold the cleaner against the surface of the rotating bonnet. Works on the same principle as a grinding-wheel dresser.
PANEL-CUTTING FIXTURE for lumberyards, cabinet shops and builders speeds up the job of cutting large plywood panels to any size required. Saw arm can be adjusted for crosscutting or ripping 4 x 8-ft. panels. Unit can be set to cut panels of duplicate sizes without necessity of measuring and pencil-marking each piece.

SPOT WELDER is designed for fast hand operation on light work. A plier-type handle closes the electrodes on the work and at the same time closes the welding circuit. When handles are released the current is turned off automatically. A dial on relay box indicates welding time from ½ to 1½ sec., as work requires.

OPEN-END RATCHET WRENCH permits reaching past obstructions to tighten or loosen nuts or other fittings that are inaccessible to ordinary ratchet-type wrenches. Ratchet mechanism is built into a U-shaped jaw which can be slipped over nut or fitting. Available in a range of sizes permitting wide application.
Light Shop Equipment Padded With Self-Adhesive Felt Strips

To prevent cracking or marring the housing of such equipment as hand drills through contact with hard surfaces, one shop owner pads the tools with self-adhesive felt tape. This, he found, also reduces the number of rejects of highly polished work, which often was damaged when tools were laid on it. The tape adheres strongly to any clean surface and can be applied in either single or double thicknesses.

G. Everett Fiedler, Bloomfield, N. J.

Automatic Poultry Fountain

Requiring only periodic draining for cleaning, this automatic fountain for poultry saves one chicken farmer considerable time and trouble. It was made from an old hot-water tank by cutting a wide slot lengthwise in opposite sides and welding lengths of angle steel to it for legs. Angle-steel cross members bolted to the legs support a perch on each side of the tank. Water is piped in through an intake valve, which is controlled by a float, both the valve and the float being the type used in a watercloset tank. A drain is provided by an elbow turned into the bottom of the tank and fitted with a plug. If desired, a regular drain valve can be fitted to the elbow instead.—A. M. Wettach, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

Universal Clamp on Milling Machine

A C-clamp, having the lower part cut off and a round pad welded to the severed end to slide in the T-slot of a milling machine table, will provide a clamp for which many uses can be found on these machines. It will replace the regular clamp assembly and it will not interfere with the cutter or arbor. Also, you will find it much faster and easier to set up than the usual clamp assembly.

Storage for Plumb-Bob Line Improvised From Tape Spool

An adhesive-tape spool, complete with its snap-on cover, can be put to ideal use for storing a plumb bob. Just tie the free end of the cord to the spool, wind up the cord and snap the cover closed. In use, the cover can be snapped over the cord to hold it at any desired point.

Warren B. Howe, Longview, Wash.

Extension Cord to Operate Starter Of Car Having Solenoid Switch

When working on a car that has a solenoid starter switch, which, of course, makes it impossible to operate the starter from under the hood for positioning pistons, etc., try this kink. Connect a push-button switch to one end of an extension cord and then connect the latter to the solenoid switch. Equipped with such an extension, the starter can be operated from any position within the limit of the cord.
SOUND MARCHES ON

GOOD audio reproduction is becoming increasingly important to manufacturers of sound equipment for homes, schools, churches and industry. Recent commercial consumer surveys have indicated a surprising interest in high-fidelity sound. New and better ways for reproducing sound are keeping audio engineers busy.

The multispeaker unit illustrated in photo A is for use with a 16-mm. Kodak sound projector, and is used with the regular speaker of the projector. It permits greater flexibility in sound distribution in classrooms. A magnetic sound projector recently developed by RCA provides an efficient means for recording sound magnetically on the edge of 16-mm. picture film. Photo B shows the recorder-projector used for recording commentary to accompany a training film on surgical procedures.

The spidery object in photo C is the newest type of transistor, a tiny amplifying device invented at Bell Telephone Laboratories to replace tubes. One of television's high-fidelity-sound problems was recently solved with the new parabolic-type microphone shown in photo D. Dubbed "big ear" by NBC engineers, it can pick up high-quality sounds from distances up to 35 feet.
MANY EXPERIMENTERS, especially beginners in the field of radio, are temporarily handicapped and unable to enhance their knowledge by actual tests and measurements because lean pocketbooks do not permit them to buy expensive commercial test instruments. The units to be described are inexpensive, easy to build and they employ only standard components that are available from any radio mail-order house. The parts have been carefully selected to keep cost to an absolute minimum and yet maintain sufficient accuracy for ordinary radio work.

The first unit is a simple d.c. volt-ohmmeter than can be used to measure d.c. voltage and resistance. Photos A, B and C show various views of this breadboard-type unit, the schematic circuit diagram for which is given in Fig. 1. Four d.c. voltage ranges are provided so that the meter can easily be read from 0 to 500 volts. These ranges are divided to provide readings from 0-10, 0-50, 0-100 and 0-500 volts. It will also measure resistors between the values 0-100,000 ohms. No power is required to operate the meter on the voltage ranges. The voltage under test provides the necessary power. For resistance measurements, three small 1½-volt penlight cells are connected in series to furnish the current for the meter. The 0-1 ma. meter is an inexpensive Emico model RF-2C which is listed in radio-parts catalogues for $3.16. This
for EXPERIMENTERS

table movement has an internal resistance of 1000 ohms and, therefore, the series resistors had to be chosen to take the milliammeter resistance into account particularly on the low-voltage ranges. Standard ½-watt carbon resistors with 10-percent tolerances were used. In order to obtain correct resistance values it was necessary to connect two resistors in parallel for R1. For R3 and R4, two resistors are used in series.

The zero-adjust potentiometer should be a wire-wound unit. All parts are mounted on a plywood board, ¾ x 8½ x 9 in., which has been stained and given a coat of varnish. The breadboard is supported on two wood strips, or cleats, ½ x ¾ x 7¾ in., as indicated in photo B. The Fahnestock clips are fastened to the instrument board with wood screws and metal washers. The various resistors are soldered to the clips and to each other by their own pigtail leads. The common end of these resistors is soldered to the lug on the positive terminal of the meter. A standard volume-control mounting bracket is used to mount the potentiometer on the instrument board. The mounting bracket for the penlight batteries can be made from a thin strip of aluminum. The mounting bracket for the meter is supplied with it. A ¼-in. hole is drilled in one end of the bracket in order to mount it on the board.

The scale that is supplied with the meter is not used, as it is graduated from 0-1 ma. This scale must be replaced with the one shown in Fig. 3. This scale is full size and can be cut out of the magazine and pasted over the scale furnished with the meter. The front cover of the meter is held in place by eight small metal tabs. Bend these up to free the front cover which can then be lifted out. Cut out the new paper scale and glue it tightly to the metal plate. The new scale must be lined up to coincide exactly with the old one.

Voltage measurements can be made by inserting a black test lead into the common clip and the red test lead into the voltage clip for the range desired. Voltages which are negative with respect to ground or negative B can be measured by merely reversing the test leads. To measure resistances from 0-100,000 ohms, insert the black lead into the common clip and the red test lead into the clip marked ohms. Rotate the potentiometer fully clockwise so that the entire resistance is in series with the meter and then short the two open ends of the test leads together. The needle will swing towards the right as these leads are shorted. By carefully adjusting the potentiometer...
the meter needle can be set to zero on the ohms scale. An unknown resistor can be measured by placing it between the two test leads.

The a.c. voltmeter and capacity tester shown in photos D, E and F is assembled on the same size baseboard. With it, you can check the values of capacitors from .01 to 10 mfd. with sufficient accuracy for radio and television work. The a.c. voltmeter can be used to check line voltage, test power transformers and determine the turns ratio of old output transformers and coupling transformers, the specifications of which are unknown. The schematic circuit diagram is shown in Fig. 2. Mount the various parts with small wood screws. The meter used is the same type of 0-1-ma. meter specified for the volt-ohmmeter. Cut out the meter scale in Fig. 4 and glue it to the meter face so that the line representing the voltage scale coincides exactly with the top line of the scale which is printed on the meter. Cut the new scale so that the top and the left-hand edges are even with the top and left-hand edges of the metal plate of the original dial scale.

Solder the line cord leads to the rear terminals of the transformer and tape the connection carefully. Label the various Fahnestock clips according to their respective functions as shown in the photos and circuit diagram, Fig. 2. To use the instrument, connect one test lead to the clip marked common and the other test lead to the proper clip for the measurements you wish to make. For capacity measurement .01 to .35 mfd., plug the line cord into the 110-volt house line. Insert one test lead in the common clip and the other in the clip marked .01 to .35 mfd. Now, short the two test leads together and adjust the potentiometer so that the needle points to the black line representing .35 mfd. Next, break the short and place the capacitor to be measured between the test leads. Do not touch both test-lead tips with your hand at the time you are taking the reading because the body resistance shunting the capacitor under test will make the reading inaccurate. For capacity measurements .35 to 10 mfd., connect a piece of wire between “common” and the .01 to .35-mfd. clips so that these clips are shorted. Adjust the meter scale with the potentiometer so that the needle points to the outer edge of the black line designating .35 mfd. on the .35 to 10-mfd. scale of the meter. Place the capacitor to be tested between the test leads as indicated in photo D, and read the capacity on the .35 to 10-mfd. scale. For a.c. voltage measurements, the line cord need not be plugged into the a.c. house line. Insert one test lead in the “common” clip and the other in the 0-500-volt clip and

![Fig. 3 - New meter scale for d.c. voltmeter and ohmmeter. Exact size; cut out and mount on meter face](image)

![Fig. 4 - New meter scale for a.c. voltmeter and capacity tester unit. Exact size for cutout (see text)](image)

measure the unknown voltage. Read the 0-500-volt scale on the meter. If the voltage under test is known to be less than 100 volts, the 0-100-volt scale should be used. For low-voltage measurements between 0 and 10 volts, use the 0-10-volt clip and read the 0-100-volt scale—but divide the reading by 10. To determine the turn ratio of an output transformer, connect the primary winding to the 110-volt a.c. line. Measure the primary voltage to obtain its correct value because of possible line-voltage variations. The secondary voltage will be much lower than the primary because of the step-down effect in the output transformer. From transformer theory we know that the turns ratio of a transformer is equal to the voltage across the primary divided by the voltage across the secondary. Thus if the primary voltage is 120 volts, for example, and the secondary voltage is 4 volts, the transformer has a turns ratio of 120 to 4, or 30 to 1. Detailed student material list R-406 for these test sets is available from Popular Mechanics Radio and Electronics department upon receipt of ordinary letter postage.
TELEVISION TODAY

TV GLASSES, developed especially for relief of eye discomfort when viewing television programs, are coated with a new preparation which is permanent and as hard as the glass itself. These lenses are available from a large American optical company and can be easily finished in an optometrist’s prescription shop. Actress Cynthia Stone demonstrates them in photo A. Other suggested methods of avoiding eyestrain when viewing TV pictures include proper room lighting. Never watch television programs in a totally dark room. A single lamp placed 6 or 8 feet on either side of the screen, or behind the viewers, will relieve eyestrain at night. A combination TV light and numeral-type clock is now available for this purpose, photo E. When placed on top of the television cabinet a diffused soft amber light, through a clear plastic back, illuminates the area around the cabinet. It accentuates the image and eases the strain of continuous viewing.

Among other novel things designed for the comfort and convenience of the modern home and TV set owner is the TV Snack Wagon illustrated in photo B. This easy rolling double-deck cart is made of chrome-plated 1-in. tubular steel, and it stands 37 in. high at its highest point. The plastic shelves provide easily cleaned surfaces. This handy cart enables TV fans to enjoy their favorite programs without interruptions for meals.

Theater television today provides large audiences with special-events programs that are not available on TV sets in the home. They are transmitted by private wires, or radio beams, to theaters. Projection of improved 15 x 20-ft. television pictures, magnified by Schmidt-type optical systems, on theater screens is made possible by the new giant image-correcting glass lens shown in photo C. The spherical mirror at the right, showing the girl’s face, magnifies TV images and projects them onto the screen. Distortions introduced by the magnification are corrected by the giant lens at the left. The lens is more than 22 in. in diameter and it is made of special optical glass.

