

SPRING HOME VALUE DAYS **Reader's Digest**

Weller

#D550 Weller Heavy Duty Soldering Gun

Balanced pistol grip design. Twin light. Two position trigger allows choice of heat. Heavy gauge, high efficiency copper tips have long life.

\$15.95 Reg. \$20.95

#WC100 Weller Cordless Soldering Iron

For the technician and hobbyist. Heats up in just six seconds. Fast power charger, built-in work light, interchangeable tips and fingertip control with safety-lock switch.

\$16.95 Reg. \$23.95

We've got it

Professional cutting/welding torch

Real oxygen torch. Easy to use. Cuts 1/2" steel, 3/4" bolts. Welds, brazes, solders. Completely portable.

Propane or Mapp gas not included

\$34.95

BERNZON MATIC

Sale Ends May 7, 1977

H.A. SMITH Lumber & Supplies

28575 GRAND RIVER (near 8 Mile)
474 6610 or 535 8440

MONDAY-FRIDAY 7-5:30 SATURDAY 7-4:30

Doctors may soon 'straighten' vision

By GREG TAVARIE

Until recently, it has been a general belief that once a defect in a person's vision was uncovered, he had two alternatives: Live the rest of his life with subnormal vision, or use eyeglasses or contact lenses to compensate for the defect.

However, orthokeratology, a new, controversial procedure that involves the use of contact lenses to reshape the outer portion of the cornea, might provide another alternative. The final result of the procedure is a permanent vision correction, according to orthokeratology proponents.

The procedure has been viewed with mixed reaction—from "relatively safe" to "possibly dangerous"—by optometry colleges and prominent optometrists and ophthalmologists in the United States.

SUPPORTERS of the procedure compare orthokeratology to the permanent straightening of the teeth by the use of braces.

They believe that vision defects, such as nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism, can be permanently improved or made normal. Critics of orthokeratology have called it a fraud, a rip-off of the public—a public relations campaign and strictly a money-making proposition. They believe that any vision improvement is temporary and reshaping the cornea may result in permanent cornea damage and permanent vision damage.

The basic procedure of orthokeratology, according to Stuart Grant, OD, and Charles May, OD, is to initially fit the eye with a properly designed

contact lens. The lenses used in orthokeratology are similar to a normal contact lens except they are designed to reshape the cornea.

The shape of the lens depends upon the nature of the defect. In the case of nearsightedness (myopia), where there is too much curvature on the surface of the cornea, the lens is made flatter than would normally be provided in a regular contact lens fit.

As the treatment proceeds, new lenses are fitted as the cornea responds to the lens and gradually assumes the shape of the lens. The reshaping is done in five or six stages.

WHEN THE CORNEA has reached its best curvature, a retainer lens is provided. The purpose of this lens is the same as the retainer brace in dentistry. The lens is worn until the vision correction has been stabilized.

The end result, again according to orthokeratology proponents, is a permanent vision correction.

Orthokeratology is a 1 1/2-year procedure and costs \$600-\$1,000. Advocates of the procedure say the poorest vision that can be brought back to normal is 20/200. A person with 20/200 vision can see at 20 feet what a person with normal vision (20/20) can see at 200 feet.

The major criticism of the procedure are that it has not been scientifically tested and may cause cornea warping or corneal ulcers and that the vision correction is not permanent.

Cornea warping results from an ill-fitting contact lens worn for a long time. A corneal ulcer may develop if a person wears a contact lens over a scratch on the eye. A person will experience a burning sensation if a corneal ulcer is present.

Mark Schwartz, an optometrist at Optical Fashion in Troy, believes the orthokeratology patient can feel safe in the fact that he is seen on a regular basis.

"ALTHOUGH THE long-term effects of changing the cornea have not been assessed," Schwartz said, "the orthokeratology patient is seen every four or five weeks and is under better care than the average eye patient."

Anthony V. Potts, a Troy optometrist specializing in contact lenses and orthokeratology, sees no danger in the procedure.

"There is no basis for the controversy that exists concerning orthokeratology," Potts protested.

"The doctors I have heard criticize the procedure are basing their criticism on regular contact lens experience, not orthokeratology experience."

Potts, the leading orthokeratologist in the Troy area, said he has more than 600 orthokeratology patients and a single complaint.

While many area optometrists advocate and practice orthokeratology, there remains a large group of optometrists and ophthalmologists opposed to the practice.

The Michigan Board of Examiners in Optometry will not permit the procedure to be listed as a specialty in the telephone directory or to be "held to the public in any medium as an acceptable optometric procedure or specialty, by any of its registrants."

THE MBOE also said orthokeratology is not taught clinically at any optometric college or university in the United States or Canada. William Cutler, MD, took a more vigorous stand against orthokeratology.

"I think it (orthokeratology) is a complete fraud," the Birmingham doctor said. "There is no medical proof that it does any permanent good. I think it is strictly a money-making proposition that may temporarily help your vision, but wearing any contact lenses would do that. It could also cause permanent vision damage."

Dr. James Fry, president of the Michigan Optometric Society, called for an immediate scientific study of orthokeratology.

"I think somebody should undertake a scientific study of the procedure—a true, scientific experiment," Dr. Fry said. "It is the opinion of the Michigan Optometric Society that orthokeratology is an unproven practice that has, if any, a limited value. The vision changes are temporary."

"Mr. Potts' statement that critics of the procedure are basing their criticism on regular contact lens experience is not a true statement. What orthokeratology is doing is using the same lens everybody else uses, but just in a different way. The field is devoid of any scientific background."

