

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

⚙️ **MIDGET REFRIGERATOR** for small apartments, offices, baby nursery and summer cottages occupies only two square feet of floor space. Available in a walnut, white or ivory finish, the refrigerator has a one-cubic-foot capacity plus a dry-storage compartment near its quiet-running motor. It will make 21 ice cubes at once.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952

⚙️ **ORCHESTRAL TAPE** recordings soon are to be introduced commercially, featuring noted conductors and soloists. To be played back at 7.5 inches per second, the tapes will be divided into two tracks, each giving high-fidelity reproduction of musical tones of 50 to 15,000 cycles.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952

⚙️ **AIR VENTS**, especially good in areas frequently swept by hurricanes, feature snap-on covers that prevent wind-blown rain from getting into attics through the ventilators during heavy storms. Made of rugged aluminum, the vents can be installed in old houses as well as in houses now under construction.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952

⚙️ **ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENT** for machinery maintenance men uses a long metal prod as a microphone, as shown in the photograph. Trouble-shooters touch the prod to bearings, pistons and gears and



listen for tell-tale friction squeaks in the earphones. The sensitive device helps maintenance men find the spot quickly where a machine needs attention.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952

⚙️ **TRAFFIC-LIGHT spotter** for automobiles is made of a clear plastic molded into a rainbow shape. Acting as a lens, the device is attached to the windshield molding of a car. It reflects the image of the traffic light to the driver, even when a sun visor blocks his view directly.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952

⚙️ **ADJUSTABLE GOVERNOR** for autos lets Dad set the speed Junior cannot exceed while using the family car. Using a key which he keeps, the parent unlocks a dial on the dashboard and makes the speed setting. The adjustment cannot be changed without the key that unlocks the controls.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952

⚙️ **WIDE-ANGLE LENS** for aerial cameras has been developed for the Air Force. Practically distortion-free, the lens covers more than a 90-degree field and produces much finer image detail than previous wide-angle lenses.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952

⚙️ **COASTER-HANDLE** arrangement clamps on 8- to 11-ounce small-bottomed glasses or beverage cans, converting them into mugs. The coasters protect furniture from moisture that may condense on the cans. Persons can use the bright-colored handles to tell which drink is theirs.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952

# • Nature Ramblings •

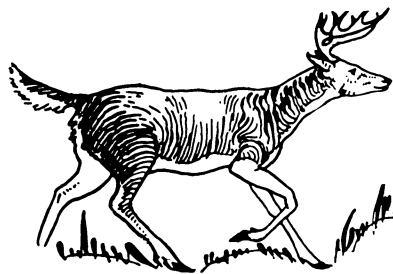
► **FAT** IS a good index to the general physical condition of deer in the winter. The less fat you find on a deer killed during the winter, the nearer the animal is to starvation.

It is the normal thing for deer to go on short rations a part of the winter, if the season is at all severe; and if it is uncommonly severe, the poor things may be driven to such unpalatable food as pine bark and juniper twigs.

Deer come to the beginning of winter with considerable reserves of fat, stored in various parts of their bodies during their long summer of browsing. The carcass of a deer shot in autumn will have a layer of fat under almost all parts of its skin, with thicker masses on hips, saddle and elsewhere.

There will be a great deal of fat around the internal organs, even a spot of fat on

## Fat Measures Health



the heart. The marrow in the long bones will be white with fat.

As the summer browse-plants are banished by the onset of winter, the deer turns to less appetizing and less nourishing foods. These may fill the stomach, but they make

no fat, and the animal begins to use up its reserves.

First to go are the outside layers and masses of fat—the deer loses its late-summer roundness, becomes more angular in outline.

Later in winter, especially if the snows are deep and even winter browse is hard to get at, the hunger-pinch becomes more severe and the internal reserves are drawn upon.

The carcass of a winter-killed deer will show very little visceral fat; and if the fat spot on the heart is gone, it is a pretty sure sign that the animal was really starving.

Indication of extreme distress is the disappearance of fat from the bone marrow. Deer in the final stages of malnutrition will have nothing in the long-bone cavities but a kind of red jelly.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1952