

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

⚙️ **PNEUMATIC LEG SPLINT** of light-weight plastic rolls up for easy carrying or storage. Its longitudinal air chambers, which keep the splint straight, can be inflated by mouth or pump. The splint includes metal supporting bars, a U-shaped bar and a Pierson attachment for foot support.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

⚙️ **PLIER-WRENCH** is a versatile plier-like tool with interchangeable jaws that stretch and lock like a wrench. With the new tool, outward pressure also can be applied to the inside of a washer or similar ring with a diameter of $\frac{1}{8}$ to $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The unit's inward grip opens as wide as three inches.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

⚙️ **OUTDOOR GAS BROILER**, similar to a type used in restaurants to give steaks a charcoal-broiled flavor and appearance, uses bottled or city gas under imitation coals. The broiler, which lets the chef forget messy fuels and ashes, is available in a wheeled cart or as a unit for building into permanent fireplaces.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

⚙️ **GAS DETECTOR** combines two gas analysis principles to locate gas leaks from



underground pipes and analyze gas concentrations both within and above or below explosive limits. The detector, which operates on flashlight batteries, is small and lightweight, as shown in the photograph.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

⚙️ **PAINT REMOVER**, packed in push-button spray can, eliminates expensive brushes and their care. The non-flammable mist softens paint, varnish, lacquer, enamel and shellac on wood or metal objects. The old surface can then be stripped from the article with the steel scraper supplied with the spray.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

⚙️ **PLAY PEN** can be rolled into a small bundle and easily carried to the beach or park. Built for outdoor use, the pen consists of a rugged bright green net, four hardwood posts, and peg and rope fastenings, and it can be set up on uneven ground.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

⚙️ **MUSICAL SLIDE RULE** simplifies the learning and teaching of the key signatures and basic chords of all keys. The rule is a three-by-ten-inch holder that contains two pull-out slides, one for minors and one for majors.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

⚙️ **LIFE PRESERVER** is pocket-sized when not inflated, but, when squeezed in the hand, swells into a four-foot tube that will support two adults. Tinted emergency yellow, the compact unit can be slipped into a pants' pocket, tucked under the belt or pinned to clothing. The preserver is inexpensive and reusable.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1954

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Do You Know?

The incidence of *cancer* is higher for fat people than for slim, insurance statistics indicate.

In the U. S., *food losses* from all causes—weather, waste, spoilage, transportation, etc.—exceed \$10,000,000,000 annually.

One acre of good mosquito-breeding land can be the birthplace of 950,000 *mosquitoes* a season.

Prescriptions, refills and over-the-counter sales for aged persons account for an estimated 30% of the average pharmacist's *drug volume*.

There is one motor *vehicle* in the United States for every three persons; in Russia, the ratio is about one vehicle for every 740 persons.

Hindi, the *language* brought to India by Aryan invaders in the seventh and eighth centuries A.D., will replace English as India's official language in about 10 years.