Parapet mounting brackets for TV antenna arrays solve difficult installation problems on roofs where there are no conveniently located chimneys to support masts. The one shown in photo D consists of a sturdy frame with four clawlike members which clear the coping and extend to the wall. A cam at each side of the frame can be adjusted to give positive vertical support on tile or stone copings regardless of contour.

DECEMBER 1951
A—Instead of mounting the TV-antenna-rotating mechanism just below the antenna array, high above the roof, this serviceman installs the rotating unit just above the roof level, within easy reach if repairs are necessary. The outside pipe is stationary; a smaller inside pipe fits in a sleeve bearing.

B—Color-television adapter enables viewers to see every type of color transmission available today in black and white on their present sets. It switches the regular 525-line reception to the 405-line system to get the color pictures in good black and white.

C—Fiber fuse holders with insulated wires on each end of the detachable parts are used for safety fusing TV circuit leads where trouble recurs. Fuses range from 1/4 to 4 amp., depending on circuit.

D—To clean surface of TV picture tube, first disconnect the power to the set, then remove the safety-glass implosion-guard retainer brackets or strips. Clean the tube face and guard with a soft damp cloth.

E—Open fixed condensers in radio-set circuits often can be located by shunting a good condenser across the one suspected, as shown in the photo. Small clips attached to test probes hold the new condenser.

F—RADIO-TV and ELECTRONICS HANDBOOK is written for millions of radio and TV set owners, radio beginners, students and experimenters by Frank L. Brittin, Radio-TV and Electronics Editor of Popular Mechanics. You need no knowledge or experience to put the information contained in the book into immediate money-saving use.

Learn how you can install TV and FM antennas, how to adjust and tune TV receivers, and how to make radio repairs and TV-tube replacements, eliminating unnecessary service calls.

Find out how you can build your own radio sets, amplifiers and many other useful electronic devices. There are complete instructions, detailed material lists and pictorial and schematic diagrams to guide you. Find out how you can join the ever-growing ranks of amateur radio “hams.”

Over 500 photographs, drawings and diagrams illustrate the 160 fact-packed pages of the new second printing. Glossaries of commonly used radio and TV terms and color codes are included. Order your copy of RADIO-TV and ELECTRONICS HANDBOOK today from your local bookstore or send your order direct to Popular Mechanics Press. Price $2.50.
The gear a man packs when he takes to the woods marks him as either a tenderfoot or an old hand. The old timer travels light—no excess baggage. But every piece of equipment will be the very best.

It's like that with mechanics, too. A kit of well kept tools, and every tool Class A, is a pretty sure sign of a Class A mechanic. Chances are the wrenches in that kit will be Bonneys.

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DECEMBER 1951
For any camera with built-in "sync." Includes 2-Way Flashguard. Kodak Flashholder, Model B, $12.35.

Connects to Flashholder, for multiple-flash pictures. Kodak Flashholder Extension Unit, Model B, $13.65.

For use with new Brownie Hawkeye Camera, Flash Model. Easy to attach. Kodak Flashholder, $3.95.

For flash pictures with any camera that has a "T" or "B" setting. Kodak Photo Flasher, $1.55.

Condenser-type power for dependable "flash." Kodak B-C Flashpack, $2.95 (without 22½-volt battery).

Sensational new battery-condenser flash system. Kodak Ekta-lux Flashholder, standard bracket, $34.75.

Cool, circular fluorescent lamp, integrating-sphere thallscope are prominent features in each enlarger. Kodak Hobbyist Enlarger (left), $49.50, complete with f/6.3 lens. Versatile Kodak Fluro-lite Enlarger (right), $112.50, without lens.

Lenses for the Fluro-lite Enlarger range from 50mm. f/4.5 "Ekta-non" to 4-inch f/4.5 "Ekta." From $15.75.

Self-contained projector, screen, and slide changer. Kodaslide Table Viewer, Model A, $97.50.

Projects images up to 7 ft. wide for brilliant shows. Kodaslide Projector, Model 2A, with 5-inch lens, $49.50.

Can deliver more light than any 2 x 2 slide projector. Kodaslide Projector, Master Model, from $169.

Protects 140 cardboard or 55 glass slides keeps them organized. Kodaslide File Box, $1.50.

12 compartments swing out — hold 240 cardboard or 96 glass slides. Kodaslide Compartment File, $3.75.


Focuses from narrow to wide beam for flood shots. Adjusts for heights from 3 to 5½ feet. Kodak Vari-Beam Standlight (left), $16. Kodak Vari-Beam Clamplight (right), lamp portion of Standlight mounted on flexible locking bracket, $10.50.


Essentials for developing and printing, including roll-film tank. Kodacraft Photo-Lab Outfit, $8.50.

Complete developing, printing equipment, incl. metal printer. Kodacraft Advanced Photo-Lab, $13.95.


Permits loading and processing of 35mm. films to be carried out in daylight. Kodak Day-Load Tank, $9.85.

Handsome chemical-resistant plastic housing protects all working parts. Kodak Chemical Scales, $9.90.
Gives precise timing in contact and projection printing, 1 to 57 seconds. Kodak Electric Time Control, $13.50.

Includes cups for all types of darkroom work. Brownie Darkroom Lamp Kit, $1.95.

Tilting base, minute and split-second hands, large dial. Covers intervals to 60 minutes. Kodak Timer, $6.75.

Converts tray to efficient print washer. Kodak Automatic Tray Siphon, $5.25.

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Folds to only 22½ inches — extends to 5 feet. Weight, two pounds. Kodak Eye-Level Tripod, $23.33.

Holds 4 filters, adapter ring, lens hood. Kodak Combination Filter Case, $4.25, $4.95.

Mode of strong, waterproof vinyl plastic. Kodak Darkroom Apron, $2.25, $3.00.

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Care and Feeding of Engines

BY S. P. CORP

WHEN YOU HAVE "PULL"

When your car pulls right or left, check spring height. Always do this, too, before aligning wheels. This check can be made on any level drive or garage floor. First, make sure car is empty. Then bounce car up and down to get springs and shock absorbers into their natural position. Measure from floor to fittings at A and B. (See diagram). There should not be more than \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch difference between A and B. Before making any front correction, check rear spring heights by measuring from top of rear axle to car frame.

Any variation of more than \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch in rear will affect front, and must be corrected first, by re-arching or replacing. If rear is O.K., correct front spring variation by placing spacers on top of coil springs. One spacer will raise low side \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch. Never use more than two spacers.

GETTING RID OF VIBRATION NOISE

Vibration can cause squeaks and rattles. One of the common causes of vibration is an unbalanced propeller shaft. On most cars, the propeller shaft is not enclosed, and sometimes catches a load of undercoating. Look for this if you hear a low rumble, and clean the shaft. If your car has two universal joints, you will find balance marks (see diagram). If these are out of line, shaft will vibrate. Disconnect and remove spline shaft from propeller shaft, then replace with balance marks properly lined up.

IF YOUR CAR SPENDS TOO MUCH

If your car spends too much of your good money for gas and oil make yourself a Christmas present of new Sealed Power Piston Rings. Sealed Power MD-50 is the best steel oil ring ever built—controls oil even in badly tapered and out-of-round bores. Ask for free booklet, "7 Ways to Save Oil." Just address a card to Sealed Power, Dept. G-12, Muskegon, Mich. For triple wear compression rings, get Sealed Power Chrome-Faced Rings.

One-Room Railroad
(Continued from page 92)

area partitioned off into a room. He knew his layout would have to go into this room, but he didn't want to ruin the space for parties.

The sill of the basement foundation ran around the room on three sides, and Frank had previously installed a shelf 6 inches wide atop this sill to hide the concrete. He fastened two strips of track to the shelf, wired them (the wire running beneath the shelf) and soon Casey Jones Beatty had his railroad in operation.

As a main line it was a flop. A train would travel 45 feet around three sides of the room, but then had to back up the same distance before making another forward run. You can't highball a freight over a track like that, and there were jeers from the neighborhood gang as they watched Frank try.

Beatty solved the problem by building another track shelf along the fourth wall. When he came to a built-in bookcase he merely cut a hole through it so the train would vanish behind a fine collection of art books. This, to the small fry, was a pretty tricky arrangement. Encouraged by their cheers, Frank solved the hardest problem of all.

The track circled the room except for the doorway, and to fill this gap he built a double-deck bridge 31 inches long, with track laid on both decks. One end of the bridge he hinged to one side of the doorway. The opposite end of the structure swings down and clicks into place, exactly in line with the track behind the bookshelf. This is a real accomplishment on a 31-inch bridge, for an error in alignment of \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch will produce a spectacular derailment of these little HO trains.

Today the bridge is left up except when Frank and Tom are routing freight around the room. When they enter, they simply swing down the bridge and are ready for action. Once Frank, upon arriving home from a hard day at the office, discovered the bridge down across the doorway. Son Tom denied any knowledge of it. Frank now suspects, darkly, that his wife has found a new type of recreation for her leisure moments. The thought gives him the jitters; in his mind he sees a beautiful handmade passenger train racing eastbound, throttle wide open in the hands of a rank amateur who may not see that string of flats pulling out of the siding—westbound.

The beauty of this around-the-room layout is that Frank has the benefit of a long track, yet he hasn't subtracted a square

(Continued to page 234)
Every Man Wants ELECTRIC TOOLS

He will appreciate your thoughtfulness when you give him a PET Tool this Christmas. He can then do hundreds of jobs around the house, on the farm, or in his shop—easier—faster—better. Known for their light weight, modern streamline design, and dependable performance, PET Tools are packed with power, safe and easy to use, and priced right. Truly great gifts that will give years of usefulness and enjoyment to any man.

Zephyr 1950—HDK De Luxe Drill Kit
...23 pieces with 1/4" electric drill and accessories for drilling, grinding, sanding, polishing, buffing, cleaning, mixing paint, etc. Complete with beautifully finished metal carrying case. $27.35

Zephyr 1950-H 1/4" Electric Drill with hand-operated chuck, AC-DC motor. $18.95
Drill stands available—extra.

Zephyr 625 Electric Hand Saw. Depth of cut, 21/4". Adjustable for depth and angle. AC-DC motor. $47.50. Tables extra for converting to table power saw.

Zephyr SM-25 Spraymaster Portable Spray Outfit for paint, lacquer, insecticides, etc. Complete with AC-DC motor......$28.95

Insist on PET Tools from your dealer—write for general catalog.
Here's how for home painters

Trick to make painting windows easier. To keep ladder from breaking through window pane, nail a flat board across the ladder to straddle window. The ladder will rest on the frame of the window rather than on the glass.

How to keep paint can from dripping on floor. A simple way to prevent paint from dripping on floor is to tie or glue a paper pie plate underneath the can. The pie plate catches the paint drippings—also provides convenient place to put the brush.

How to figure how much paint your house needs. Add up the square feet for all sides and then divide total by 500, which is the number of square feet a gallon of Devoe One-Coat House Paint will cover. The answer is the number of gallons you'll need.

How to keep your cellar free of spider webs. Devoe makes a wonderful DDT paint that is death on most insects. Just one coat of this paint on cellar window woodwork and beams and you won't be troubled with spider webs.

How to enamel furniture. Turn the chair or table upside down and start at the bottom. Paint each part (leg, rocker, etc.) completely in one operation. Work from the inside and finish on outside. For a smooth finish use Devoe Mirrolac Enamel.

You can get all the painting accessories that you need at the sign of the Devoe Diamond. Stop in and see your Devoe Dealer very soon. His name is listed in the Classified Phone Book.

Painting Siding Corners
Q—What causes paint to peel from metal siding corners? I built my own home last year and used wide siding. I applied the final coat to the top of the siding boards and also primed the boards before applying the metal corners. Then I applied the finish coats of paint, covering the corners at the same time. Now the paint is peeling badly from the metal although it has been on less than six months. What should I do to prevent the paint from peeling? R.M., Ill.

A—The metal corners should have been coated with a metal primer before installation. It's a good idea to coat both sides of the metal as an added precaution against rust. Be sure that the primer is thoroughly dry before applying paint. In your case, probably the best thing to do is remove all loose paint by wire brushing and sanding and then permit the surfaces to weather for a month or two before repainting. If the paint comes off readily with a wire brush, then remove all of it and apply a metal primer. Allow the primer to dry at least a week before repainting. In new installations builders sometimes allow the metal corners to weather for two to six months before painting, first with a suitable metal primer, then with the finish coats. Metal gutters are often treated in the same manner. In this way chemical residues remaining from the galvanizing process will be sufficiently neutralized to prevent injury to the paint. Dipping the metal corners in common household vinegar often is done and found effective as a neutralizer.

