

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

⚙️ **DISPOSABLE** toothbrush, for one-time use in railway and bus stations, and other places, has a flat, rigid handle made of a material that softens and sufficiently disintegrates in water to be deposited safely in the toilet after use. Its tiny brush is impregnated with a dentrifice.

*Science News Letter, November 24, 1945*

⚙️ **WEDGE-SHAPED** rain gauge, made of a transparent plastic, is graduated on one rectangular face so that water-level readings may be taken without the use of a measuring rod.

*Science News Letter, November 24, 1945*

⚙️ **CEREAL TOASTER**, to restore crispness to breakfast foods, is a narrow metal box with perforated sides that fits into the bread space of an ordinary electric toaster. After the cereal is properly heated, the container is removed by an insulated handle.

*Science News Letter, November 24, 1945*

⚙️ **ILLUMINATED** electric flatiron has a slightly projecting metal cover with downward-curved edges under which several tiny lamps are placed. The light from the lamps is reflected to the edges of the ironing surface.

*Science News Letter, November 24, 1945*

⚙️ **HEALTH LAMP** for humans and poultry emits a combination of germ-killing and health-giving radiation. Its action depends upon a new chemical phosphor,



shown in the picture, a fluorescent powder used on the inside wall of a tube that converts some of the germicidal waves from a mercury discharge lamp into ultraviolet rays.

*Science News Letter, November 24, 1945*

⚙️ **COMPOUND** screw, for use in wood, has a threaded shank of two or more sections of different diameters instead of the uniformly tapering shank. The lower, pointed section may be with-

out threads so that it can be driven into the wood with a hammer.

*Science News Letter, November 24, 1945*

⚙️ **ASH REMOVAL** and shifting device, by the turning of a crank, draws the ashes out of a furnace, sifts them, and dumps the ash dust and partially burned coal into separate containers. An endless screw, similar to that in the familiar kitchen meat grinder, forces the ashes forward from a trough fixed under the grate.

*Science News Letter, November 24, 1945*

⚙️ **COMB**, for use by barbers in cutting hair, has every second tooth about half the length of the others, and every second space between the teeth deeper than between the others. This comb permits a three-way cut to be made with one stroke, it is claimed.

*Science News Letter, November 24, 1945*

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 286.

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