

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

⚙️ **STATIC-RESISTANT** automobile tires, or tires which develop decreased electrical charges when the car is being driven, may soon be available. They are built, under a patented process, with a layer of rubber containing carbon black, or other electrically conductive material, underlying the tread. The layer concentrates the charge and leads it into the ground.

Science News Letter, April 15, 1944

⚙️ **EDIBLE RINDS** of oranges and other fruits can be removed and flaked by an improved grater which is operated with a crank in a table attachment. The orange is pressed by hand against the grater edges in this patented kitchen gadget. Curved grater cutting edges, spaced on the inside of a cup which the crank rotates, have slots between them through which the flecks of rind pass.

Science News Letter, April 15, 1944

⚙️ **FRICION-METERS** have been constructed which measure mechanically the friction of fabric surfaces and evaluate fiber finishes and their resistance to slippage. Fabric purchasers are interested in smoothness, sheen, creep and wear-resistance; these are all associated with the fabric's frictional properties.

Science News Letter, April 15, 1944

⚙️ **AN IMPROVED** steerable parachute is used by "smoke-jumpers" in the U. S. Forest Service to reach forest fires in out-of-the-way places by airplane. Two rope-



controlled slots which extend from the parachute canopy are manipulated by the jumper, who can thus select a landing place. Photograph shows the chute in use.

Science News Letter, April 15, 1944

⚙️ **A TREATMENT** tent, just patented, is a tent within a tent which can be used for giving sun baths, heat and similar treatments. The inner tent has a row of sockets in which light- and ray-emitting electric globes may be inserted. The inside walls of the inner tent are treated to reflect light and color on the body of the user.

Science News Letter, April 15, 1944

⚙️ **AN ELECTRICALLY** heated overcoat and portable storage battery which can easily be attached and detached is now patented. The current from the battery, carried in a small hand case, is turned on and off by the thumb with a switch on the handle. Electrical connections through plugs on the end of the sleeve break automatically when the case is set down.

Science News Letter, April 15, 1944

⚙️ **NEW CEMENT** has been developed to hold component lenses in field cameras. The cement will not discolor in extreme desert heat or in temperature as low as 60 degrees below zero. It is expected to replace natural Canadian balsam as a transparent lens cement.

Science News Letter, April 15, 1944

If you want more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 203.

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