

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **SOLDERLESS WIRING DEVICES** permit faster crimping of terminals and connectors to wire ends. Terminal and connector barrels are made one-quarter inch in length to provide room for the nose of the crimping tool. The wiring devices are made in one piece, and in one type a plastic sleeve is permanently attached to prevent slippage.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956

⚙️ **CONVEYOR BELTS** of plastic are strong, smooth, crackproof, non-absorbent, immune to oils and greases, and stable under humidity and temperature changes. The polyester plastic film used has a low weight of 0.04 pound per square foot, claimed to be only a twelfth as heavy as the lightest woven material.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956

⚙️ **PORTABLE P.A. SYSTEM** has a transistorized power amplifier giving an output of 10 watts. A British development, the public address system weighs 24½ pounds. It can be carried in a small case and its battery is good for from 12 to 14 hours of continuous use, after which it can be recharged.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956

⚙️ **WRITING OUTFIT** allows writing in visible messages that appear instantly when



wiped with a sponge soaked in fluid, as shown in the photograph. The kit contains invisible ink ball point pen, sponge and bottle of fluid.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956

⚙️ **CEILING FIXTURE** is also an air conditioner. Looking just like a conventional fluorescent light fixture, the combination

unit has a built-in and concealed air diffuser. The diffuser, mounted above the reflector plate, distributes cool air that bypasses the lamps.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956

⚙️ **BONDING AGENT** added to a concrete mix creates a strong bond between new and old concrete. A polyvinyl acetate concentrate, moist curing is not necessary. The bonding material can be used in mixes for surfacing and resurfacing, with mortars and plasters, with manufactured concrete products and as a cement paint additive.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956

⚙️ **SEWING GUIDE** is a plastic plate that makes it possible for anyone to sew straight. With a width gauge up to two and one-half inches, the guide can be used with either right or left hand. Sewing as close as 1/32 inch to the edge is possible and the attachment fits any machine.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956

⚙️ **STEERING WHEEL** for miniature cars and other toys is made of butyrate plastic like those of full-size cars. The wheel, practically unbreakable in use, is fitted with a steel core for attachment to a steering column and comes in a variety of colors.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956



## Nature Ramblings



By HORACE LOFTIN

➤ **THE CASUAL WEEK-END DRIVER** these days may think he has wandered by mistake into an army firing range as volley after volley of gunshots blast the quiet countryside.

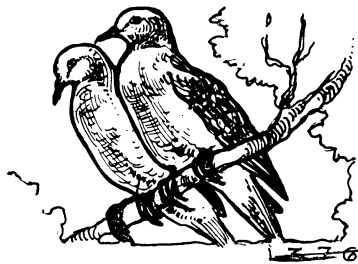
It may or may not relieve him to know that he is driving by the site of an organized hunt for mourning doves.

The usual way to hunt the elusive, fast-flying mourning dove is for a large group to surround a field planted in corn or other grain. When a flock of doves enters the field, the first hunter to see them emits a low whistle to alert his comrades. Then the shooting is on.

The object is to keep the birds flying back and forth over the field so that as many hunters as possible get a try at the shooting.

A "try" at the shooting is the proper expression, because the mourning dove presents one of the most difficult of targets, even for a shotgun. The oldest hand at

### Dove Hunt



dove hunting may shoot up a box or more of shells without getting anything like his daily game limit.

Statistics gathered in Florida show that the average take of doves per hour by hunters is only 1.7 doves. The average daily bag of doves per hunter amounts to less than four. Who could estimate the number of shells expended per hunter for these birds?

What effect does hunting pressure have on the mourning dove population? According to Frank Winston, Florida wildlife expert, under present controls the answer is a brief "none!"

Mr. Winston points out that the dove is naturally short-lived, with some 70% to 80% of the population dying from one cause or another within the first year. His figures for Florida show that only some four percent of the birds are taken by hunting. Thus, he says, that amount is insignificant compared to the dove mortality due to strictly natural causes.

Fifty percent of the doves would die anyway during the period of the hunting season, regardless of whether any are harvested by hunters or not.

It should always be remembered that conservation means more than just hoarding of natural resources: it means best "utilization" of resources for the most people over the greatest period of time.

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956