## New Machines and Gadgets ·

CAMERA SUPPORT, one end of which rests on one shoulder and the other is grasped by one hand, holds the instrument on a flat surface in front of the face. An adjustable strap over the shoulder permits the support and camera to be carried, when not in use, swinging under the arm.

Science News Letter, April 7, 1945

insulation resistance tester is a crankless American improvement on instruments of the same capacity formerly imported. It has a spotlight galvanometer with a 100-millimeter scale, calibrated 0-20,000 megohms for direct reading, at a potential of 500 volts. Power is supplied by dry cells.

Science News Letter, April 7, 1945

& ELECTRIC TESTER, fountain pen size, has a tiny neon lamp and two contact tips separated in use by the thumb and a finger. It tests for live wires, grounded lines, open circuits, shorts and polarity, and indicates voltages from 90 to 500 volts, AC or DC, by the glow-intensity of the light.

Science News Letter, April 7, 1945

FOUNTAIN COMB, that wets the hair as it combs, has an elongated liquid container along one side of its back with openings through which the liquid leaks onto the teeth when in use. No leakage takes place when the comb is resting on a flat surface with the reservoir side downward.

Science News Letter, April 7, 1945



CONTROL UNIT, for a new allmetal thermocouple vacuum gauge, operates directly on 100-volt AC and indicates low pressures accurately and continuously. The light, portable instrument, pictured above, may be carried about and connected to thermocouple gauges in any part of the factory vacuum system.

Science News Letter, April 7, 1945

TRANSMISSION belts for machinery now have steel cables in the carcass instead of cord or fabric. The cables are made of highly flexible, special twisted, finely stranded, high-tensile wire, and

are imbedded in rubber and encased in a fabric envelope.

Science News Letter, April 7, 1945

SELF-IGNITION attachment for cigars and cigarets is a small device which is put over one end of the cigar. It has a cup-shaped center that contains a material, such as pyrophoric iron or lead, that ignites when air is drawn through it. A cap prevents burning when not in use. Science News Letter, April 7, 1945

AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLE, recently patented, is a luxurious cabin cruiser which is quickly convertible into an auto trailer and may be used for campers on water or on land. Automobile wheels, which carry the vehicle when on shore, retract into compartments in the hull when in water.

Science News Letter, April 7, 1945

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 6, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 253.

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# **Question Box**

### AERONAUTICS

How long does it take "Rato" to put airplanes into the air? p. 212.

#### ANTHROPOLOGY

Why is there a question as to how long Australia has had human inhabitants? p. 216.

#### CHEMISTRY

For what was Dr. Blodgett awarded the A.A.U.W. Achievement Award? p. 213.

How may shrinkage be controlled? p. 216. What new silicone is capable of withstanding extreme temperatures? p. 217.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

What is microwave radio relay? p. 215.

#### **ENGINEERING**

How is the helped? p. 220. manpower shortage being Where is the coal compartment in the new locomotive located? p. 211.

#### GENERAL SCIENCE

Who will receive the Franklin medal on April 18? p. 211.

#### GENTICS

How much oftener do twins occur among Negroes than among whites? p. 214.

#### MEDICINE

How are soldiers using bazookas and flame-throwers protected against flashburns? p. 217.

To what are the increases in speech defects ascribed? p. 216. How much has the price of penicillin dropped since March 15? p. 213.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

How many people entered hospitals in 1944? p. 217.

Where published sources are used they are cited.

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