

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **CARRY-HOME PACKAGE** for canned goods has no base but holds the cans tightly against a wrapper by means of a simple cardboard web with an interlocking spring action that presses the cans outward. Both cardboard and outer wrapper are held in position by the lids of the cans.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

⚙️ **COIN METERS** on the instrument panels of used cars require the deposit of a quarter for each five miles of operation in order to make payments on the car. A quarter must be deposited before the ignition can be turned on. A warning buzzer sounds when another coin is required to prevent ignition cutout.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

⚙️ **HUMIDITY** and temperature indicator is a single instrument that indicates these weather conditions separately but where both can be seen at a glance. The thermometer uses a red liquid. The humidity-sensing element is composed of 216 inches of fine, blond, human hair.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

⚙️ **ASBESTOS-GLASS FABRIC** for fire-resistant curtains is shown in the picture behind the young lady. She is holding a



spool of glass fiber in one hand and a sample of mineral asbestos in the other. The fabric is composed of glass yarns interwoven with asbestos yarns.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

⚙️ **CHRISTMAS TREE BULB**, tricolored with a swirly pattern of red, green and white enamel, has a coating so tough that it will withstand at least five Christmas

seasons outdoors without fading. Soon to go into production, the bulbs are promised for the next season.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

⚙️ **AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT**, on the top of the cab of a giant, electrically operated crawler-type shovel handling hot slag from a steel mill, supplies clean air cooled to 80 degrees Fahrenheit to the operator. It uses fume-removing chemical canister filters, and a freon as a refrigerant.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

⚙️ **ELECTRIC CANDLE LIGHTER**, recently patented, operates on household current and has an extended arm so that it can be used to reach candles in high places. The lighting element is a spiral coil mounted in the lighting head which is at the outer end of the metal arm.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

⚙️ **LADDER PLATFORM** provides a comfortable resting place for the feet of a worker forced to stand for an extended period on the ladder. It has a front edge fashioned to fit over one rung while its rear edge is suspended by arms from the rung above.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

Do You Know?

Parsnips are one of the few vegetables that contain bromine.

Endive greens has become a popular food in America; it is of European origin.

Dicoumarol, used to prevent blood clotting in human surgery, is found in molded sweet clover.

Jet-propelled airliners will be built in America when the demand justifies the development costs.

"Nose appeal", as well as "eye appeal", can be added to the garden by the inclusion of a few perfume-laden *plants*.

Washing *potatoes* before they go to markets with synthetic detergents takes only one-fifth the time required when just plain water is used.

One reason that people like *radishes* in the early spring, it is said, is because they act as a spring tonic due to their sulfur and bromine content.

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