"Plaster Pops"
My new home (about one year old) has plastered walls, the plaster being applied over what was called a plaster base. Now, in some rooms, the plaster has broken out, leaving small holes about 1/4 to 1/2 in. deep with irregular edges. These holes occur in irregularly spaced patterns over the walls and ceilings of several rooms. I have made a number of inquiries, but so far no one has been able to tell what causes the plaster to break in this manner. Can you tell me the cause? W.S., Mich.

(Continued to page 232)
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* PONDEROSA PINE
* SUGAR PINE

(Continued from page 230)

A—Plaster fractures of the type you describe are known to builders as “plaster pops,” and usually the trouble occurs on walls which are plastered over a plaster base. It is sometimes due to using nails of the wrong specification, but often is caused by failure to drive the nails to the proper depth when installing the plaster base. Manufacturers of plaster bases generally specify length and wire size of the special type of nails that are to be used, and that the nails shall be driven in just far enough to compress, but not to penetrate, the surface of the material. In your case it probably will be necessary to enlarge and undercut the holes slightly, drive in the nails if they project, and fill the holes with patching plaster before decorating the walls. It also will be necessary to sand the patches lightly to bring them flush with the surface of the wall. Be sure that the patching material is thoroughly dry before applying a wall size or paint primer.

DrainTile Up-End

Q—Recently my septic-tank disposal system failed and the tank overflowed. On digging up the tile lines in the dispersal field I found several of the individual tiles standing on end at a point considerably below the bottom of the original tile ditch, or excavation. Of course, in each instance the rest of the tile line was clogged. Several of the lines were affected in the same manner. What is the cause of the tile being displaced in this way?—L.A., Mo.

A—When open-joint tile are laid in certain soils to contain sand, pockets (quicksand) of soft layers at irregular levels, this trouble sometimes occurs. When the subsurface water level rises as a result of prolonged heavy rains, floods, or the presence of underground springs, the water which collects in the sand pockets “floats” the tile in the sense that the wet sand does not provide sufficient support under these conditions to keep the individual tiles in place. Gradually the tile sinks, drops out of line and up-ends. Unfortunately, in connection with a septic-tank disposal system in a limited area, the problem has no dispersal solution. About the only permanent remedy is to move the affected tile lines into more stable soils. Usually it is difficult to locate the subsurface quicksand pockets beforehand but sometimes stunted vegetation over the pocket will give a reliable clue to its location. Only by running the dispersal tile lines through more stable soils can you be sure of avoiding a repetition of the trouble.

Finishing Asphalt Tile

Q—My kitchen and bathroom floors are covered with asphalt tile and after two years of use the areas subjected to heavy wear are beginning to look dull and rather discolored. Is there a protective finishing material which will renew the color and make wear-resistant? If so, how is this finish applied? L.T., Ga.

A—First, clean the tile thoroughly with an asphalt-tile cleaner which is supplied for this purpose. This cleaner comes as a dry powder and is mixed with water in the proportions specified by the manufacturer. Follow the cleaner with two coats of special asphalt-tile finish, sometimes referred to as a sealer. This material provides a non-slip, grease and stain-resistant surface that will withstand hard wear for a long period of time without renewal. Usually the important thing in the preparation of the surface to assure a satisfactory job is to make sure that the tile surface is thoroughly clean before applying the sealer. This means that dust, dirt and sand, if any, must be removed from the surface before application of the sealer. Make sure that the brush or applicator is clean and that the room is kept as nearly dust-free as possible until the sealer is dry. Areas subjected to unusually hard wear often can be protected with rubber mats to prolong the life of the finish.
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DEPT. 24-M

DECEMBER 1951
foot from the usable area of the basement.
By the time he finished the bridge he had built several complete trains, either assembling the cars from kits or scaling them down to the last rivet from photos, as only a combined artist-craftsman could do. Probably his proudest work is an 1873 loco, scaled down and reproduced perfectly from a single woodcut in an old history book.

It was about this time that Frank began ordering, each morning, a "string of flats" (hotcakes) for breakfast. At the office he’d tell the artists on his staff to "highball" a piece of art work or "shunt it onto the siding." He was plumb loco over locos.

He wanted to make the entire basement room a background for the railroad. The only reason he decided to redecorate the room, according to Frank, was to give Tom some art training. Tom, on the other hand, reports that Pop let him paint some of the blue sky, but not much else. In any case, the two stayed up through the graveyard run one night, sketching what they wanted in the way of a background. Soon the ceiling and walls were as blue as the Western sky. With artists’ oils and ordinary house paint they painted a vast scene around the room. To the scene they added scale-model buildings. The result is so effective it's difficult to tell where the three-dimension models end and the two-dimension art work begins.

In one corner, lofty mountains look down on an abandoned mining town. The coal tipple and oldtime false-front buildings show the effect of years of neglect. Still legible are the once-gaudy signs which drew customers to Tom’s Place (a Chinese laundry). Ruth’s Place (a dance hall) and Dave’s Emporium (everything from buffalo robes to bootlaces). To the left, the mountains melt into foothills, and the foothills roll out into the long prairies. There’s an entire farm, from pigeon loft to pig pen. The prairies rise once more into mountains, with a deserted hunter’s cabin up near the timberline. Beyond the pass is a city, with real buildings. And beyond the city is the bridge (doorway) followed by the smoky darkness of the bookcase-tunnel. Moving downgrade now, the railroad passes rolling farmland, and the trip ends in a modern city, skyscrapers reaching high toward the ceiling. When this jagged city skyline encounters a basement window it doesn’t falter—the buildings march right on across the window, draperies and all.

Weaving through this scenic splendor are railroad tracks—151 feet 3½ inches of them, according to Beatty, who drove every spike in the thousands of ties. In one corner a classification yard with four sidings

(Continued to page 250)
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DECEMBER 1951
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CRAFTSMAN 6-in. Dado Set, $19.95. Dado, rebates, grooves, ¼ or ½-in. arbor.
CRAFTSMAN Molding Cutter Head, $4.50, and Cutter Bits (styles $2.95 per set, up). Make your own moldings! Has dozens of uses! 4-in. diameter cutter head (with Allen wrench), fits most bench saws with ½ or ½-in. arbor. 1-in. wide bits cut styles as shown.

Your nearest Sears Retail Store will furnish you with exact selling prices which will not exceed ceiling prices under applicable price regulation of O.P.S.

CRAFTSMAN Carbide-tipped Saw, $10.95 and up. New! Safer — has only 8 teeth projecting only .020 in. above non-cutting edge. Tungsten carbide tipped blades last 20 times longer than ordinary circular saw blades! No need to resharpen at frequent intervals. For ripping, cross-cutting or mitering. 5½ to 10-in. diameters; all arbor sizes.

Complete Outfit $129.95*
Cash
With guard, motor, extensions, bench, light and Powr-Panl
$13 Down

Special floating motor mount lessens strain on saw. Smoothes vibration, permits much easier tilting; protects motor from sawdust; automatically controls belt tension. Eliminates need for a special motor.

Only $6 Down puts this big, sturdy Saw in your shop!

Meets the most exacting requirements of professional craftsmen! Look at these superior features! ONE wheel controls BOTH angle and depth of cut. Special high-speed tilting and depth adjustments; no locking device needed. ONE lever locks fence at BOTH front and back. "Super-lubricated" ball bearings have much larger oil chambers. Largest table area of any bench saw in this price range!

Precision-ground cast semi-steel table, 8-in. combination blade (½-in. bore) has 2½-in. depth of cut; tilts any angle to 45°. Saw has blade; miter gauge; rip fence; machine and motor pulleys; V-belt; motor mount. Complete Outfit (as shown) includes saw guard assembly (with automatic leveling guard, splitter, non-kickback paws); CRAFTSMAN ½-H.P. 3450 R.P.M. ball-bearing capacitor motor (110-120 volt 60-cycle AC); 2 side table extensions; front roller extension; adjustable steel power tool bench; tool light; and Powr-Panl for plugging in. See this sensational saw at your nearest Sears Retail Store TODAY!

*Prices slightly higher south of the Ohio and west of the Mississippi rivers.

CRAFTSMAN Hand and Power Tools by SEARS, ROEBUCK and CO.
Famous for fine quality . . . precision performance . . . low price!
Look Inside...

7 Big "Plus" Features

1. Exclusive 3-jaw Chuck. Adjustable from 3/16 to 1/2-in. Takes 3/32 and 1/8-in. shank tools. HAND holds wire gauge drills, etc., without special adapters or collets.

2. Big Tool Construction. Shaft drawbar-mounted on two bearings. Also has ball thrust bearing.


4. Rugged Motor. Has 50% more power than any other rotary tool we know of in this class.

5. Scientifically-designed Fan. Helps make this the coolest running rotary tool we've seen. Temperature rise hardly noticeable even after hours of tough usage.


7. New functionally streamlined overall design. Easy to hold; easily clamped. Measures 7 1/4-in. overall.

Economy-priced CRAFTSMAN Rotary Tool Set

Complete Outfit $19.50*

Cash $9.00 Down

See it...compare it...try it yourself! Has 50% extra power over other rotary tools in this price range. This is the quality for which you would expect to pay much more. Ideal for home or shop use.

Performs the same operations described above. Has powerful 26,000 R.P.M. universal motor for 110-120-volt. 25 to 60-cycle AC or DC. Fan cooling system; built-in condenser; on-off switch. Underwriters' Lab. approved. Re- moveable pistol-grip handle. Collet chuck with 2 collet inserts (capacities: 3/32 and 1/8-inch). With 5 1/2-ft. rubber cord; plug. Overall length 7 inches. With 52 accessories as above in workshop case. Available NOW at your Sears retail store.

*Prices are slightly higher south of the Ohio and west of the Mississippi rivers.

CRAFTSMAN Hand and Power Tools by SEARS, ROEBUCK and CO.

Famous for fine quality...precision performance...low price!
of the coast's radar network would act as Ground Controlled Intercept. First GCI would move the two planes apart, then vector Lunatic 3 toward us again.

"Partial calling Lunatic 88. Turn right to 345 degrees."

That was us. Hathaway brought up the wing in a tight turn, leveled off and put the plane on autopilot, and sat back for a smoke. Both planes were blacked out and a high haze was obscuring the moon. It would be really black when the stalk began.

"Partial calling Lunatic 3. I have a customer for you. Turn right to 40 degrees."

"Partial calling Lunatic 3. Go left to 35 degrees."

"Partial calling Lunatic 3. Your bogie at 12 o'clock. Distance 30 miles."

"Partial calling Lunatic 3. Bogie at 12 o'clock, distance 20 miles."

Watching both planes on its big search scopes, the GCI station near San Francisco had rapidly put Lunatic 3 on a course that would intercept us. Now we were being overtaken.

"Lunatic 3 to Partial. I see him. Thanks."

This meant that the other plane had picked us up on his scope and had taken over radar control. Now the GCI station was free to watch for other intruders. Behind us, presumably, Lunatic 3 was diving at us or veering in from an angle. Lunatic 88 was a sitting duck for this kind of rehearsal, of course, and yet the denouement came surprisingly soon.

"Splash one F3D!"

The laconic radio message told us that the problem had been finished and that in theory we had been shot down. Lunatic 3 had closed in, made a visual "cateye" approach to identify us positively, then had backed off to shooting distance for the kill. There was one final radio message before the game began all over again.

"Lunatic 88, you are high on my port beam."

I looked down through the right cockpit window, squinting into the darkness, and barely made out a large black shape keeping pace with us. The planes would stay together for safety until GCI moved them apart again.

