

• New Machines and Gadgets •

For addresses where you can get more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N ST., Washington 6, D. C. and ask for Gadget Bulletin 584. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **FIRE WARNING** device for aircraft has a lead sulfide electric cell sensitive to infrared radiation which reacts to the flicker or varying intensity of a flame. Developed by the U. S. Air Force, it is not affected by overheat or bright sunlight but can detect a small gasoline fire at ten feet.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

⚙️ **PLASTIC** mattress cover for the youngster's crib fits easily over the top, ends and sides of any standard-sized crib mattress. It makes no rustle or crackle to disturb the baby, and is easily cleaned. Ordinarily this is done just by wiping but it can be boiled for sanitary cleaning.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

⚙️ **CHROMATE** coatings on zinc and cadmium are obtained by the simple process of immersing the article for less than one minute at room temperature in a solution of a special salt containing chromic acid. The salt comes as a powder, but is hygroscopic and must be kept in a tight container.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

⚙️ **DISH DRAINER** for the household kitchen is made of steel wire like many others but the wire is coated with neoprene, a synthetic rubber that eliminates much of the breakage of china and glass ware. This coating is highly resistant to grease, fats, oils and heat.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

⚙️ **PLASTIC POLES** with wood cores, to permit workmen on the ground to use with safety various tools on overhead wire carry-



ing high voltage electricity, come in lengths from two to 20 feet and are fitted for the easy attachment of the tools. Many types of tools can be used with this non-conductive pole shown in the picture.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

⚙️ **IDENTIFICATION** brands are put on conductors of various electrical systems by a typewriter-like machine with a standard keyboard that types letters on vinylite tubing used on wire terminals. By means of a special heating device, letters are heat-branded below the surface of the tubing.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

⚙️ **ICE CREAM PLANT**, a portable type about the size of a large office desk developed by the Army for use in advanced areas, is built as a unit containing a power plant, compressor, mixer and freezer. The capacity is limited to the 40-gallon storage space of the hardening cabinet.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

⚙️ **CLEAR-VISION** mirror for the bathroom cabinet is electrically heated just enough to keep it free from moisture. The heating element is covered with a layer of conductive chemical rubber which has high resistance to deterioration from heat. Electric current is turned off or on at will.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

ATOMIC BOMB FIRST AID

A series of pertinent, up-to-date articles, published in SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, prepared by Jane Stafford, Science Service Medical Writer, with the cooperation of the American Red Cross and other sources . . . Reprinted in 12-page pamphlet form at reader request. Subjects include:

If Atom Bomb Hits
Check Bleeding First
New Hope for the Burned
Shock and Broken Bones
Aid for Suffocation Victims
Transportation of Injured

15c each

8 for \$1.00 100 for \$7.50

Please send me _____ copies of ATOMIC BOMB FIRST AID @ 15c each, 8 for \$1, 100 for \$7.50. Mail to my address as imprinted at the right.

\$ _____ enclosed () Bill me

O. K. by initials

SCIENCE SERVICE
1719 N Street N. W. • Washington 6, D. C.

Clip and enclose this address imprint whenever you write us to renew your SCIENCE NEWS LETTER subscription, change address, order other materials, etc. It identifies you as one of the SNL family. Lower line date is expiration. Allow three weeks for address change.

8-25-51

Do You Know?

The principal area in which the destructive *oak wilt* is killing oak trees is in southern Wisconsin and Minnesota and northern Indiana and Iowa.

Some 20 miles or more below the surface of the earth is a layer of hot rocky material called *basalt*; it is hot enough to melt but the great pressure on it keeps it solid.

Brazilian *carnauba wax* is used in America to make high-grade polishes, carbon paper, stencils, phonograph records, electric insulation, special inks and water-proof paper.

Various kinds of small birds, among them the hermit thrush, place live *ants* in their feathers, apparently to rid themselves of feather lice.