

•New Machines And Gadgets•

☛ **PHONE** silencer, for voice privacy, office quiet and improved phone hearing, utilizes a novel acoustical arrangement which directs the important tones directly into the transmitter and absorbs other tones in a special chamber. This absorption chamber is filled with fiber glass.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1946

☛ **FIRE ALARM** system is designed to prevent false alarms. The informer breaks the glass of the box and presses a button. A voice from the fire station immediately asks where the fire is. A trick question or two often traps a person if giving a false alarm.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1946

☛ **MAGNET**, for recovering tools dropped in deep water, or guns and knives hidden from police in rivers and harbors, is made of disks of magnetic alnico alloy separated by slightly larger steel pole pieces. No batteries are required. In its ordinary assembly, it can pick up a weight of 300 pounds.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1946

☛ **FATHOMETER**, for small fishing and pleasure boats, employs the same echo-sounding principle used in Navy and commercial vessels. The entire system consists of an easily installed control unit, projectors and a power supply. It gives accurate depth measurements up to 400 feet.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1946



☛ **SHIPPING** container, refrigerated, has a magnesium cooling unit inside that is operated by gases emanating from dry ice. The box itself, shown in the picture, weighs 20 pounds empty and has an outer wall of vulcanized rubber and a lining of aluminum, with a light insulating material between them.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1946

☛ **PORTABLE DARKROOM**, for developing photographs, is a complete prefabricated unit with stainless steel sink and worktable. It can be assembled by one man in six hours. Sponge rubber is used to give tight wall joints, and the

hinged roof, which when open completely covers the walls, contains the electric wiring.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1946

☛ **SELF-WRINGING** mop with a sponge head of synthetic rubber makes housework easier. The highly absorbent oblong-shaped mop is pushed over the floor with little effort. It is fitted on a metal bracket with rods running through lengthwise. A knob at one end, when pulled, squeezes the water out.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1946

☛ **OBSERVATION** cars, with narrow upper decks covered with glass roofs and sidings, are now on the rails. The observation seats, over the center aisle of the car, are reached by stairways from the ordinary floor.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1946

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Question Box

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MEDICINE

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