

• New Machines and Gadgets •

For addresses where you can get 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 477. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **PICNIC BASKET** will keep a supply of bottled drinks, salad, and dairy products chilled for hours, or can be used to keep hot foods at almost oven temperature. It is made of glass fiber insulation sealed in plastic. It is 10-quart size, and the plastic is resistant to food stains and marks of outdoor use.

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

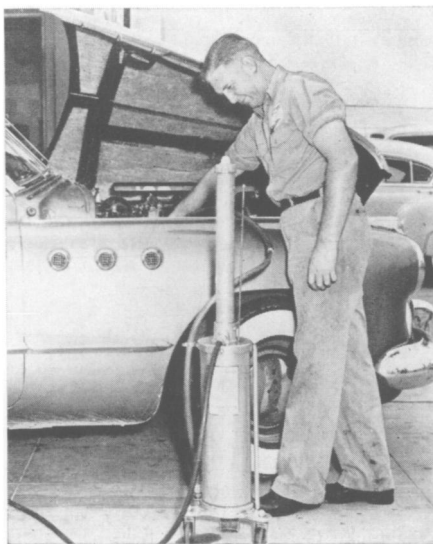
⚙️ **MOTH-REPELLING** coating for storage space walls comes in a powder which, in use, is mixed with water to form a paste, and is applied with a paint brush to form a layer as thick as a penny. It dries in an hour and is relatively permanent. It is made of ingredients of the cedar tree and a powdered plastic binder.

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

⚙️ **FOLDING SAWHORSE**, recently patented, has four pivoted legs that fold under the top and side rails of the device when not in use. The side rails, on rigid brackets, slope downward and outward, thus giving the legs pivoted to them the proper spread when the horse is unfolded for use.

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

⚙️ **OIL DRAINER** for the automobile removes the oil and sludge by means of an injector tube inserted into the oil-filling



opening, thus eliminating the commonly used method of draining the tank from under the car. The 20-pound portable device, shown in the picture, works on ordinary air pressure.

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

⚙️ **GOLF PUTTER** has the ordinary head but it is formed with two leg-like parts,

one on each end, that keeps the striking part away from the ground so that the ball is struck above its vertical center. This recently patented device makes the ball hug the green as it approaches the hole.

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

⚙️ **DISH-WASHING** aprons for men are made of plastic and never need laundering because they can be easily cleaned with a damp cloth. They are available in a variety of humorous designs such as "Little Butch" and "My Achin' Bacon."

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

⚙️ **ELECTRONIC** safety starter, that eliminates the danger of transformer burn-outs in fluorescent lamp fixtures, is a highly intricate thermal relay that automatically switches off the current if the lamp is defective and does not light in 30 seconds.

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

⚙️ **COAL-DUST EXPLOSION** gallery, small and portable and designed to show how a cloud of coal dust will explode if ignited by a spark of flame, can also be used to demonstrate the hazard of dust in industrial plants from flour, cocoa, sawdust and other materials. It utilizes electricity to explode the dust in a 10-inch-long transparent plastic tube.

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

Do You Know?

Of approximately 800 tree species native to the United States, only about 90 attain commercial size and quality.

A massive German-built concrete *U-boat* shelter in Norway is now used as a factory; windows had to be cut through its 10-foot-thick bomb-proof walls.

Arthur Pitney is credited with originating the *stamping machines* now widely used in business offices which save the use of ordinary postage stamps.

The American *paddlefish*, rare but found in Midwestern rivers, has a spatulated snout about one-third of its total length, and it gathers food by swimming up stream with its big mouth open to gather in microscopic animals and plants.

A new office building in Boston has 16 *electric moving stairways*, two between each floor to carry passengers up or down; the unique feature is that they can all be operated to carry passengers in the same direction during rush hours.

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