

# • New Machines And Gadgets •

☛ **POTATO PEELER** for the home, designed to fit on the base of an ordinary electrical mixer, removes the skins by the rubbing and scraping action of a rotary brush and stationary abrading surfaces. Placed in the sink, a stream of water washes the peelings away.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1946

☛ **CHEMICAL DEFROSTER**, to clear automobile windshields of ice, sleet or frozen rain, thaws the blinding frost when rubbed with a rag to which a few drops of the liquid has been added. The defrosting chemical leaves the windshield clean as well as clear, and is harmless to auto finishes.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1946

☛ **BOTTLE OPENER** removes caps easily and at the same time prevents squirting overflow. An aluminum bell-shaped device, that fits over the bottle top and cap, has upward extending plier handles which, when squeezed, force three claw-like fingers under the cap.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1946

☛ **FLAT IRON** replacement heating unit is so constructed that it can be easily installed in most electric irons. Heavy die-cut mica forms are wound with flat chromel or nichrome resistance wire, with thick mica insulating protectors machine-rieveted to both sides of the heater coil.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1946

☛ **WALLCLOTH**, with its threads in-



side shields of transparent plastic, is particularly suitable to use instead of wallpaper on kitchens and children's rooms because it can be cleaned with ordinary household soaps and solvents. The picture shows a youngster's writing being removed with a common cleaner.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1946

☛ **LAMP SHADES** made of a fiber glass material reflect and diffuse the light through their millions of tiny facets to give a result somewhat approximating sunlight. Made in four colors, they are decorative, fire-resistant, easily cleaned

with a wet cloth, and will not warp, sag or wrinkle.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1946

☛ **AIRCRAFT WIRE**, which reduces fire hazard, is 30 per cent lighter than ordinary electrical wire and in large transports saves up to 300 pounds in weight. The wire is coated with glass fiber and a fire-resistant synthetic rubber which is little injured by oil, chemicals and fungi.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1946

☛ **WATER FILTERS**, which remove mineral salts, contain cartridges of special resins which may be replaced when they have reached demineralizing capacity. The removed cartridges can be regenerated with dilute acid and alkali solutions. The filters deliver practically pure water.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1946

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 #34. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

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## Question Box

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Have any eclipses of the sun been visible in the U. S. in 1946? p. 266.

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Why is the fringed gentian practically extinct? p. 270.

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Natural gas may help the U. S. overcome what great importing problem? p. 263.

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Which talks first, the baby girl or the baby boy? p. 265.

### RADAR

How does the Navy's "Bat" arrive at its target? p. 261.

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