

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **STEERABLE SLED** for children, recently patented, has a horizontal steering wheel mounted at the front end which is attached to two upright rolling wheels below. Both of these have sharp edges on their outer rims to bite into the snow. The steering device is for use on sleds with one set of continuous runners.

Science News Letter, October 7, 1950

⚙️ **WARNING LIGHT** for the automobile is attached on the left side near the front and flashes upward beams whenever the brake pedal is pressed. The beams are visible in all directions; pressing the pedal usually accompanies a right or left turn and also a decrease in speed.

Science News Letter, October 7, 1950

⚙️ **BOOKSHELF** for automobile steering wheels, which received a patent from the government recently, will hold an open book for leisurely reading but is probably better adapted to hold a road map at which the driver may take quick glances. It can be quickly attached or detached.

Science News Letter, October 7, 1950

⚙️ **BATHTUB SEAT**, with back and head rest, is an inflatable affair made of vinylite plastic with suction cups on the bottom to hold it in place. After being blown up, it



is placed in position in the tub, as shown in the picture, and the water is then turned on.

Science News Letter, October 7, 1950

⚙️ **PORTABLE RESPIRATOR**, for polio patients, is made of transparent plastic with a rubber sealing element attached to the shell, and is designed to cover just the

patient's chest and abdomen. Because it requires no back shield, it can be applied in half a minute.

Science News Letter, October 7, 1950

⚙️ **GLOVE HOLDER**, an improved device to grasp a woman's gloves and attach them to a hand bag, can also be used to hang bag and gloves to the edge of a table in a cafe. It is an ornamental metal device, with one arm of the grasper having a pivoted extension to reach over the table edge.

Science News Letter, October 7, 1950

⚙️ **BEDSIDE NIGHT LIGHT** is inside a box-like container which resembles a gold-tooled leather book and is designed to rest on a nearby table. When the cover is lifted, an electric bulb inside is lighted, and the contents, from handkerchief to sleeping tablets, become visible.

Science News Letter, October 7, 1950

⚙️ **INEXPENSIVE TELESCOPE** for amateur astronomers comes unassembled but is easily put together with the aid of a screwdriver. It has a compressed cardboard tube 45 inches long and four inches in inside diameter, hardwood lens fittings and a three-inch telescope mirror.

Science News Letter, October 7, 1950

## Do You Know?

An eclipse of the sun was observed by Chinese in 2158 B.C.

Milk some day may be on the market as a frozen concentrate.

Persons whose blood might be needed for transfusions to others may some day bear tattoo marks to indicate their type of blood.

*Tularemia*, commonly called rabbit fever, is found in wild rabbits in the United States and in many parts of the world from Alaska to Turkey.

With long storage, gasoline is likely to change because it is made up of several constituents some of which are more volatile than others and may evaporate off.

Bats flying in the darkness emit ultrasonic waves, the returning echoes of which keep them from hitting obstacles; it has been known for 200 years that they do not depend on eyesight.

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