The two top-notch pilots had made the operation seem easy; actually they have one of the toughest jobs in aerial warfare. A pilot needs every bit of help that electronics can give him when following an invisible target that probably is engaging in evasive actions. Too, the bomber that he was following normally would carry
**CRAFTSMAN**

**REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.**

**A CRAFTSMAN**

8-tooth Carbide Tipped Saw
as low $10.95
as... $17.50**

**Costs you MUCH LESS than similar blades!**

Actual tests PROVE this CRAFTSMAN outperforms similar blades selling for much more! Rips, crosscuts, miters—handles more jobs smoother and faster. Needs less sharpening. Outlasts ordinary all-steel blades 20 times! Tungsten-carbide tipped teeth project only .020 inch above non-cutting surface. Saw can't grab—protects you from kickback injuries! Cuts woods, plastics, formica, Masonite, wallboard, abrasive building materials, transit, asbestos, aluminum and asphalt roofing and siding. (Not for Masonry, steel, iron or other ferrous metals.) See table below for sizes... and see this sensational new saw at your Sears Retail Store!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diameter</th>
<th>Arbor Hole</th>
<th>Fits these saws</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 1/2 in.</td>
<td>diamond</td>
<td>6-in. Skill-saw</td>
<td>$10.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 1/2 in.</td>
<td>square</td>
<td>6-in. Black &amp; Decker</td>
<td>10.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 1/2 in.</td>
<td>7/8 in. round</td>
<td>CRAFTSMAN 6 1/2-in. bench saws</td>
<td>10.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 in.</td>
<td>7/8 in. round</td>
<td>Porter-Cable bench saws</td>
<td>10.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 in.</td>
<td>diamond</td>
<td>Skill-saw</td>
<td>11.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 in.</td>
<td>square</td>
<td>Mall</td>
<td>11.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 in.</td>
<td>1 1/2 in. round</td>
<td>CRAFTSMAN 8-in. bench saws</td>
<td>12.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 in.</td>
<td>1 1/2 in. round</td>
<td>Bench saws</td>
<td>12.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 in.</td>
<td>diamond</td>
<td>Skill-saw</td>
<td>12.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 in.</td>
<td>Bench saws: builders' saws</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 in.</td>
<td>1 in. with step-down bushings</td>
<td>radial saw, swing saw</td>
<td>14.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New, improved tools with TWICE AS MUCH POWER as former models!**

**CRAFTSMAN** Sander-Polisher-Massager... Just plug it in!

Designed as a finishing sander—not for removing paint, varnish, or deep scratches. 14,400 "Dual-arc" strokes per minute give super-smooth surfaces. Entire tool and cord approved by Underwriters’ Laboratories, Inc. For 110-120 volt 60-cycle A.C. only. See it at your nearest Sears Retail Store TODAY.

**CRAFTSMAN** 11-in. Reactance motor Jig Saw

**Only** $13.95

- Just plug it in!
- Really a grand gift!

NOT a toy—but a rugged, well-made power tool for making models, puzzles, lawn ornaments, etc. For 110-120 volt, 60-cycle A.C. only. Gives a super-smooth cut that needs no sanding. Entire tool and cord approved by Underwriters’ Laboratories, Inc. See it NOW at your nearest Sears Retail Store.

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**CRAFTSMAN** by SEARS, ROEBUCK and CO.

**DECEMBER 1951**
SELF-CONTROL STARTS HERE

and to restore

CAR PERFORMANCE

OIL-CONTROL STARTS HERE

To stop oil-pumping, replace worn engine connecting rod bearings

In your car engine—as in your work—control is all-important for best performance! When connecting rod and main bearings are worn, they lose control of oil flow. They no longer "meter" exact amounts of oil for proper engine lubrication. Excess oil reaches combustion chambers, burns to performance-stealing carbon on spark plugs, valves, pistons and rings. Performance goes up in smoke!

Give new piston rings a chance to do their own job—replace worn engine bearings, too! Genuine Federal-Mogul bearings are engineered for the job of oil-control. They restore smooth performance and economical operation. Ask your mechanic!

FEDERAL-MOGUL SERVICE
(Division of Federal-Mogul Corporation)
DETROIT 13, MICHIGAN

CONTROL OIL-PUMPING WHERE IT STARTS—REPLACE WITH

FEDERAL-MOGUL BEARINGS

radar-controlled guns that will be fired automatically when he approaches. The fighter has to get in the first punch if he is to win the radar battle.

Down on the "deck" when chasing a low-flying airplane, the night-fighter pilot needs an extra sense in addition to everything else. The altimeter, the radio altimeter, and the radar can all tell him his distance above the surface and yet in the tense excitement of the chase he may drop too low and fly right into the water in the dark.

There are a hundred other things that can happen before a pilot is ready to seek his carrier by radar or is talked down to it by Carrier Controlled Approach.

To help the night fighter in his crucial battles, the Navy recently developed two new auxiliary kinds of aircraft, the AD-4W that is loaded with radar equipment and that serves as a high-flying early warning radar search center, and the AD-4Q, a countermeasure aircraft whose main job is to scramble an intruder's radar signals.

Teamed together, the two types of planes are expected to detect enemy aircraft at greater distances than are now practical, and to spoil the accuracy of his radar equipment without affecting the radar on our own F3Ds and other friendly aircraft.

The whole subject starts getting pretty complicated right about here; the Navy's electronic experts are certain that they'll have the upper hand if and when the actual test of battle comes.

Let's Send TV Around the World
(Continued from page 87)

there are no wires to come down. Last year, during the worst ice storm ever to hit the East Coast, the New York to Philadelphia microwave link operated by Western Union carried 100 telegraph-printer channels without interruption, while many land-line communications experienced severe breakdowns because of the storm.

On top of all this, microwave relay is being improved daily. Its beams can be bent by mirrorlike reflectors to bring television signals up from behind mountains and down again into mountain-bound towns. Recently, a video station in Binghamton, N. Y., needed a link with its transmitter whose tower barely peeked over the top of a hill three miles away. Cable was too expensive, so engineers put a dish-type antenna atop the building in town. They couldn't put a receiving antenna on the part of the tower that showed because of installation problems. So they built a seven-foot aluminum mirror on the tower,
A Christmas Bonus Every Day!

YOURS FOR YEARS WITH DELTA POWER TOOLS

What better Christmas bonus, what finer gift, can you imagine for yourself than Delta Power Tools? It's a lasting bonus, too, that keeps on paying year after year in pleasure and relaxation and profit — for these quality tools soon pay for themselves in actual money saved on the things you make for yourself, for the home, for the family.

So, drop a hint where it will do the most good, or earmark that Christmas bonus or gift money for a real bonus for you . . . Delta Power Tools . . . a lifetime investment in pleasure and profit!

BASIC TOOL in any workshop, to perform ALL the basic woodworking operations, a Delta circular saw pays for itself in worthwhile home improvements — and pleasure!

JUST A FEW OF THE THINGS YOU CAN MAKE RIGHT AT HOME WITH DELTA TOOLS!

For the House:  
- Kitchen Snack Bar  
- Coffee Table  
- Storage Cabinet  
- Baby Beds  
- Wall Shelves

For the Children:  
- Trucks  
- Pull Toys  
- Doll Beds  
- Tanks  
- Cranes  
- Guns  
- Tops  
- Boots  
- Doll Houses

For the Family:  
- Men's Wardrobes  
- Television Table  
- Picnic Table  
- Dresses  
- Bird Houses

Delta "How to do it" Books Make Welcome Gifts—Scores of Titles—Get Them at Your Delta Dealer.

DECEMBER 1951
at an angle that reflected the microwave beam down to an antenna on the transmitter's rooftop—well below the hill. That mirror has been bouncing microwaves over the hill successfully ever since.

There are other ways to beam our microwave signals across the ocean and such techniques might come even sooner.

With what we know right now, we could develop what I call a "radio air lift"—transoceanic planes, equipped with compact microwave-radio relay apparatus that would operate automatically. A continuous string of aircraft so equipped could pass a television signal from one plane to the next until it reached its destination. In effect, the planes would simply be microwave antennas at stratosphere height.

Today, a plane takes off every 35 minutes for Europe. That's enough planes to do it, since it would require only 16 properly spaced planes from New York to Amsterdam at any one time to turn the trick. By timing present commercial and military departures properly, a chain of airplanes, flying at 20,000 feet or more, could be as much as 200 to 300 miles apart and still transmit line-of-sight microwave-radio relay signals from one to the other.

With two groups of 15 Constellation-type planes a two-way circuit could be operated simultaneously, or one ultrafax circuit, or 500 two-way phone channels, or 5000 two-way Teletype channels. So, in between television shows, there would be plenty of work to keep the radio air lift busy.

What about getting good television transmitting and receiving equipment down to airplane size and weight? Way back in 1940, RCA staged a pioneer venture when it sent a television plane up over New York City. In that craft was a small video station, consisting of cameras and a lightweight relay transmitter. The whole outfit weighed 700 pounds. The plane picked up and telecast to a local station for relay a bird's-eye view of the city in a successful 45-minute show. A year earlier a plane with a receiver on board was picked up by the television camera of a mobile unit at a New York airport, relayed to RCA's station atop the Empire State Building, and retelecast. The plane's receiver was tuned in on the channel, and men on board looked at the screen and watched themselves coming in to land.

These were early experiments, but they proved that airborne radio-relay equipment was practical. Since then, tremendous strides have been made. A few years ago, a young television engineer developed a system involving nothing more than a compact microwave-radio relay for aircraft. Signals picked up by the plane,
flying in circles some 25,000 feet up in the stratosphere, were retelecast earthward by this sky-high antenna. In one demonstration, a television program of a world-series game was relayed from the plane. The signal spread out like an inverted ice-cream cone, reaching the receivers of set owners in 55 communities in six states beneath the plane.

By relaying the television signals from plane to plane, instead of beaming them earthward, the experimenters at that time estimated that eight specially equipped planes, flying 400 miles apart at 25,000 feet, could make up a transcontinental microwave-radio relay net. In addition, each plane could transmit programs to ground receivers over an area 500 miles in diameter around them, bringing television to scores of out-of-the-way places.

For many reasons, the plan did not materialize. But it certainly was possible. Something similar to it could be our answer to transoceanic television tomorrow.

There are two other ways of building our transoceanic television network, both more remote, because of the problems involved. For years the military has toyed with the idea of building a series of multidecked floating islands, like huge aircraft carriers on pontoons instead of hulls. The idea has been to spot these islands across the Atlantic, to serve as weather stations, emergency landing strips for aircraft, repair depots for crippled ships, and a host of other sound purposes.

Microwave-radio relay to Europe would provide one more reason why they might be built. For on such a chain of islands towers could be erected to carry the beaming apparatus for many channels of communications via television, telephone, teleprinter, ultrafax, or what you will. Towers 1000 feet high on artificial islands spaced 75 miles apart could beam their microwaves to each other without trouble. You've already seen how that would work for television, since it's just another way of extending the tower-chain network.

One problem here is the designing of such towers that would be strong enough to stand the stresses of buffeting by the elements. Another lies in anchoring such islands. To be properly spotted across the ocean, some would be in very deep water. The strain of ocean currents and other pressure movements of water on a long expanse of anchor cable can create tremendous drag. A few pounds of stress on cables a mile long could pull such a huge floating island right under water. One of our own engineers at RCA anchored his 30-foot boat in 150 feet of water in Long Island Sound

(Continued to page 252)
This Christmas, See How Little It Costs To Give Famous Professional Quality Westcraft Tools

Why pay fancy prices for fine tools? See, try and compare Westcraft—you’ll discover that these famous, shop-tested tools give you the same precision manufacturing and lasting accuracy of other brands costing far more. Westcraft Tools are fully guaranteed and are yours on easy terms. Here are a few from our complete selection—see them this week at Western Auto!

Punch & Chisel Set, precision ground and tempered. Chrome plated, polished alloy steel, 4 pieces in carrying kit. (HR1937) **$163**

Ball Pein Hammer, 36 oz. Heat treated, tempered tool steel. Selected hickory handle. Specially ground, polished . . . (HR4884) **$175**

7" Tilt Table Bench Saw. 14" x 16" table. Performs 8 different cutting operations. Ball bearing arbor. **$39.40**

2 3/16" cutting depth. Only . . . (HR1002) . . . .

