New Machines And Gadgets

If you want more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., Washington 6, D. C. and ask for Gadget Bulletin 370, To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

BROOMS AND POT-SCOURERS are made with neoprene rubber sponge heads which resist wear and can hold plenty of suds. The brooms sweep without raising dust or scratching waxed floors.

Science News Letter, July 12, 1947

ATTRACTIVE plastic tray for serving food may be used also as a drain board when washing dishes. The center of one end of the tray is curved gracefully downward, forming a draining lip to fit over one end of a sink or to act as a support to hold the gadget level when set on a table.

Science News Letter, July 12, 1947

SIX-COLOR mechanical pencil holds the almost unbreakable leads within an ordinary-sized barrel where they are quickly selected by simply adjusting a sturdy metal clip attached to the head. Instant lead selection is afforded by small colored dots imbedded in the pearl-gray shatter-proof barrel.

Science News Letter, July 12, 1947

MYSTERY RADIO, called an electronic toy, resembles a small earphone, and operates without tubes, battery or electric current. Its two wires lead to a ground and antenna respectively. In a frame house, a bed spring can be used as the antenna. The radio receives the nearest local station.

Science News Letter, July 12, 1947

LENS ATTACHMENT for cameras



permits the user to achieve any degree of soft focus simply by turning the calibrated ring which can be noted in the picture. It automatically enables anyone also to control diffusion, it is claimed, obtaining any degree from razor-sharp to misty-soft.

Science News Letter, July 12, 1947

FOLDING DOORS and walls are made on a fire-resistant plastic coated fabric, in a series of vertical semi-rigid accordion pleats, covering a steel frame foundation. The partition, which slides along an overhead track, requires much less space than swinging doors.

Science News Letter, July 12, 1947

MOTION PICTURE screen, a permanent fixture for theaters, lessens dis-

tortion and eyestrain, and gives an illusion of true depth. It consists of a steel frame with two seamless sheets made of very fine glass fiber, one laced behind the other to the curved steel frame. From theater seats, it appears to be flat.

Science News Letter, July 12, 1947

ELOW METER, to record both direction and magnitude of the flow of water in a stream, has two rotors with their axles at right angles to each other. The flow of water turns the rotors, causing vanes to pass between electrodes, thus affecting an electric current and counting revolutions. Direction is computed from the ratio of the two rotor speeds.

Science News Letter, July 12, 1947

An Appreciated Way Saying: "Thank You" or "Congratulations"

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Question Box

AERONAUTICS

What plane has a "potential speed" of 1,700 miles per hour? p. 23.

ANIMAL PATHOLOGY

Why is Mexico killing a million animals? p. 26.

ELECTRONICS

How can a dancing synthetic rainbow be used to transmit sound? p. 19.

How does the "Sofar" station work? p. 19.

HORTICULTURE

How were surviving dandelions affected by 2,4-D? p. 21.

MINERALOGY

How long will our coal outlast our petroleum? p. 28.

PALEONTOLOGY

How did the "Hand Animal" get its name? p. 20.

PHYSICS

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How did a highschool girl make her own snowstorm? p. 19.

What simple equipment is used in studying shock waves? p. 25.

Pictures: Cover, Army Air Forces; Army Air Forces, p. 19; John W. Mitchell, p. 21

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