

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **HEATED BLADE** for the windshield wiper, recently patented, contains through its length a small-diameter coil of electric heating wire with one end grounded and the other connected to the car's electric system. The heat keeps both the wiper itself and the windshield clear of ice and snow.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1951

⚙️ **PENCIL SHARPENER** for draftsmen, for either round or chisel points, can be used also to dress scribe and divider points. A silicon carbide abrasive surface on the inner side of a cylindrical holder replaces long-used sandpaper, and a felt guide wiper cleans sharpened points.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1951

⚙️ **MEMO PAD** for attaching to the wrist watch strap, on which an American patent was recently granted to a South African, has a backing plate and pages for notes. The plate is curved to fit the back of the wrist; an outer cover, when closed, holds leaves in position.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1951

Do You Know?

The condor has the greatest wingspread of any bird in North America; its soaring flight is one of the most spectacular sights in nature.

Key deer of Florida islands, approaching extinction, are sometimes called "pigmyies," being less than 30 inches in height and weighing less than 35 pounds.

The common skunk usually has five young in a litter.

Calcium, associated with phosphorus and magnesium, is the major mineral in teeth and bones.

A lightning stroke is not just one big electric spark but includes many over the same path.

There are 13 different minerals regarded as essential in man's diet for normal life and health.

The next eclipse of the sun visible in the United States will be on Sept. 1, 1951.

Millions of synthetic sapphires are used each year for bearings in precision instruments.



⚙️ **PLASTIC AIRPLANE** model, for a youngster on a long automobile trip, is mounted outside the car as shown in the photograph. It is fastened to the end of a rod which passes through a clamp fitted on the top of a lowered window. With an inside handle, the toy plane can be put through climbing, diving and spinning maneuvers.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1951

⚙️ **SPECIAL RUBBER** lining for closet and pantry shelves provides a cushioned base that stops glassware chipping and aids

sanitation, being easily cleaned. Underside ribbing anchors the lining in place, while a slightly elevated lengthwise rib at the rear holds plates in upright position.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1951

⚙️ **PORTABLE AUDIOMETER**, developed by the Army Medical Center, Walter Reed Hospital, can test the hearing ability of 50 persons simultaneously in from 30 seconds to four minutes. Utilizing a constant sound level with variation in frequency, the range of test tones not heard indicates relative loss of hearing ability.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1951

⚙️ **SURFACE-SCANNING** radar, under tests at the London, England, airport, enables its operator in bad weather to "see" on its screen all surface traffic on the field, including taxiing planes, automobiles and pedestrians. It may be mounted on a mobile truck or in an airport control tower.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1951

⚙️ **MULTIPLE-DOSE** injection apparatus, to force vaccines or medications through the skin without needle or incision, permits treatments to a large number of persons in a short time. Two models are under testing, one hand-cocked, the other operated by a two-cylinder pump.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1951

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