

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

⚙️ **CIGARETTE** conserver, now patented, is a non-inflammable container into which partially used cigarettes may be inserted and snuffed out by a cover placed over the open end. The cigarette retains its natural flavor until the smoker is ready for the remaining half.

*Science News Letter, February 26, 1944*

⚙️ **ELECTRONIC** spray gun, used in a radio tube factory to paint metal tubes, squirts out paint only when a tube is directly in front of the gun. A switch powered by an electronic tube does the trick as the tubes to be painted pass the gun on a conveyor belt.

*Science News Letter, February 26, 1944*

⚙️ **SERVICE LIFE** of a machine-lathe is lengthened by flame refining the cast-iron bed-ways of the lathes to the maximum allowable hardness. Fully hardened steel strips are used for carriage facings. The combination of materials is claimed to increase the service life as much as 50 per cent.

*Science News Letter, February 26, 1944*

⚙️ **WOOD** pattern-makers now use a cutting tool operated by compressed air similar to the so-called compressors used in rock drilling and mining. Patterns for molds for foundries are turned out more



quickly by this means than with ordinary hand chisels. The picture shows one in use.

*Science News Letter, February 26, 1944*

⚙️ **A SPECIAL COATING** can now be applied to the interiors of booths and conveyors used in spray-painting that eliminates the tough job of scraping off over-spray paint. By using this coating the over-spray is stripped off in sheets.

*Science News Letter, February 26, 1944*

⚙️ **OXYGEN TENTS** for tiny premature babies are made of transparent plastic. They look like ordinary covers placed over food dishes to protect them from dust and moisture. A meat cover borrowed from the hospital kitchen was the first tent of this particular material used in this way.

*Science News Letter, February 26, 1944*

⚙️ **TINY WASHERS** made of glass fibers bonded and pressed into wafer-like mats are used in lip-microphones in the armed services. They remain resilient, exert even pressure on the metal diaphragm of the "mike" under combat conditions, and prevent thunderous battle noises from interfering with clear transmission.

*Science News Letter, February 26, 1944*

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## Question Box

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Why are some 4F men going to be taught how to fly? p. 134.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

When did man first start writing about his longings for immortality? p. 131.

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On what date does spring arrive this year? p. 138.

Why do we have Leap Year? p. 180.

### CHEMISTRY

During which month in 1943 was the largest amount of penicillin produced? p. 140.

How can synthetic menthol be made? p. 142.

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How does moisture affect some insect eggs? p. 137.

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What divers' and sand-hogs' afflictions may affect aviators? p. 133.

When is dishwashing good for soldiers? p. 142.

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In what areas do fighting men need seven-and-a-half quarts of drinking water a day? p. 135.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

What is the Navy planning to do with its physicians after the war? p. 133.

### SOCIOLOGY

What are the chances of a middle-aged man remarrying? p. 137.

Why do race prejudices arise? p. 132.

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