Auger Bits, solid center, hand forged from high grade tempered steel. Tapered shank fits any standard bit brace. 13 sizes, as low as . . . (HR270-36) . . . . **$7.94**

Soldering Iron. 100 watt. 7/8" x 3/4" copper tip. Nickel-chrome sealed element . . . (HR4284) . . . . **$20.00**

1/4 HP Electric Motor, 1725 rpm, 115 v., 60 eye. AC. Split phase. GE guaranteed for 1 full year. Only . . . (HR1601) . . . . **$18.50**

Wrench Set for hollow-head set screws with hexagon socket. Plated to resist rust. 7 sizes in plastic case. Only . . . (HR2506) . . . . **$5.44**

Professional Quality—Wizards of Performance

WESTCRAFT TOOLS

Sold by the largest group of associated tool departments in America

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DECEMBER 1951
For youngsters 8-to-80!

**STANLEY TOOLS**

Good tools make good gifts for men of all ages. Give Stanley Tools this Christmas...complete sets in sturdy chests or individual tools in Woodcraft boxes. Now on display at your dealer's. Look for this famous trade mark (STANLEY)

**Hobby Chests**

Hobby House Set No. 910. Five other tool sets available in prices ranging from $12.00 up.

Australia Starts Her Own "TVA"

(Continued from page 129)

At Lob's Hole, it meets water from the Tantangara Reservoir, formed by damming the upper Murrumbidgee River. This reservoir will have a capacity of 300,000 acre-feet. On the way to Lob's Hole, it picks up water from the Yarrangobilly River at Yarrangobilly Pond. From Tantangara to Yarrangobilly Pond, the 8½-mile tunnel will serve one power station. From Yarrangobilly Pond, the tunnel continues for five miles to Lob's Hole and another power station. These two stations will develop 265,000 kilowatts.

From Lob's Hole Reservoir, a canal conveys the water to the power station and Blowing Dam on the Tumut River. Blowing Reservoir has a capacity of 800,000 acre-feet and is primarily for water-regulation purposes. Water may be released higher up to generate power, when not needed for irrigation at the time. So this water won't be wasted, it will be stored at Blowing and released only as required for irrigation. The power station below Blowing Dam will make use of this water.

Combined, the 16 power stations of the Snowy-Murray and Snowy-Tumut sections will produce 2,660,000 kilowatts, slightly more than that of the Tennessee Valley Authority. The project will make 2,000,000 acre-feet of water per year available for irrigation on the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers. This is four times the amount now used yearly by the Murrumbidgee area alone. It is enough to irrigate 3,500,000 additional acres of land on the lower reaches of these two rivers. A fertile country, needing only water to produce bumper crops, the land will settle between 50,000 to 100,000 people. Increased agricultural production of this area will be worth over $50,000,000 annually.

Australian engineers have done most of the planning for this project, which has aroused worldwide interest because of its size and the many problems involved. The Australian Ministry of National Development has asked the United States Bureau of Reclamation to design some major works of the project. The bureau is considered a world authority on hydroelectric practices.

The demand for trained engineers has created a problem in Australia's present labor shortage. For most of its technical staff, the Snowy River Authority has gone abroad to avoid pirating men from other Australian projects.

Many engineers have come from Europe. It is anticipated that 75 percent of the men required will be immigrants. A large flow (Continued to page 248)
When you and your wife talk about practical gifts this year, put in a plug for the Power King tools you need in your shop. Have her see them at your Atlas-Power King dealers. PK tools, better than any others, give you the capacity and accuracy you want plus rugged construction and proper bearings for long service. They’re fun to operate and, used wisely for home improvement and furniture building, can save you hundreds of dollars. FREE — new catalog with operating views and hints — send a postcard, we’ll rush it.
of immigrants from Europe is now entering Australia to help build up and develop the country.

The scarcity of domestic materials needed for the project has caused the authority to go abroad for many of them. Even prefabricated houses are being bought overseas to conserve building materials.

Much of the heavy earthmoving equipment is imported from the U.S.A. Other machinery will be imported from Europe and America as the work progresses.

Seven lakes will be created when all the dams are finished. These lakes will provide a huge reserve of fresh water to be released as needed for irrigation and power. Australia has no large fresh-water lakes, so these will prove popular for fishing and other recreation.

As most of the 16 power stations will be deep underground and safe from air attack, the power provided by them will go to many military-research projects.

This electricity will link up with power systems of Melbourne and Sydney, Australia's two largest cities with over 3,000,000 people between them. The apportionment of power, after making allowance for the inappreciable amount used by the Australian capital territory, will be between two states. Victoria will share one third and the New South Wales two thirds.

The 2,750,000 million kilowatts of electricity of the project is the equivalent of the combined output of all steam and hydroelectric power stations operating in Australia today. It will mean the saving of 4,000,000 tons of coal annually.

Roads, camps and communication lines are being built first. The isolated camps communicate with each other by radio and telephone. Work crews use walkie-talkies.

In addition to the construction of new roads to work sites, the problem of keeping them open in the winter is a huge one. For clearing snow, U. S. equipment is used.

Already the towns in the area are taking on the air of a Klondike gold rush. The town of Cooma, headquarters of the authority, is referred to as the Dawson City of the New Yukon. The old gold-mining towns of Kiandra and Adaminaby, are experiencing a revival of boom times as workers flow in and new buildings spring up almost overnight.

This task, which Australia has embarked upon to improve the welfare of her people, is tremendous, considering its population. While as large in area as the U.S.A., she has a population of only 8,300,000.

It is estimated that the total cost for the project will be about $560,000,000. The time required to complete it all will be 25 years, according to present plans.
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“CO2 POWERED” GUNS

POWER
WITHOUT POWDER
WITHOUT PUMPING

Expert or beginner, you'll get a thrill without a “kick” shooting these amazing guns. Safe to shoot indoors or out, thanks to Crosman’s “no-ricochet” type Super-Pells. Available in .177 and .22 cal. models. See them at your Crosman dealer’s. Write for literature.

CROSMAN ARMS CO., INC., ROCHESTER 20, N.Y.

MODERN LAWN MOWER SHARPENER
FOR LAWN MOWER SHOPS
GOLF COURSES • PARKS
101 OTHER JOBS

Sharpen All Reel Type Mowers • Hand Power or Gang 10 to 20 Minutes • No Dismantling • No Extra Attachments Needed.

ORDER NOW
Immediate Delivery

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Lifetime beauty comes out of a gun! Colorcrete is a cementitious plastic, applied by pneumatic pressure to new or old concrete, stucco, etc. Tough, tenacious, enduring. Can be washed or scrubbed. Dirty, drab surfaces become sparkling white or tinted from a range of 30 colors.

"Building-Beautifying" – Your Big Opportunity

Colorcreting is a fascinating and profitable opportunity for men who want to build a substantial, long-term business. Colorcreting is exclusive. Rich in sales appeal to building owners. Income potentials are high; investment is low. We supply complete equipment, full instructions and liberal cooperation. Requires no previous experience or special ability. Write or wire for the Opportunity Book today. Be the first in your community.

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Give Him a MAN'S Gift for Christmas!

HOME-UTILITY 5” SANDER-POLISHER
only $32.95

HOME-UTILITY 3/4” DRILL
only $22.95

HOME-UTILITY SANDER-POLISHER
KIT only $49.95

MANY USEFUL ACCESSORIES! Stands, Wire Brushes, Masonry Bits, Buffing & Polishing Kits, Abrasive Kits, lots more!

Drilling, sanding, polishing, sharpening, wire brushing, buffing—these versatile BLACK & DECKER Home-Utility Tools speed up no end of jobs, make perfect gifts for a man’s Christmas! They’re quality - built by BLACK & DECKER. Easy to operate, fun to use, priced for every pocketbook. Try them, buy them at your local hardware, electrical or department store displaying the Home-Utility SANTA CLAUS!

BLACK & DECKER

DECEMBER 1951
This Year — don’t miss those Christmas snapshots
Add a KALART Speed Flash to your camera

$8.95 and $9.95 Models for most cameras

Take snapshots of the children round the Christmas tree — candid of parties — other holiday pictures indoors — night or day. They’re easy when you add a Kalart Speed Flash to your camera. No need to say “hold still.” The flash of the lamp is so quick it stops most motion. Click the shutter and your Kalart automatically lights the flash lamp at just the right moment — gives you a flood of light equal to bright sunshine. Models for most cameras — old or new. At leading camera, drug and department stores.

Send for free illustrated booklet “How to Take Speed Flash Pictures of Baby,” Kalart, Plainville, Conn. Dept. PM-12.

flanks the line’s two main tracks. The through tracks go all the way along one wall and turn the corner of the room, where the outside rail heads up a 4½-percent grade. When there’s enough clearance, the inside track ducks under it. On this two-level main line the trains pass over the bridge and through the bookcase.

From the control board across the room Beatty can operate a switch which shunts the lower train through the wall and out into his workshop in the adjoining room. As the train comes rolling along the spur line just above the workbench, it passes over a contact point on the rail. The weight of the locomotive causes a signal light to flash on the control panel, and Beatty then brings the train to a stop at a convenient working level a few inches above his bench.

Like any other model railroader, Frank gets ideas faster than he can execute them. Just now he’s improving the painted background and installing more scale-model buildings. He’s determined to do something about an electric wall outlet he considers unsightly — figures he’ll cover it with a model grain elevator made of balsa wood, fashioning it so the electric plugs can be inserted through the windows.

He also says something must be done about the bridge. Not long ago he was seated at the control panel, his back to the bridge, when someone swung up the structure to enter the room. A moment later a crack eastbound freight failed to leap the gap and there was a fearful crash as boxcars and reefer smashed into the cement floor. Frank repaired the damage and now is working on new safety measures to prevent a recurrence.

At the office, the boss still has that harassed expression on his face, for Frank is worse than ever these days. Between verses of the “Wabash Cannonball” he talks about his new hot-shot freight and plans for a “water level route” past the laundry tubs.

He’s rolling westbound up a blind siding all right.

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DECEMBER 1951
recently. A strong current was running at that spot, and his bow went under. He nearly lost the craft before he cut that anchor loose.

But those are problems for the structural engineers. Given enough attention, they may be solved. If they are, transoceanic microwave-relay networks can go ahead in this fashion.

Though microwave relay appears to be the most adaptable method for carrying television signals, it is conceivable that some day coaxial cables may be perfected to carry video signals across the ocean floor, just as cables carry telephone and telegraph signals today. This, at present, is a remote possibility, since underwater coaxial cables still pose huge problems. If it should become necessary to solve them, however, I feel that it could be done.

I have no doubt of the ultimate practicality of transoceanic television. The idea of putting this new means of communication on an international scale is exciting. Think how television beamed abroad could show democracy at work to the rest of the world. To see democracy at work is to believe it, and that's one of television's big jobs of the future. Indeed, international television offers us a great opportunity to promote real understanding among people, and to build a lasting peace among men.

Cut clean, accurate, parallel grooves—40 widths, any angle. No chatter, burning, chewing—or sanding! No more blade vibration—no screws to fuss with—just four balanced washers. Simply dial desired width with Micromatic adjustment. Can be left on blade for straight cuts. Available in 4 sizes—1/2", 3/4", 5/8", 1". A perfect gift for woodworkers. See your dealer or write—

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NOTHING ELSE TO BUY
TAKE IT ANYWHERE—the first completely portable spray gun. Needs no
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Sharpen round Shank drills from

3/32" to 1/2" in diameter, up to 6"

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different point angles, using hand or

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More local Brikcrete plants are needed. You can be one of a
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demand elimination of wastefulness in production. Brikcrete
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Brikcrete is modern in design, proportion

and size. Has exclusive butted web

structure in wide range of colors. Local

manufacturers have broad opportunities

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High income potentials. Requires only

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BRIKCRETE ASSOCIATES, INC.
4679 Division Avenue, S.

DECEMBER 1951
Taconite is Tomorrow's Iron

(Continued from page 76)

temperatures that burn a hole right down through the rock. With the aid of the jet-piercing drill, miners are able to blast loose big chunks of taconite. Massive power shovels then bite into the jagged stuff, swing it overhead and dump it into waiting trucks which tote it to the factory.

Inside the plant, the management is faced with the knottiest problem in the steel industry. Nine hundred miles away, along the lower rim of Lake Erie, blast furnaces are gobbling up iron ore with tremendous appetites. A blast furnace is one of the most cantankerous giants in existence. Although it has an enormous appetite, it’s mighty particular about its diet. It refuses to cooperate if the feed is too rich or too poor, the chunks too big or too little. Somehow thousands of tons of rock must be converted into a palatable feed for the furnace.