"I believe orthokeratology is little more than a nationwide public relations campaign promoting it as a real cure-all for everybody's eye problems," he continued. "A lot of public relations and no scientific evidence to back it up. The public is getting ripped off."

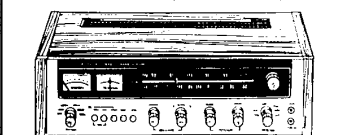
Remedy or rip-off? Orthokeratology is a controversial subject toward which few in the world of eye care have remained neutral.

The arguments against the procedure stress that it has never been scientifically tested and may cause permanent vision damage. Advocates say they have finally developed a safe method of curing vision irregularities.

Until the validity or inefficiency of the procedure can be proven the public will be the loser.

Lafayette Clearance Sale

Some items new, some demos. All carry full manufacturer's warranty. Supply limited. First come, first served.



Final Clearance! Lafayette LR3500
94 Watt AM/FM Stereo Receiver

• all the features you've come to expect from a leader in the electronics industry • full controls • dual tuning meters • FM mute • hiss filter • power to spare to two pairs of speakers • walnut finish wood cabinet • 94 watts, both channels driven into 8 ohms from 20-20,000 Hz at more than 0.5% total harmonic distortion • was \$399.95 in catalog 760

198.00



meriton by Sony AM/FM Phono/8-Track System 139.88

• AM/FM stereo receiver with 8-track player • deluxe BSR record changer and high compliance speakers • walnut finish cabinet • HF-1008



Lafayette Car Stereo Cassette Player Auto-Reverse rated "Best Buy" 49.88

• slider vol. balance & tone controls • fast forward & rewind • eject button • model RK-300



meriton by Sony AM/FM Clock Radio 32.88

• large lighted numerals • AFC for drift free sleep timer • 24 hour clock, wake to music or alarm • RK-320 Supply Limited

meriton by Sony 8-Track Stereo Music Center

99.88

• record 5-play 8-Track stereo tapes • 8-track has fast forward, pause control, auto end stop and more • highly sensitive and selective • ideal for the music lover • Mfg Sugg. 99.95



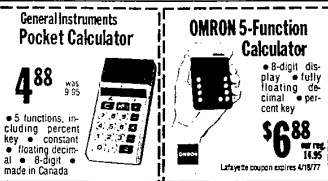
Concord Belt Drive Turntable 49.88 68.88

• includes wood base and hinged dust cover, cartridge optional extra



8-Track 4 Channel/FM Car Stereo by PIONEER 79.88

• fits underdash • left/right balance, front/rear volume • auto & manual program change • more



In-Dash Pushbutton Cassette/AM/FM Stereo by Tenna 88.00

• 5 AM/FM (10 stations total) pushbutton tuning • stereo & tape indicator lights • adjustable antenna • 24 hour alarm • 60 min. sleep, illuminated clock & tape eject • much more SUPPLY LIMITED

Read
Eccentric
Classified

Electrical Supplies

Complete line for home owners and contractors at our Rochester branch.

Michigan Chandelier Co.

ROCHESTER, 435 N. Main at University
PHONE 651-4302

ENJOY SUMMERTIME WITH Michigan AWNINGS

TO REDUCE AIR-CONDITIONING COSTS. SAVE 6¢ to 7¢ ON EVERY B.T.U. UNIT

CALL TODAY 894-4400

NEW PERMANIZED VINYL & SILICONE FABRICS and PATTERNS ARE BETTER and PRICED RIGHT

MICHIGAN AWNING CO., 4892 GRAND RIVER

SINGERS!

Join the Meadowbrook Festival Chorus and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra

MAHLER'S SYMPHONY #8 (Symphony of a thousand)

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS, conducting
DONALD BRYANT, Director of Chorus

JUNE 23 & 25, Thurs. and Saturday

Auditions will be held 1:00 p.m. Saturday, April 23, Rehearsals at 2:40 p.m. at Varnar Hall, room 109, Oakland University

CALL 377-3100 FOR AN AUDITION

SAVE WATER
SAVE MONEY
AMERICAN WATERSAVER
STANDARD
TOILET - WHITE
\$50.00
compare at \$69.95
reg. \$69.95

OUR SECOND ANNUAL COTTAGE SALE

HUNDREDS OF PLUMBING & HEATING ITEMS

- OVERSTOCKS—FLOOR SAMPLES
- SCRATCHED—DENTED
- SLIGHTLY USED—TRADE INS
- SPECIAL PURCHASES

FREE COFFEE

SAVE DOLLARS
THIS WEEKEND ONLY
10% to 75% OFF

VANITIES—TOILETS—FAUCETS
KITCHEN SINKS—STAINLESS STEEL SINKS
TOILET SEATS

THURSDAY 8 A.M. to 8 P.M., FRI. 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.
SATURDAY 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.
SUNDAY 12 Noon to 4 P.M.

FIBERGLASS
STALL SHOWER
\$149.95
Rgs. 129.95

BERGSTROM'S INC.
PLUMBING & HEATING
SUPPLIES
25429 W. FIVE MILE
Phone: 522-1350 1/4 Mile east of Beech

FREE GIFT FOR ADULTS

"BRADLEY" WASHLESS LAVATORY FAUCET complete with POP-UP

\$19.95
REG. \$32.95

Store hours: Daily 9:30-9; Sunday 11-5

WE reserve the right to limit quantities of items subject to price cuts.

STEREO AUDIO CONSULTANTS