

● RADIO

Thursday, September 18, 2:45 p.m., EST

On "Adventures in Science," with Watson Davis, director of Science Service, over Columbia Broadcasting System.

Dr. Thorfin Hogness, of the University of Chicago, will report a meeting on vitamins.

Listen in each Thursday.

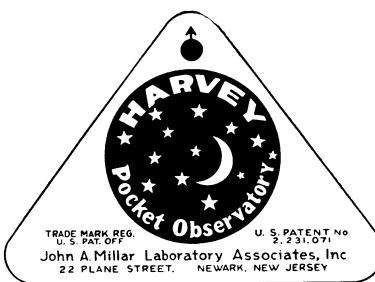
ous enough to warrant isolation. They say, "It's only a case of measles," or mumps or scarlet fever or one or another of the more common communicable diseases, and won't do any harm.

But they forget that the same disease may be more serious if contracted by another person. They forget that illness keeps children from school, men from their jobs, women from their work. They forget that one infectious case, exposed to others, may set an epidemic raging, disturbing the life of the entire community. They forget that communicable disease is public property.

And their forgetfulness, costly in times of peace, can be even more costly now in this period of national emergency. Observing the rules of isolation is a small thing which families that develop communicable diseases can do to help the national defense program. Measles, mumps, scarlet fever, chickenpox and the other so-called childhood diseases are especially dangerous when they strike adults, and every effort to prevent their spread is particularly timely.

Let them remember—the sick defense worker can't work, the sick trainee can't learn, and the isolation placard is an honorable symbol of defense against spread of disease, not a sign of shame.

Science News Letter, September 18, 1941



TRADE MARK REG. U. S. PATENT NO. 2,231,071
John A. Millar Laboratory Associates, Inc.
22 PLANE STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

The precision construction of this instrument insures rapid and convenient operation, and it has innumerable uses in astronomy. It is an important adjunct to any telescope.

New Machines And Gadgets

Novel Things for Better Living

Badminton rackets are now strung with nylon, same synthetic fiber so popular for ladies' hosiery. They are resistant to moisture and remain taut even on the dampest days.

A forest of ultraviolet lamps purifies the air in a large factory, the first large-scale application of these invisible rays to air conditioning in a manufacturing plant. The lamps sterilize the air as it rushes past in the ducts.

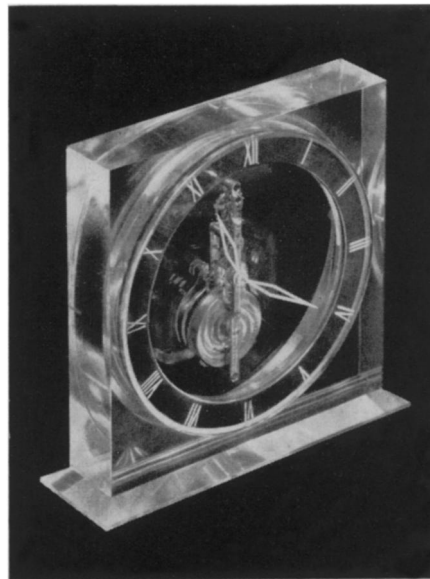
Boon to the erring typist would be a recently patented typewriter erasing key. When the key is struck, a small eraser at its tip moves sharply downward the moment it hits the platen, thus giving a good erasing stroke. If the erroneous letter is not at once removed, the strokes can be repeated. The key does not actuate the spacing or ribbon devices.

A **toy lie detector**, which should be lots of fun, is the subject of a recent patent. It consists of a small box which the interrogator holds in his hand while asking you a question. The movement of a pointer indicates, ostensibly, whether you answer truly or falsely. The secret of the device—but perhaps that should not be divulged. Anyhow, you have probably guessed that the movement of the pointer is under the control of the operator. But the manner is mysterious and not easy to discover.

Military airmen are now being clad in special suits for high flying that are coated from helmets to boots with a special synthetic material which makes them airtight, waterproof, and resistant to gasoline, oils, acids, and flames. The material is chemically produced from limestone, coke and salt. It is also used for raincoats, mechanics' aprons, covers for aircraft engines, tarpaulins, tents, and the like. In solid form it is used to make transparent belts and suspenders, gaskets, and many articles for Uncle Sam's Army and Navy.

A filter made of powdered metal provides a new means for filtering liquids and gases. It is used to prevent clogging up of Diesel engine nozzles and oil burner nozzles, for filtering the air supplied to paint spraying equipment, and in other ways. The porous metal can be bonded to steel and copper and so made an integral part of the rest of the machinery.

Feminine beauty can be enhanced by the use of an improved eyelash curler recently patented. The operation is simplicity itself. One squeeze of a tong-like instrument and all the eyelashes are beautifully curved upward.



What makes a new transparent clock tick anyone can plainly see, thanks to the plastic "lucite" in which it is encased. Many other beautiful objects are made from this crystal clear plastic, which is known to chemists as methyl methacrylate resin. Its remarkable transparency adapts it to many scientific and industrial uses.

Sensitized metals, plastics, and even plywood help to speed up defense production. They make it possible to photograph a pattern directly on the metal or plastic sheet which is to be cut out. Thus the pattern passes directly from the drawing board to the sheet and does not have to be redrawn on the latter. Another time-saving use is to photograph the markings directly on the dials of the many instruments required by airplanes and for other purposes. Name plates, escutcheons, and many other things can be quickly produced by the photographic process.

If you want more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to *Science News Letter*, 1719 N St., N. W., Washington, D. C., and ask for *Gadget Bulletin* 71.

Science News Letter, September 13, 1941

Languages Made *easy* By Linguaphone

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