The first step is to smash the boulders to powder-size particles. The big chunks of rock are dumped off the trucks into the preliminary crushe, which resembles a gigantic bell suspended in the middle of a circular hopper. There’s a space measuring only a few inches between the rim of the bell and the hopper. The boulders tumble down the sides of the bell until they are squeezed into this space. Then the bell is “rung” by a powerful motor, repeatedly smashing the boulders until they are small enough to fall on through. Two other crushers take over the chunks, knocking them into slingshot-size pieces.

Then into the grinding mill—a huge revolving drum—flow the pebbles. Inside the drum, an inferno of tumbling, clashing steel rods or balls smash the rocks to smithereens. Carried along in a swirl of water, the resulting powder-size particles flow into a machine called a classifier. It’s nothing but a big bathtub, overflowing with water, which selects the smaller particles and rejects the larger. Two huge steel corkscrews, tilted on end, continually revolve up through the tub. As they revolve they carry away the coarser particles, the “fines” overflowing with the water.

By now these powder-size particles have picked up one of two personalities. Each speck is either loaded with iron or is mostly plain rock. Mix a quarter cup of pepper with a cup of flour and you’ll get the proper proportions.

How is the pepper sorted from the flour? Nature very thoughtfully provided a key to the puzzle. Some taconite is highly magnetic, other weakly. That’s why most of the wilderness factories, at least the first ones,
AC is the original Fuel Pump.

More than 100,000,000 have been built.

More than 40,000,000 are in daily use.

More than 90% of the gas-powered vehicles now in service were factory-equipped with AC’s.

Backed by 24 years of “know-how”—there are none better.
are being built on the eastern end of the Mesabi, for here the ore is strongly magnetic. The secret of the separation process, of course, is to attract the iron particles with a magnet.

Each separator consists of one or more spinning drums — actually electromagnets. The soupy water flows against the magnets, and the iron-laden particles snap out and swirl around the drum. The rock particles flow past, unaffected by the magnets. The result is a river of worthless sand and a rivulet of muddy water, heavy with iron.

Water is filtered from the resulting soupy taconite by a fabric-covered drum.

The result? Fine particles, black as midnight, rich in iron.

Yet dust in this form is utterly useless, as useless as rock dust. A blast furnace that was fed the stuff would bog down with acute indigestion. Somehow the dust has to be stuck back together again into mud balls. And the mud balls must meet some very precise requirements. They must be acceptable to the touchy stomach of a blast furnace, they must be reasonably small in size and, most important, they must be extremely rugged, for they'll be handled like lumps of coal in shipment. They must withstand rain without crumbling. That's quite an order for a mud ball.

The first faint hope of solving this problem occurred a few years ago in the laboratory of Dr. E. W. Davis of the University of Minnesota. Doctor Davis patted the taconite concentrate into mud balls, then baked the balls in an oven. The heat fused the iron particles, making tough little balls that seemed ideal. But how could the balls be patted together by the billions? One day someone in the laboratory hit on the idea of rolling the mud into balls in the same way snowballs form when snow starts sliding downhill. Some of the damp powder was shoveled into a horizontal drum and the drum rotated. As if by magic, little balls of taconite appeared.

Today, at the Aurora plant, the wet powder flows into one end of a slightly tilted rotating drum eight feet in diameter and about 24 feet long. You can stand at the opposite end of the drum and watch the balls magically appear by the millions. The tilt of the drum keeps them moving gradually toward you until they roll off at your feet—round, wet, shiny little pellets weighing only a few ounces apiece, yet rolling out by the ton. They drop onto a conveyor belt which—carries them to a big circular furnace to be baked into hard nubbins.

The baked pellets seem an ideal solution. They meet all the strength requirements for shipping; and most important of all, (Continued to page 258)
FIX IT or FASTEN IT
Better and Faster!

NEW TINNERMAN
Speed Nut
TANNER KIT

SPEED NUT—the one-piece, self-locking, vibration-proof fastener—famous throughout industry...

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Fast • Accurate
Speed Planing
Beveling
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NOW! Convert your 1/4" electric drill for fast, accurate planing, beveling, ripping, in a matter of minutes. Rips up to 1 1/4" strip, planes 1/4" of one stroke, 15 times faster than any hand plane. Rips boards up to 1 1/4" thick. Nothing like it exists. Too many uses to mention. Order completely assembled or ready-to-assemble, all parts and instructions furnished. You need only 14" piece of 2x4 and your own electric drill. 2 planing blades made of finest High Speed steel available included. Blades are 1/2" diameter, 2" cutting surface. Saves you $50 to $140! Send cash, check, or money order. Shipped same day. Use for 10 days. If not satisfied return. Money-back guarantee. Parts ready to assemble $9.95.

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DECEMBER 1951 257
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buy the SENSATIONAL NEW
Redi-Warm AUTOMATIC ENGINE TENDER

Thermo Stop-Start Engine Warmer
At last the luxury of knowing your car will start as easily on a sub-zero morning as it will on a summer day. With Redi-Warm Automatic Engine Tender in your car, it makes no difference where you park — how long you park. No outside electrical connection necessary — no smudge pots — no spark boosters. Just touch your starter. You're off in a jiffy.

Widely acclaimed by automotive engineers, Redi-Warm is a marvel of simplicity. It consists of only three small units — a thermostatic control which clamps easily to the engine head; a neutral switch which permits Redi-Warm to operate only while the car is in neutral; and a dash switch which puts Redi-Warm in operation.

Saves Engine Wear — Saves Gas
It is a well-known fact that the most wear on an engine occurs during minutes required to start. Redi-Warm, by keeping the engine at normal temperature regardless of weather conditions insures quick, easy starting; preserves the motor, saves on gas. Besides the comfort and convenience it affords, Redi-Warm will save more than pay for itself in a few cold weather months.

Why risk loss of time — loss of temper — expensive towing charges? If your local dealer does not have Redi-Warm in stock, send for it direct from the factory. It costs only $24.95 postpaid; comes with complete instructions for the simple wiring. Do it yourself, or ask your neighborhood serviceman. Sold on an absolute guarantee of full satisfaction.

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* Eng. & Mfg. Co., Inc.
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* North Wapelo, N. H., U.S.A.

Another blast furnaces gobble them up like dessert.

Still other ways of treating taconite are being investigated. In Duluth, the research laboratory of Oliver Mining Company, a subsidiary of U. S. Steel, is running all kinds of tests to determine what can be done with the stuff. On the big floor of the laboratory virtually any kind of pilot plant can be set up within hours, then torn down to make way for another type.

Once the taconite has been reduced to a black dust, there are other methods of "agglomeration," as sticking it back together again is called. One, showing great promise, is to sinter it — mix it with coke and fuse it into cinder, similar to the clinker in a coal stove — then break the cinder into small pieces. The two remaining methods are briquetting, pressing it into forms, then baking the resulting "bricks"; and nodulizing, in which heat plus the rotating action of the furnace produce lumps.

What will be the cost of iron made from rock? Taconite is more expensive to mine than direct-shipping ores; it must be treated by expensive equipment; two or three times the labor force is required. One authority estimates that about $25,000,000 will have to be invested in new plants for every million tons of annual pellet production. When you start multiplying such figures you plunge into deep economic waters: for an annual capacity of 30,000,000 tons, some six to seven hundred million dollars will have to be invested. Can taconite be made to yield its iron without boosting the price of steel sky-high?

The best guess by authorities in the industry is that the price will go up but not out of sight. There are substantial savings that aren't immediately spotted.

For example, shipping costs are reduced. In one recent year, about 70,000,000 tons of ore were shipped from the Lake Superior area to the blast furnaces. The ore contained 11.5 percent water. About $21,500,000 was spent during that year shipping useless water all around the Great Lakes. The pellets, on the other hand, contain virtually no water.

And the pellets, received at the blast furnace, contain 60 to 65 percent iron oxide, while direct-shipping ores average 51.5 percent iron oxide. A ton of taconite pellets obviously pays off in more pig iron.

The end of the taconite story won't be written for centuries. Already thoughtful men in laboratories on the iron range are investigating how nonmagnetic taconites can be forced to surrender their iron. Three or four hundred years from now, America may once more start looking for a new source of ore. But even to the steel companies, that tomorrow is a long way off.
The Amphenol INLINE TV Antenna is engineered by the same experts who have perfected complicated antenna systems for radar, submarines, railroads, aircraft and mobile communications. Every mechanical and electrical factor of the INLINE TV Antenna is coordinated to create the best possible picture quality. It is a broadband antenna system which has a single, powerful forward radiation lobe to capture the strongest television signal from one direction with no minor lobes off the sides to pick up reflected signals and interference.
The Owners Report on the Hudson
(Continued from page 118)

owners average (depending on model) from 17.01 to 19.5 miles per gallon in country driving, and 13.7 to 16.4 in the city.

As usual, opinions differed on the automatic-transmission question, but 85 percent of the owners who want automatic transmission said they want Hydra-Matic on their next car. However, only 54 percent want a self-shifter and 46 percent want standard transmission (33 percent of these want overdrive). A Sterling, Ill., farmer expressed the general opinion that “overdrive saves gas and is easier on the motor.”

“Hydra-Matic drive is old enough now to be standard equipment,” wrote a Detroit internal-revenue man. “My Hydra-Matic operates just perfectly and as far as I can tell is troublefree,” said a retired Army officer of Dublin, Ga.

However, an enthusiastic Hudson owner in Chicago said he wants standard transmission next time because, “With automatic transmission, when the motor is missing there is no way to control your car unless you shift your gear to neutral every time you come to a stop sign. Also, in winter when it snows, you can't push another car or get pushed easily when your car does not start. With standard shift there is no problem.”

Another standard-transmission devotee is a Washington, D. C., agronomist who said, “I buy a car for transportation. The extra cost of automatic transmission does not seem to provide more economical transportation.”

Super-Matic drive drew a bitter reproof from a St. Petersburg, Fla., advertising man. “For my money, Super-Matic drive is a disgrace to the Hudson Motor Co.,” he wrote. “I drove my 1950 Commodore 6000 miserable miles with it and was glad to trade it off in nine months.”

The transmission question was settled once and for all in this survey by a San Antonio, Tex., psychiatrist, who said he wanted neither standard transmission, overdrive nor Super-Matic drive in his next car; he wanted Hydra-Matic because of “emotional satisfaction!” He added: “I wish Hudson would build a car that didn't look like an inverted bathtub and would develop a new

(Continued to page 222)

1951 HUDSON SPECIFICATIONS

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<th>ENGINE</th>
<th>Pacemaker</th>
<th>Sup. 6</th>
<th>Comm. 6</th>
<th>Comm. 8</th>
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<td>3-speed conventional</td>
<td>3-speed conventional</td>
<td>3-speed conventional</td>
<td>3-speed conventional</td>
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</tbody>
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GENERAL

| Weight (4-door sedan) | 3460 lbs. | 3565 lbs. | 3600 lbs. | 3620 lbs. | 3600 lbs. |
| Wheelbase              | 119 7/16 in. | 123 7/16 in. | 123 7/16 in. | 123 7/16 in. | 123 7/16 in. |
| Tread, Front           | 53 7/16 in. | 55 5/16 in. | 55 5/16 in. | 55 5/16 in. | 55 5/16 in. |
| Tread, Rear            | 60 7/16 in. | 60 7/16 in. | 60 7/16 in. | 60 7/16 in. | 60 7/16 in. |
| Over-all Height        | 60 7/16 in. | 60 7/16 in. | 60 7/16 in. | 60 7/16 in. | 60 7/16 in. |
| Over-all Width         | 77-1/16 in. | 77-1/16 in. | 77-1/16 in. | 77-1/16 in. | 77-1/16 in. |

Interior Dimensions (4-door Sedan)

| Front Seat Width       | 64 in. | 64 in. | 64 in. | 64 in. | 64 in. |
| Rear Seat Width        | 64 in. | 64 in. | 64 in. | 64 in. | 64 in. |
| Legroom, Front         | 43 7/16 in. | 43 7/16 in. | 43 7/16 in. | 43 7/16 in. | 43 7/16 in. |
| Legroom, Rear          | 33 7/16 in. | 33 7/16 in. | 33 7/16 in. | 33 7/16 in. | 33 7/16 in. |
| Headroom, Front        | 38 7/16 in. | 38 7/16 in. | 38 7/16 in. | 38 7/16 in. | 38 7/16 in. |
| Headroom, Rear         | 37 1/16 in. | 37 1/16 in. | 37 1/16 in. | 37 1/16 in. | 37 1/16 in. |
| Tire Size              | 7.10 x 15 | 7.10 x 15 | 7.10 x 15 | 7.10 x 15 | 7.10 x 15 |
| Recommended Tire Pressure | 26 lbs. F | 26 lbs. F | 26 lbs. F | 26 lbs. F | 26 lbs. F |
| Road Clearance         | 8 1/16 in. | 8 1/16 in. | 8 1/16 in. | 8 1/16 in. | 8 1/16 in. |
| Steering Wheel, Lock to Lock | 5 1/4 turns | 5 1/4 turns | 5 1/4 turns | 5 1/4 turns | 5 1/4 turns |

CAPACITIES

| Oil                    | 7 qts. | 7 qts. | 7 qts. | 7 qts. | 7 qts. |
| Water                  | 18 1/2 qts. | 18 1/2 qts. | 18 1/2 qts. | 18 1/2 qts. | 18 1/2 qts. |
| Gasoline               | 20 gal. | 20 gal. | 20 gal. | 20 gal. | 20 gal. |
HEAT

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80-1 ratio
GEAR REDUCTOR
Double reduction, 80 to 1.5 in. 8 to 15 HP electric motors. 22 RPM. Can be used with grinders, mixers, mixers, etc. Centrifugal control. Electric motors or small motor. New in original box. $9.00.

