

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **BATH TUB BOAT** for the child is an inflatable three-foot affair, made of vinylite plastic, in which the infant sits at play or while being washed. It weighs a little over one pound, is easily cleaned and requires little storage space when deflated.

Science News Letter, November 25, 1950

⚙️ **FLUORESCENT "BULB"** can be screwed into the ordinary electric outlet in place of an incandescent bulb and projects only about six inches from the socket. It contains two lamp tubes within a box-like shade and gives up to 500 footcandles of light at four-foot working distance.

Science News Letter, November 25, 1950

⚙️ **ELECTRIC COOLER** for the dairy farmer holds four to eight 40-quart milk cans which need be lifted only a few inches from the ground. This front-opening electric refrigerator is designed to replace the ordinary dairy cooler in which heavy cans must be lifted and set in the cooler from the top.

Science News Letter, November 25, 1950

## Do You Know?

Warfarin is a relatively new efficient poison for rats.

Steel wire nails were first made commercially in America in 1875.

Some species of acorns contain more vitamin A by weight than yellow corn.

Over half of America's proved reserves of petroleum and natural gas are in Texas.

Electrically charged wires along building ledges have been successfully used to keep pigeons away.

An exhibit recently held in Oslo, Norway, was designed to persuade Norwegians to eat more ice cream.

Only a negligible effect on the weather comes from the bursting of an atomic bomb, experiences to date indicate.

The heaviest stand of timber in all Britain is a redwood grove nearly a century old which was grown from seed from California.

The mosquito was always a nuisance but never regarded as an especially important insect until it was discovered that the blood-sucking female carries disease from person to person.



⚙️ **LAP BOARD** for the sewer, shown in the picture, has a surface marked with a grid pattern in one-inch squares to make accurate alignment of material possible. Fabrics, and pleats, can be pinned to the surface of the especially constructed board.

Science News Letter, November 25, 1950

⚙️ **STRETCHABLE FABRICS**, designed particularly for automobile upholstery but

suitable for many kinds of furniture are made of a new type of vinyl plastic which is soft and pliable and will stretch in all directions. It consists of a special elastic supporting fabric and an elastic plastic coating.

Science News Letter, November 25, 1950

⚙️ **VALVE LOCK** for cook stoves burning liquid or gas fuel is a recently-patented device which can be easily installed without material changes in either the stove or valve construction. It is designed to lock the burner valves of a stove to prevent accidental opening.

Science News Letter, November 25, 1950

⚙️ **BEDSIDE LADDER**, recently patented, is designed particularly for hospital use and can be rolled from bed to bed on its casters. It is a collapsible step-ladder, easily folded for storing, and it has handrails which assist a patient to use it with safety.

Science News Letter, November 25, 1950

⚙️ **EARPHONE** for the television receiver permits individual users to hear a program while watching the pictures without disturbing others in the room. In use, the ordinary speaker is shut off, and the earphones pick up the sound through a control box.

Science News Letter, November 25, 1950

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