

• New Machines and Gadgets •

For sources of more information on new things described, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 701. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **SPORTSMAN'S BED** is a foam rubber mattress two and a half inches thick that folds up and carries like a suitcase. The foam rubber is covered with supported plastic capable of withstanding hard wear. When extended, the mattress makes a bed 24 by 76 inches.

Science News Letter, November 21, 1953

⚙️ **CIGARETTE LIGHTER** for cars features a dashboard light that the motorist can use at night while examining road maps, while searching the floor for dropped items or while looking through purses for house keys. Fitting into the cigarette lighter socket, the device has a switch that converts it instantly from cigarette lighter to dashboard lighter.

Science News Letter, November 21, 1953

⚙️ **LUMINOUS CAPS** for toggle switches in the home make it easy to spot the light switch in a blacked-out room. Made of flexible, tough, polyethylene plastic, the caps are compounded with a material that glows in the dark, and are easily pressed over the toggle buttons.

Science News Letter, November 21, 1953

⚙️ **WELL SCREEN** permits water wells to be drilled in many areas where corrosion or incrustation makes the use of metal screens



impractical. Made of rugged butyrate plastic, this new screen, shown in the photograph, does not shatter or corrode, resists most oils and greases, comes in lightweight, five-foot sections in diameters up to four inches, and is said to be ideal for wells up to 200 feet deep.

Science News Letter, November 21, 1953

⚙️ **DRILL ATTACHMENTS** for portable electric drills permit the user to stir paint with a sturdy wire device that fits into the drill's chuck, and also to "spin clean" paint brushes dipped in solvents. In both cases, the electric drill supplies the power. The user merely holds the drill in position until the job is done.

Science News Letter, November 21, 1953

⚙️ **PHOTOCOPYING MACHINE** combines a printer and developer in one attractive, desk-sized case, and can be operated easily by untrained office workers. The device copies documents, whether printed on one side or on both, and turns out single-side, double-side, transparent and tissue copies to meet most office requirements.

Science News Letter, November 21, 1953

⚙️ **SCISSOR SHARPENER** for the home helps the housewife get the proper bevel on scissors from tiny sewing models to scissors with eight-inch blades. The scissors do not have to be taken apart. An "industrial" model of the device services blades up to 14 inches. The unit is mounted on a sturdy base and uses various grades of sharpening stones and files.

Science News Letter, November 21, 1953

⚙️ **COMIC CHARACTERS** of eight well drawn "stock" men, women and children have been produced in rubber-stamp form to permit industries and teachers to use comics effectively in training programs and in class rooms. The stock figures are made to fit into the desired situation by appropriate conversation.

Science News Letter, November 21, 1953

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Do You Know?

Ultrasonic sound waves unleashed in a fluid-filled glass sphere literally have split the liquid apart, producing a cavity or giant bubble in the fluid.

Frost damage to citrus fruit depends upon low temperatures, wind, dew and perhaps even dust particles on or near the fruit's surface.

Fire losses in the U.S. are expected to exceed \$1,000,000,000 in 1953, the highest such loss in our history.

Alcoholic liquor is said to be capable of dimming your eyesight as much as sunglasses do at twilight.

It is predicted that sea lampreys, a parasitic scourge, will soon overrun Lake Superior, decimating trout in the lake.