

• New Machines and Gadgets •

⚙️ **KNITTING** in the dark may soon be possible with a newly-patented knitting needle which features an illuminated point. The needle is made of a plastic which transmits light lengthwise without giving it out except at the end. An encased small electric bulb at the blunt end furnishes the light.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1944

⚙️ **CLIPS** to hold pencils and pens in the pocket will hinge in an arched recess in the cap portion so that they may be turned outward to permit free use of the eraser. This newly patented clip is especially suitable for the use of soldiers because it is so placed on the cap that the pencil hangs hidden in the pocket.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1944

⚙️ **CONTROLLED ILLUMINATION** is provided in a new high intensity illuminator, used to view X-ray films of castings to detect flaws, by a variable voltage foot-switch control that allows stepless adjustments from 0 to 110 volts. The air-cooled apparatus permits the viewing of 14- by 17-inch films at a glance in one operation.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1944

⚙️ **AUTOMOBILE BUMPERS** made of wood may replace steel bumpers if the metal is needed for war purposes. Tests indicate the one shown in the



picture, made of five-ply laminated wood, is as serviceable as ordinary metal bumpers.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1944

⚙️ **PRESSURE COOKERS** may have their covers safely closed by means of a new, simple locking mechanism, just patented. The cover for a steam-pressure saucepan or other cooker has a flanged rim to fit flanges on the pan. A rotatable ring on the cover locks it to the pan by a single movement of a handle on the cover.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1944

⚙️ A 12-INCH high-intensity searchlight, providing more than 7,500,000 candlepower, has a 900-watt mercury lamp cooled by compressed air. Cooling is necessary because the mercury arc creates intense heat. The searchlight is four times as powerful as the conventional incandescent searchlight of the same size.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1944

⚙️ **HEAD-BAND** sets of magnifying lenses, used by medical men, laboratory technicians and factory inspectors, are now made with a vision conversion adjuster, and also are so hinged that they can be swung up against the forehead when not in use. They are now made of plastic instead of metal.

Science News Letter, April 22, 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 204.

BOOKS

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER will obtain for you any American book or magazine in print. Send check or money order to cover regular retail price and we will pay postage in the United States. If price is unknown, send \$5 and the change will be returned. When publications are free, send 10c for handling. Address:

Book Department

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER
1719 N St., N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Question Box

AERONAUTICS

How can parachutes shorten an airplane's run? p. 265.

ENGINEERING

How may future airplane landing fields be constructed to have underground lighting? p. 265.

GENERAL SCIENCE

What is the "living package" visualized for the post-war world? p. 269.

What new organization of science teachers has been formed? p. 264.

INVENTION

How are balloons within balloons used as air protection? p. 270.

MEDICINE

How did penicillin recently take an eye-saving role? p. 264.

What can cure gonorrhoea in women in six hours? p. 260.

NUTRITION

What disease can be prevented by a factor found in cream? p. 264.

What pudding is particularly popular with soldiers overseas? p. 265.

PHYSIOLOGY

When was poison used to fight poison? p. 264.

PSYCHIATRY

How can those at home help most the soldiers discharged for neuropsychiatric reasons? p. 262.

PSYCHOLOGY

How much does the season in which a child is conceived affect his mentality? p. 260.

If you want to get married at an early age, what is a "prerequisite"? p. 261.

RESEARCH

How will the drafting of research men under 26 affect America's war effort? p. 259.

Where published sources are used they are cited.

The imprint to the right is mailing address for your Science News Letter.

Date on lower line is expiration of your subscription.

Renew early to avoid lapse in service.

In requesting change of address please give your old address as well as the new one, at least two weeks before change is to become effective.