

• New Machines and Gadgets •

☛ **DUSTER**, double-acting, has brush or broom fibers on one end for ordinary dusting, and a nozzle on the end of the handle through which a blast of air can be ejected to remove dust from crevices. The lower part of the handle is a flexible rubber chamber from which the air is expelled by a squeeze.

Science News Letter, February 9, 1946

☛ **HOSPITAL TRAY** for serving food to bed patients is made of a melamine plastic with an 18% addition of phenolic resin. It contains six deep separate compartments to hold different foods. It can be safely washed in boiling water, and it imparts no taste to foodstuffs served in it.

Science News Letter, February 9, 1946

☛ **DAY-NIGHT** distress signal gives from the same five-inch cylindrical container either a stream of orange smoke or a bright red flare. The smoke emits from one end, the flare from the other. To set off either, a paper cap is removed from the proper end, and a flip-ring pulled over the edge of the can.

Science News Letter, February 9, 1946

☛ **FILMETER** measures electronically the thickness of various coatings, which are electrically non-conductive, or non-magnetic metals such as aluminum and copper. The coatings may be paint, varnish, lacquer, ceramics or plastics. The heart of the apparatus is a battery-operated electronic beat-frequency oscillator.

Science News Letter, February 9, 1946



☛ **RADAR UMBRELLA**, a light portable unit developed especially for beach-head use, is used both as a reflector in sending out shortwave radio pulses and as a receiver to catch wave echoes reflected from enemy targets. The unit's rotating umbrella-like antenna is shown in the picture.

Science News Letter, February 9, 1946

☛ **KNITTED** toe mitt, just patented, may be worn either inside or outside the stocking when an open-toe shoe is used, to reduce the wear of the stocking. It has a closely woven silk edging that fits

snugly around the base of the toes to hold the mitt in place.

Science News Letter, February 9, 1946

☛ **POWDER** for cleaning carpets without removal from the floor is used in solution and is applied by means of a rotary brush. It removes ordinary soil and also disinfects, deodorizes and demoths, all without injuring the texture or coloring of the carpet.

Science News Letter, February 9, 1946

☛ **LOADING DEVICE** to assist in putting heavy packages in an automobile rear trunk is a movable platform. It can be pulled out of the trunk into an accessible position behind the car by means of small rollers operating in channel tracks.

Science News Letter, February 9, 1946

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