54 to 1 BOSTON Speed Reducer
Reduces speed of all 1/12 in. electric motors in 5 rpm. Home improvement prices. $29.50.

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For motor scooters, lawn mowers, etc. Centrifugal control. Electric motors or small motors. New in original box. $9.00.

BATTERY ARBORS
Grinding and saw Arbor, has 1/4 in. diameter. $5.00 each. 2 cent. pulse. No. 4002. New. Centrifugal control. Left hand screw. Self aligning. Only $5.00 each. New. 8.25 in. $11.25 each.

ALARM HORNS • SIRENS
For alarm or signal horn on industrial trucks, factories, aid private homes. 10 cent. each. Prices are subject to change.

HOT ROD SUPERCHARGER
Extra smip and go at less cost. Has 1/4 in. diameter. New in original box. $5.00 each. No. 4002. New. Centrifugal control. Left hand screw. Self aligning. Only $5.00 each. New. 8.25 in. $11.25 each.

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Electricity does the work when you clear your sidewalks and driveways with an electric snow shovel. The impeller vanes throw the snow up to 20 feet on either side, clearing a 12-inch wide path at a walking pace. The machine can, with a conversion unit, be changed into a power lawn mower come spring. The ½-horsepower motor has a 100-foot cord.
Saw comes from 20 and 30 miles.

"I rented a two-car garage and have all the work I can do. Some days I start 6:30 in the morning. I get work 20 and 30 miles from my place of business."—Charles H. Smith.

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"Each saw I filed got me six more and business has been picking up that way for a year ago. If it keeps up I'll have to buy another Foley Saw File."—William C. Baldwin.

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Here is a steady repeat CASH business you can start in your own basement or garage in your spare time. Every saw you sharpen with the machine accuracy of the Foley Saw File is an ad that brings you more customers. S. M. Hollingshead wrote to us: "I am doing very well with my Foley File, and I am glad I invested in your machinery. It is very satisfactory and works very well in the small community in which I live.

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Send me free book "INDEPENDENCE AFTER 40!"

Name.

Address.

brake takes hold in an emergency, so I say Hudson is the safest car as well as the best car money can buy, and I bar none. I've owned 27 cars; Hudson beats them all," said a Los Angeles salesman.

A surprisingly large number of owners said they bought a Hudson this time because they got the best trade-in allowance.

A Gary, Ind., boilermaker gave the highest possible rating to his Commodore Six, somewhat belligerently. He announced: "I think the new Hudson is a dependable car and the best-looking car on the road, and I don't care who knows I said it. P. S.: It's a poor man's car to buy and keep."

And now for my own test of the Hudson Hornet: They say confession is good for the soul and I must confess here and now that I have had a change of heart from my previous opinion of Hudson cars, which wasn't too high.

Frankly, I had never been too sold on Hudson, although back in 1916 I owned a Hudson Super Six and found it to be an outstanding performer in its day. But my 2750-mile road test in a 1951 Hudson Hornet four-door sedan, Hydra-Matic equipped, from Detroit to Los Angeles (via Kansas City, Denver and Salt Lake City), including tests on side roads, definitely changed my opinion of the modern Hudson.

I had heard a lot about Hornet performance, so it was selected since it is the most popular model in Hudson's line, and therefore I probably gave it the worst beating of any car I've tested to date. Here is what I found. The Hornet is a wildcat on wheels, due to its very high horsepower-to-weight ratio. It is a dynamic performer which responds to the throttle like a thoroughbred. The snap and fast getaway, top speed and power, make it a thriller to drive. The low center of weight, due to Hudson's exclusive "step down" design, makes it a fine road car and it is noticeably steady at all speeds. There is no road wandering, it takes the corners more like a racing car than a stock car and it handles over rough roads with much ease of operation. I drove many miles in a heavy cross wind which had little effect on car control.

If I were asked to name America's safest car I would honestly have to say Hudson for the following combination of reasons:

1. The exclusive "step down" design affords the lowest possible center of gravity so that the center of weight is low—also the top of the car. Hudson is wider than it is high. Thus the car handles as near like a racing car on corners and rough spots as is possible for any stockcar, which definitely makes it one of the best road-holding cars on the highway. It is easy to control in a
65 KW. 225 Volt D.C. DIESEL ELECTRIC GENERATING UNIT
RECONDITIONED
Equipped with GEV2, DIXIE MARINE DIESEL engine, 230" bore, 32" stroke, 183 H.P. at 200 R.P.M. Complete with auxiliary items. New radiator, pump, motor and electric equipment. Generator repaired and attached to engine. Service is shown.

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INTER-CONTINENTAL TRADING CORP.
90 WEST STREET, NEW YORK 6, N.Y.

DECEMBER 1951
skid and weight distribution is excellent;
2. The welded, all-steel Monobilt body and frame construction makes the body and chassis one solid unit. The frame extends to the extreme edge of the car and thus affords protection from collision or overturning to the passengers, who sit down and within (not on top) of the surrounding box-section steel-girder frame;
3. Brakes are soft and easy to operate, and there is less tendency for the front of the car to dip down as some cars do when the brakes are applied suddenly. I found there was little tendency for brakes to fade at high speed or on mountain grades. On models with no clutch pedal, I would like a wider brake pedal. However, when the hydraulic brakes go out because of lining wear, or loss of fluid, Hudson drivers have the added protection of mechanically operated brakes applied on the rear wheels for the last inch or more on the same foot-pedal movement. This, in my opinion, is an excellent added safety feature Hudson has

(Continued to page 268)

BIG SEASON Now Starting!

You've seen the huge color advertisements in Saturday Evening Post on the new seat cover sensation—miracle SARAN. Now it is available in the beautiful new BLACK SPONGEY non-slip, non-say BLACK SPLINTERS!— and a new bright red, hold black and gray—Watermelon! The genuine black rubber backing on this genuine black jellied squallt plastic trim. SAP—like plastic,oven like cloth, that has the color permanently "locked" right into each thread! Car owners everywhere are demanding "Black Ebony"! Now you can serve that eager demand at a fraction of the cost the customers expect to pay! Salesmen are making money hand over fist with this sensational new Key Line.

Take orders from car owners everywhere. Beat all competition with covers cut to accurate pat- terns like the finest suit of clothes. Black, smooth, wrinkle-free fit just like an original un- (Continued to page 268)
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Oil and oil fumes are a major factor in deterioration of ordinary fuel pumps. Carter, recognizing this, has built in seals at vital points to prevent oil leakage and prolong the pump life.

CARTER CARBURETOR CORPORATION
St. Louis 7, Missouri
Division of American Car and Foundry Company

DECEMBER 1951 267
offered for years—so long, in fact, that I think Hudson and its dealers have lost sight of their exclusive and wonderful idea;

4. Tremendous acceleration, enabling the driver to get out of a tight spot, as ability to speed or maneuver away from possible disaster sometimes is as important as being able to stop;

5. Ease of steering in that the ratio is as good or better than expected with modern cars using fat, low-pressure tires. Although there is a slight steering-wheel vibration at certain spots when driving at extreme high speeds, it is not noticeable at ordinary speeds;

6. Because in my own test of the car an unscheduled event occurred. I blew a left-rear tire doing 90 miles an hour and I've never handled a car in similar circumstances which came to a stop after a blowout with less careening or sideways than this Hudson test car. Actually, it was no worse than hitting a hard bump and at no time in stopping did I feel in danger or that the car was not under complete control. The low center of weight, I'm sure, helped maintain that control.

For these six reasons I would rate Hudson tops in safety!

Hudson owners pulled a surprise when 78 percent stated a preference for in-line engines rather than the V-8, and 65 percent preferred six cylinders rather than eight. Hudson builds its own engines and the Hornet I tested has a big (308-cubic-inch) well-engineered, six-cylinder engine of 145 horsepower, and a high compression ratio of 7.2 to 1. (For speed-minded drivers, Hudson even offers a two-carburetor setup as optional equipment on the Hornet.) Hudson owners also are offered optional compression-ratio cylinder heads such as 8 to 1 on the Super Six. A Pacemaker head installed on a Hornet will give a ratio of

(Continued to page 270)
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Air filters type B. 3/8" inlet and outlet, for industry, home, laboratories. For forced wall air and cooling units, etc. Made of heavy material with metal mounting brackets. 2/3" overall size. Canister media, 4½" x 3", mounting studs, 1200-1200. Cost $2.95.

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FREE CIRCULAR. Send new SYNCRO CIRCULAR showing new, safe JIG SAW and amazing new SANDER!

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The engine is smooth in operation and few six-cylinder cars I've driven have had less engine vibration. The cylinder block, as in other models, is high-chrome alloy and the hardest used in any make, which machines to a hard supersmooth finish; thus cylinder wear is reduced to a minimum. Hudson claims its blocks outwear softer blocks used by other makers.

Hudson pistons are full-skirt design aluminum alloy and piston rings are pinned, a practice I don't like. Hudson's fan is unique in that variously spaced blades are used and it is claimed that this practice reduces noise and affords greater air circulating ability at low speeds. In my tests — and some were very severe in back-road desert and mountain country — I could not overheat the Hornet, even in the heat of the Mojave Desert in California.

The test car had Hydra-Matic drive, which operated satisfactorily — no better and no worse than General Motors' cars so equipped, insofar as the transmission is concerned. The shift-lever indicator was lighted, a good idea. Hudson also offers its Super-Matic transmission, which I don't care for. A three-speed transmission also is available, as is overdrive. Top gear ratio with Hydra-Matic is 3.58 to 1; 4.10 to 1 with conventional transmission; 3.18 to 1 with overdrive, and 4.55 to 1 as standard in the overdrive unit.

Hudson's clutch (called Fluid-Cushion) as used on conventional-transmission models is unique in that it operates in a cushion of oil. Hudson owners generally like it, as it is a "toughie" and will take a lot of abuse. Worst feature is that in cold weather there is some "grab" or "chatter" when the car is first engaged in low or reverse, but when the clutch oil is warmed up the chatter is hardly noticeable.

The seating position is comfortable and the "step down" feature reminds me somewhat of entering an airplane cockpit rather than a motor car. At first the "step down" idea is a little confusing, but after a few hours I found it really easy to enter and get out of the car. The cushions are comfortable and seats are very wide. The recessed door panels are unusual in that window and door control levers are out of the way of knees and elbows, thus allowing more elbow room and front seat space. Upholstering is unique and durable.

Cigarette smokers should find it easy to test many brands at one ride in a Hudson, with a separate ash tray for each of five brands. My test Hornet had five—yes, five —ash trays, one on each door and one on the cowl, and the door trays were nicely

(Continued to page 272)
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Write for name of nearest supplier.

National
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MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

DECEMBER 1951
placed in the recessed panel, out of the way.

