

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **EAR PROTECTOR**, able to stop loud sudden noises from reaching the ear drum yet admitting conversational tones, fits comfortably into the ear canal. It is a sonic ear valve, without wires or battery, for soldiers, industrial workers and others near explosions.

Science News Letter, November 18, 1950

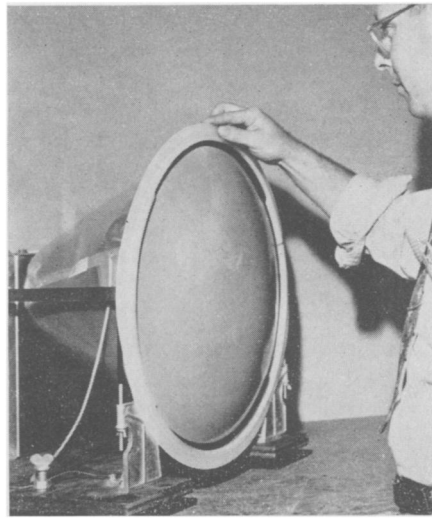
⚙️ **REVERSIBLE FAN**, for industrial applications, has a specially-designed propeller which will give an equal air flow in either direction as desired. One use is to circulate air in lumber drying kilns where one-way circulation may provide non-uniform drying.

Science News Letter, November 18, 1950

⚙️ **GAS MIXER**, for use with bottled butane of propane liquefied gas in rural homes, is a tank with two sections. When gas is drawn from the larger section, vapor is forced through a pipe leading out of the smaller section, producing a mixing agitation.

Science News Letter, November 18, 1950

⚙️ **POLYETHYLENE RINGS**, now used in some large television receivers to insulate the metal picture tube electrically, are formed by a curved extrusion which produces a curved shape free of distortion.



The photo shows a circular ring, but they can be made elliptical or in other curved shapes.

Science News Letter, November 18, 1950

⚙️ **IRON REMOVER**, to clear pipeflowing liquids of tiny particles that might damage such processing equipment as refiners, pumps and grinders, uses permanent mag-

nets. These are set up in a flow-interrupting unit which makes 30-degree angles with the pipeline.

Science News Letter, November 18, 1950

⚙️ **"OCCUPATIONAL" LENSES** for eyeglasses have segments which permit several fields of vision. Trifocals aid sight in close, medium and distant zones. For librarians, the distance segment may be in the center, with the medium segment above to enable seeing books on upper shelves.

Science News Letter, November 18, 1950

⚙️ **HAND-DRILL HEADLIGHT** to illuminate the work area was recently granted a patent by the government. An electrically-operated drill of the portable type has an electric bulb socket in a separate compartment in its forward end.

Science News Letter, November 18, 1950

⚙️ **PROJECTING EDGE** for the stove or kitchen table, to hold a meat grinder or other clamp-type kitchen tool, is provided by a square of wood with rubber suction cups on its lower side. Separation from the surface to which attached is easily made with a dull knife.

Science News Letter, November 18, 1950

## Do You Know?

Bulbs and peonies may be planted up until the ground freezes.

The dairy cow population of the United States is two cows to each 13 persons.

A two-seat, three-wheel, midget automobile is under construction in Norway.

The daintiest nest built by birds is probably that of the ruby-throated hummingbird.

Potatoes can be propagated by planting an eye from a potato and also from seed produced in balls that sometimes grow on the vines.

To be of standard weight, small eggs must weigh at least 18 ounces per dozen, medium eggs 21 ounces, and large eggs at least 24 ounces a dozen.

The first stage in the process of pickling cucumbers involves fermentation in which the physical structure of the vegetable is changed so that it can take up readily sugar, vinegar and other flavoring.

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