

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **BLINKING GEIGER COUNTER**, developed for use of amateur and professional prospectors for uranium and other radioactive ore, has a flashing neon light to indicate the radioactive counts. The instrument is sensitive to both beta and gamma radiation.

Science News Letter, October 28, 1950

⚙️ **ILLUMINATED ANTENNA** for automobiles, recently patented, has a small electric bulb at the top which is energized from the car's storage battery. The electrical connections are such that they do not interfere with the radio-reception function of the antenna.

Science News Letter, October 28, 1950

⚙️ **FISHERMAN'S FLY-BIN** holds up to 70 hooks and flies in a pocket-size plastic casing in five compartments, each a section of a solid permanent magnet. Hooks and flies are held firmly, separately and vertically by the magnetic grip. They are visible through a transparent cover made of plastic.

Science News Letter, October 28, 1950

⚙️ **MIRROR BLANKS**, for large mirrors to take a small picture from the face of the television tube and enlarge it to fill a motion picture theater screen, are now being produced by production-line methods.



The 26-inch blank in the picture is contrasted with a 6-inch reflector.

Science News Letter, October 28, 1950

⚙️ **SLINGSHOT** to shoot an arrow is much like the forked-stick affair long used by boys but is molded of plastic and has

a wire between the upper ends of the arms. The notch of the arrow fits a cord connecting the rubber "power strands" while its shaft lies on the wire.

Science News Letter, October 28, 1950

⚙️ **LUBRICANT**, made from the extremely "greasy" metal molybdenum, comes in liquid form having the appearance of oil but containing no oil whatever. After application to bearing-surfaces, the liquid carrier evaporates, leaving the molybdenum to provide a dry but excellently lubricated bearing.

Science News Letter, October 28, 1950

⚙️ **NON-FREEZING FAUCET**, to deliver water from a building to an outside hose, has a shank that extends through the building wall with the valve in a protected position at the inner end. The handle, on the outside, can be easily removed from its stem, thus preventing unauthorized use of the faucet.

Science News Letter, October 28, 1950

⚙️ **ANTI-STATIC LIQUID**, to treat all kinds of plastic phonograph records, will keep them dust-free and eliminate cracking noise and static electricity. It may be used on television magnifier lenses to stop static-caused dust attraction.

Science News Letter, October 28, 1950

Do You Know?

There are nearly 14,000 rubber plantations in India.

Some birds use saliva as cement in making mud nests.

The southern extremity of Norway is farther north than the northern tip of Newfoundland.

Trained observers can identify from airplanes forest oaks infested with oak wilt; the damaging disease usually shows up first in discolored branches near the top.

Over 80% of the heat required to keep comfortable an experimental solar house built by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was obtained directly from the sun during the past two winters.

Little Smokey, the black bear on fire-prevention posters, actually knows the meaning of forest fire; before coming to the National Zoo in Washington, he was burned by a forest fire in New Mexico.

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