

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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☛ **COASTERS** for the table, to hold glasses of beverage, have a base of wood impregnated with phenolic resin and a rim of heavy silver plate. The impregnated wood has all the natural beauty of the original material, and is highly resistant to water, alcohol and chemicals.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

☛ **DYNEL SOCKS** for men, to be available soon, are made of a synthetic fiber, will not shrink or stretch and are easily washed. They will be available for business or dress wear and are said to combine good looks with long wear and easy maintenance.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

☛ **VINYLLITE PLASTIC** sheeting, to keep a baby on the rear seat of a car from rolling off and also to protect the seat itself, is fashioned to fit the seat and extend upward at the front to fasten to window frames. Being transparent, the sleeping baby is always visible.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

Do You Know?

Not all tea used in the United States comes from Asiatic areas; last year this country imported over 500,000 pounds of tea from Brazil.

The first pure nickel was prepared in 1804.

The modern napalm bomb, designed to drop from aircraft to start fires in enemy installations, contains a silica aerogel in addition to the gasoline and aluminum soap thickener in earlier bombs.

The usual football is a rubber bladder covered with cowhide and is not a "pig-skin."

Ascorbic acid, available in drug stores, is recommended to housewives freezing fruit for preservation to prevent darkening and loss of flavor.

The oldest commercial oil well in Iran is now 49 years of age.

Increasing compression ratio in the automobile engine means increasing the pressure at which the fuel is burned in the combustion cylinder.

Dairy cows on pasture graze about 7.5 hours a day.



☛ **FLUTE** for the youngster made of plastic materials is tunable to the piano by a turn on the mouthpiece. Practically unbreakable, it features clear tone, full chromatic scale and easy fingering. The instrument, illustrated in the accompanying photograph, can be washed in warm water and soap without damage to resonance or finish.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

☛ **BED** for the long-haul truck driver, recently patented, is a convertible affair to

form a passenger seat when not wanted for sleeping. It is for use in a cab with a compartment extending out under the hood to accommodate the feet of the person using the bed.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

☛ **GLASSWARE WASHER** for chemical laboratories will thoroughly clean all glass utensils from pipettes to flasks in a relatively short period. Inside the enameled box is a vertical wheel which holds baskets for the glassware on its rim. Revolving slowly by electric power it dunks and redunks the utensils.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

☛ **TEMPERING VALVE** to insert in a hot water pipe line is fixed at the factory to deliver water to faucets or plumbing fixtures at a temperature no higher than 140 degrees Fahrenheit. One use is with dish washing machines to prevent baking food particles on dishes.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

☛ **VIBRATION-FREE** trigger for match-shooting rifle employs a system of multiplying levers. Trigger movement of less than five thousandths of an inch is increased by the levers about five times to activate the firing pin. Trigger pull is adjustable from 2.5 to six pounds.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

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