

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

⚙️ **HEATING ELEMENT**, to keep automobile batteries and others of the lead-acid type warm during cold weather, is an acid-resistant, electrically-energized unit which is submerged in the electrolyte. Electric energy is from an outside source. A thermostat responsive to the temperature of the electrolyte controls the heating.

Science News Letter, September 2, 1950

⚙️ **BICYCLE GEARSHIFT** which can be installed in practically any of the present models is a three-speed device by which the rider may shift to low, medium or high gear ratio by means of a lever on the right handlebar. It replaces the rear axle and sprocket wheel.

Science News Letter, September 2, 1950

⚙️ **ELECTRIC STYLUS**, fountain-pen size and designed to produce clean and clear-cut lines on wax-type stencils, operates on ordinary household current and delivers 7,200 strokes a minute. It can be used for glass writing and etching by the addition of an available diamond point.

Science News Letter, September 2, 1950

⚙️ **MIDGET STAPLER**, shown in the picture, although only pocket-sized, can be used to fasten up to 20 sheets of paper together. When a latch at the rear is pressed,



the stapler opens for easy refilling. It comes in a plastic box with a transparent hinged top.

Science News Letter, September 2, 1950

⚙️ **PLATINUM-TIPPED BURETTE** for the chemist is designed to deliver drops of approximately 0.01 millimeter. Burettes are glass rod containers with stopcocks and are used to add reagents drop by drop in chemical analysis. The platinum-alloy

stem of this micro-burette is sealed in a glass tip which is removed for cleaning.

Science News Letter, September 2, 1950

⚙️ **LITTER PICKER** for clearing lawns and parks, able to pick up cigarette butts as well as scraps of paper, is an aluminum cane with a pick-up head having a dozen or more sharp prongs. A perforated plate, through which the prongs pass, clears the litter by a push on the handle of the cane.

Science News Letter, September 2, 1950

⚙️ **LAWN SPREADER** for grass seed or fertilizer recently patented, is a bucket-like container worn on the front of the user with a hand-operated crank on the side to rotate an inside blade. Materials in the hopper are kept agitated and are forced by the blade out through openings.

Science News Letter, September 2, 1950

⚙️ **ZIRCONIUM ARC LAMP**, for use with microscopes either for direct viewing or obtaining micrographic photographs, provides a uniform, brilliant point source of light of low temperature in contrast with the flicker and heat of the carbon arc. The light spot can be varied in size by focusing adjustment.

Science News Letter, September 2, 1950

Do You Know?

A person does not have to be able to *smell* in order to taste.

Regulating the sulfur content of *smoke* reduces its damaging power.

Two dishes of *ice cream* make a satisfactory reducing lunch for a physically active man.

Refined granulated *sugar* is chemically the same whether it comes from sugar cane or sugar beets.

Brush growing along railroads is now being killed by chemical *sprays* from specially equipped spray cars on the tracks.

Spiders can go without food for months it is claimed; this fact enables them to live during the winter when insects for food may be unavailable.

Meat tenderness depends upon the amount of connective tissue and muscle plasma; the tenderest meat contains the least connective tissue and the most muscle plasma.

3 EXPERIMENTAL KITS ALL FOR \$1

Straight
Line

Stainless
Steel

Polyethylene
Plastic

- **STRAIGHT LINE**—10 specimens make four models . . . visual illustration of the construction of an original straight line in a plane.
- **STAINLESS STEEL**—6 specimens show some of the reasons why stainless steel is known as the "jewel" of the steel industry. **50c**
- **POLYETHYLENE PLASTIC**—one of the newest of the thermoplastics . . . 7 specimens, including a 2 oz. measuring cup, demonstrate home and commercial uses of this unique plastic. **50c**

I enclose \$1 for which please send me the Straight Line, Stainless Steel, and Polyethylene Plastic kits. My address is imprinted at the right.

SCIENCE SERVICE
1719 N Street N. W. • Washington 6, D. C.

Clip and enclose this address imprint whenever you write us to renew your SCIENCE NEWS LETTER subscription, change address, order other materials, etc. It identifies you as one of the SNL family. Lower line date is expiration. Allow three weeks for address change.

9-2-0