

• 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 588. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **SELF-WATERING** flower pot, a plastic decorative device for use in the home, is rectangular in shape and fits into a black plastic water-holding base. A wick through the bottom of the vase carries water to the plant roots by capillary action. One filling of water lasts a week.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

⚙️ **TAX COMPUTER**, a relatively inexpensive device to give the exact Federal old age benefit and withholding tax deductions for each pay check, is a small cylindrical device for the bookkeeper's desk, operated by a turn of a knob. Tax computing tables are printed on a plastic cylinder.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

⚙️ **SNOW-REMOVAL** machine, electrically-operated and designed to clear the home sidewalks, is a two-wheel device pushed forward by a lawn-mower handle which contains a small motor activated by cable connection to the household current. It will toss snow up 20 feet to the right or left as desired.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

⚙️ **RUBBER-CONTAINING** paper is not the usual coated paper, but is made of pulp into which the synthetic material known as neoprene in latex form is mixed. The result is a high wet-strength, chemical-resistant paper for uses ranging from porch rugs to disposable diapers.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

Do You Know?

Many *birds* like cherries and eat quantities while they are still on the trees; they seem to like sour cherries as well as the sweet types.

Japanese *beetles* spend the winter about eight inches deep in the soil.

About two pounds of the *alumina* made from bauxite are needed to produce one pound of aluminum.

Green cabbage *caterpillars* may be killed by insecticide dusting; there is no easy control for the egg-laying white moth into which they develop.

One of the earliest radio *broadcasts* was from the Metropolitan Opera House on Jan. 13, 1910.

Ground *corn cobs* make an excellent garden mulch.



⚙️ "SPECTROSPHERE" is a cylindrical chamber with a viewing window, as shown in the illustration, used to compare the brilliance and fire of gem stones, the presence of single or double refraction and varia-

tion in the dispersion of light between different stones. The gem rotates during the inspection.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

⚙️ **TABLE-VIEWER** for photographic slides is plugged into the household current and can be used in broad daylight or in a brightly lighted room. Transparencies inserted in it gives pictures four times the size of the slide on a screen near its top. Colored slides are reproduced vividly.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

⚙️ **BELL ATTACHMENT** for ice skates, recently patented, gives a ringing sound when the skate is slightly tilted. The bell is at the top of an upright shaft, fixed by an arm to the right or left of the skate. When the skate is tilted the lower end of the shaft makes contact with the ice.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

⚙️ **LAMP FOR** the telephone that automatically turns on when the telephone bell rings has just received a patent. Sound waves from the bell actuate the switch that turns on the electricity. It is particularly for use at night to aid in reaching a ringing phone.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

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