The side windows are quite narrow due to the lowness of the car, and the side of the body up to the windows is quite high. I noticed this most when the window was down; it was too high to drive with my arm on the lower window sill, as I sometimes like to do. However, again on the safety side, the short distance from the bottom window frames to the roof of the car is quite narrow, thus offering good protection in a crash or turnover.

The body seemed tight and no squeaks developed. No water came in during about four hours of quite heavy rain. There is some hood "flutter" or vibration above 65 miles per hour on rough roads. One rattle troubled me for 300 miles or so, then disappeared. Doors open easily by push button, and close with little effort. There is ample head room. The hood locks from inside the car—I like that idea. I would like to see a little more glass in the rear window. Here is an excellent example of Hudson streamlining, which I think is fine. In a rain storm at 60 miles per hour, not a drop of rain hit the rear window, the air flow carrying it over and beyond the window.

When I slowed to 40 miles per hour, the window was soon covered with water. Hudson's aerodynamic qualities certainly are advantageous when it comes to pushing a car through the air at high speed.

The heat and ventilation system works well, and by extremely simple one-lever operation. Hudson sticks to the cowl ventilator, which I like.

The car parked more easily and handled better in traffic than I expected. Being wider (777/8 inches) than it is high (60 inches), the car creates an illusion of extreme width—but Hudson has less outside width than some other makes by as much as three inches.

During my test I drove the car wide open many miles in long stretches on the Western plains with practically no traffic, and also on the Rosamond Dry Lake in Southern California. By stop watch it is a good, honest 100-mile-per-hour car, and that's a fast buggy in my book. The speedometer would hit 108-110 miles per hour, but speedometer variation is apparent in all makes of cars. In a test check by highway markings in Utah, the speedometer was .3 of a mile slow in five miles—rather unusual for a mileage reading.

I found that regular gas worked okay, even in the 7.2-to-1 compression ratio of the Hornet. Hudson engineers say regular gas is satisfactory and 54 percent of Hudson owners use it, according to the survey.

If there is one thing our survey showed
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Send check, money order or cash. 25% deposit on all orders. All prices F.O.B. Culver City, Calif., unless otherwise stated.

DECEMBER 1951
it is that Hudson owners, by and large, are real dyed-in-the-wool boosters. Many don't want any other make of car and never even shop around. They just buy Hudsons again and again. In fact, 63 percent of those who replied were previous Hudson owners, and 13 percent have owned five or more.

So, as in the early Super Six days, Hudson history again may repeat itself, for the Hornet is again catching the fancy of red-blooded motorists who like top performance. After 14 years, Hudson still holds the three most important official A. A. A. stockcar records made in 1937 on the Salt Flats at Bonneville, Utah: 104.724-mile-per-hour average for 500 miles; 103.08 miles per hour for 1000 miles, and for 2000 miles, 101.93 miles per hour. These amazing records never have been beaten.

Canada's Battle With Snow Begins
(Continued from page 102)

further extensive snowfall, the damage was done and emergency orders went out to snow crews from Jasper to Vancouver.

Ben Miller, master mechanic of the C.N. R. Kamloops division, was among those who faced the grim business of crushing the slides. "We knew it was coming," Ben relates. "Just at the year-end we had a taste when fierce storms whipped into the Fraser area and tied up traffic at Boston Bar. I didn't have my shoes off for 13 days when it did break and some of the boys went far longer than that before they grabbed the chance for a few hours rest."

While crews were struggling to clear rails leading to marooned trains and other slide-locked equipment, a blizzard of freezing Pacific snow closed in behind the work trains. At the same time, temperatures slumped to 25 below zero. The railmen hooked up a train of three locomotives flanked by a rotary at each end, one headed west and the other east. The maneuver enabled plows and locomotives to move back through the fresh snow for water necessary to operate boilers of the steam equipment. "All three locomotives were dangerously low on water when we stalled within hailing distance of a water tower at Chapman," Miller recalls. "We got going again after 40 men with shovels had worked like fools for more than two hours. Finally released, we backed up two of the locomotives and the westbound rotary and took a 'do or die' run at the remaining snow face. I can still feel the vibration of the wheel blades. We got through. If we hadn't the whole Pacific system would have been bottled up, possibly for days."

The work train then blasted through to Stout where stranded passengers were taken aboard and moved to Boston Bar. The snow had piled up to the point where five hours were required to push back over the 18 miles. The 75 passengers, in good humor despite their isolation, boarded a special train heading for Edmonton. It was almost a week later when rotaries and crews working from the east hooked up with those from the Vancouver end.

The enormity of even the final operation is outlined in reports in railway records. As the East-West forces neared contact, there still remained a five mile stretch of track:

"Mileage 19.8—200 feet long slide, 25 feet high; Mileage 20.3—300 feet long and 35 feet high; Mileage 20.4—300 feet long and 20 feet high; Mileage 20.5—300 feet long and 10 feet high; for the next half mile there were seven slides, none more than 200 feet long and averaging under 20 feet high; seven cars of No. 2's train at Mileage 21.3 were mostly under 30 feet of snow; from this equipment to the tunnel at Mileage 21.7 the track was solidly under slides of varying depth; in the tunnel there was a drift 100 feet long and six feet high; Mileage 22 to 23, six to 10 feet of snow; Mileage 23, 700 feet long and 12 feet high; Mileage 23.2, 700 feet long and 15 feet high; Mileage 23.5—where equipment now working—six to 10 feet of snow."

The rotaries at times were laboring in solid ice, one being derailed six times in a short distance. Bulldozers and wedge plows were brought to the front to clear slides which had carried down trees up to 15 inches in diameter. Dynamite helped blast the ice, but progress was laboriously slow. Miller's story is one of a major operation, the saga of the railway's triumph over one of Nature's most potent forces. Determined men, dogged and worn out from labor and worry and constant hours in extreme cold, some manning machines weighing hundreds of tons, others using shovels in equally vital jobs, had succeeded in clearing the tracks.

The Fraser Canyon challenge, fortunately, isn't an annual occurrence as only a series of unusual weather conditions springs the gigantic slides. More regular are the late-winter difficulties of the Mount Robson sector and the heavy snowfalls of Blue River. Rotary engineers like Harry Finley of Jasper can tell of a slide 45 feet deep near Gosnell, an avalanche which roared down from a glacier several miles back from the tracks. And engineers along the line to Prince Rupert recall a slide near Pacific which measured 600 feet long and 40 feet deep, one which became so hard packed that 1100 kegs of black powder (Continued to page 276)
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DECEMBER 1951
were used to shake it up. Joe Medori, Italian-born snowplow foreman who has been working on wedge plows from Jasper through the Rockies since 1940, tells of hitting slides at speeds which rocked the plow, modestly admits he hasn’t missed a single snowplow trip out of Jasper since he took over the job.

Two types of plows, the rotary and the wedge, form the basis for snow clearing through Canada’s mountains. The heavier rotaries are used principally for deep slides, as in the Fraser operation. They weigh well over 100 tons, have their own steam power for revolving the huge rotary blade wheels, depend upon locomotives for propulsion through the heavy slides. Manned by an engineer and fireman, as are the locomotives, the plow combines with the weight of a locomotive to total above 400 tons.

Wedge plows are shaped as the name implies, generally operate at fairly high speeds, precede passenger trains through the mountains to clear fresh falls of snow and “ram out” any small slides which may have rolled over the tracks. Compressed air enables the operator, or foreman, to manipulate the plow’s nose and wings at short notice. From the danger point of view, most plowmen agree that operation of a wedge is slightly more hazardous than that of a rotary as they crash slides at high speed and, being lighter, are more susceptible to serious derailment should they contact ice or rocks.

Fatalities in the snowplowing business are rare, but the jobs themselves are nerve-wracking. The operator, perched in his pilot house with his myriad of controls and gauges, cannot relax a moment while the equipment is on the move. Accidents have brought about improvement in equipment. Several years ago, a slide near Mount Robson crashed through the wooden top of a rotary’s pilot house, killing three men. Since then, all plows are constructed of heavy metal throughout. On a run north of Edmonton, two plowmen died when their signal to the engineer of the locomotive, calling for an emergency stop, failed to function. Investigation showed that the cord to the locomotive whistle, direct from the plow, had become sheathed in ice. Tom Young, then locomotive foreman of Lucerne, immediately recommended a change in the signal system and it was adopted.

Railways are constantly carrying out research and subsequent improvements to ensure safety. “Slow orders” are strictly observed over some sections. This year, too, the Canadian National completed installation of an improved block system through the mountain passes from Jasper to Jackman, near Blue River. Incorporated at certain points are slide-detector fences, an overhead protector network which shorts the block mechanism and flashes warning to approaching trains even if only a small stone falls on one of the wires. The new detector is regarded by Canadian National officials as one of the most important of safety precautions. In addition, mountain engineers and firemen are schooled to be constantly on the alert for anything unusual in heavy snowfall areas. As one engineer puts it: “You get so you smell weather. There are certain combinations of snowfall and temperatures which spell trouble. Somehow, after years on the road, you can sense just where there might be grief and where the sailing will be good.”

This is the time of year when mountain railroaders are girding for the midwinter snowfalls. At Jasper, Kamloops, and down the Fraser to Vancouver, long-range forecasts are being studied and snow structures above the rail lines are coming under the scrutiny of ski-going engineers. At central snow-clearing points like Blue River, the equipment and men are “on call.” All are keyed toward the same goal: To keep traffic moving over the mountain divisions and to ensure top safety over the mountain lines.

Detroit Listening Post

(Continued from page 93)

machine tools have unsettled all plans for complete changeovers in the automobile industry and the Ford Company is among the worst of the sufferers. But it is determined to come out with a more complete change than anything since it introduced its restyled job in 1949.

Another company looking forward eagerly but patiently to a startling changeover is Nash. Some time ago it hired the Italian designer Farini. From all reports, he has done his job well. But like Ford, Nash could not get its tools and dies out in time and now plans to show its new car in March. But this will also represent a departure from standard and should be worth-while.

So don’t let the seemingly simple changes made so far lead you astray. Unless something drastic happens to the economy or the peaceful outlook ahead, this year’s real changes will come during 1952.

The battle of horsepower will be continued. Cadillac’s engine has been stepped up to what the company now rates at 190 horsepower. To meet the competition, Chrysler may advertise its V-8 Firepower engine at 185 or 190 horsepower.

(Continued to page 278)
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Production prospects become darker with each month. Already on the pessimistic side, the outlook for the first quarter of 1952 gives no solace. Defense-production officials have decreed no more than 950,000 passenger cars for the first three months.

A high General Motors official expressed the feeling of the industry recently when he told this writer:

"It will mean more unemployment in the industry. Also, it means that again new cars will be as sought after as gold."

One thing it will certainly mean to the various passenger-car manufacturers: fewer body styles in each line. The Chrysler Windsor line for 1952 will have only four offerings in the regular and three in the de luxe. The Saratoga will have four, the New Yorker three and the Imperial and Crown Imperial, two each. Hardtops, however, will be maintained in the Windsor, New Yorker and Imperial lines.

The success of the hardtop continues in both high and low-priced fields. It is getting a disproportionate share of the market, but with the blessings of the manufacturers. The upper-body structure has been strengthened, but the original concept of the design has been retained and the customers have flocked to that field.

A new feature to be offered in the 1952 models by Packard, that promises to be as sensational as the power-steering device will be power brakes, recently unveiled by Bendix for passenger cars, and called Treadle-Vac. Packard has decided to test the brakes in its higher priced models. Treadle-Vac offers an answer to the increasing horsepower of the modern car. Chrysler has used a similar device but Bendix claims its unit is even better.

Although chrome—like other necessary materials—is as scarce as ever, it is not being de-emphasized as yet. The efforts of the automotive engineers have stretched out the supply and new cars should retain their shine for some time.

Some precautions are necessary, however, in dealing with the very light film of chrome which embellishes cars. Restrictions on the use of nickel in the brightwork used for radiator-grille bars, name plates, hood ornaments, window frames, hood ornaments, and other nonfunctional parts make it wise to heed the instructions which the engineers have issued to make the shine last.

On all chrome parts except bumpers and buffer plates, new-car owners should use only clean cold water and wash frequently for the first 90 days. No polish or wax should be used during this period. After 90 days, a coating of wax may be applied periodically to maintain the luster.
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