

•New Machines And Gadgets•

⚙️ **CONVERTIBLE** rocking chair, recently patented, has rockers hinged to its front legs so that they can be swung upward between the four legs until their rear ends rest inside the chair's back. A convenient lever, operated by the occupant while sitting at ease, raises or lowers the rockers.

Science News Letter, November 2, 1946

⚙️ **PRECISION** plumb bob for carpenters and engineers has a spool on its upper neck which revolves to wind up the suspension cord. To use, the cord is pulled out to approximate length, then slipped under a hook on the top that holds it in an exactly centered position. The cord can be shortened by revolving the spool.

Science News Letter, November 2, 1946

⚙️ **AIR SPRINGS**, in pairs at each end of each axle on railroad passenger cars, look like small automobile tires lying in a horizontal position. The nine-inch-diameter rubber air containers are connected to an air reservoir that acts as a shock absorber when a wheel hits unevenness on the track.

Science News Letter, November 2, 1946

⚙️ **ADJUSTABLE** swing, to keep Johnny happy during shut-in days, is fixed in the door frame, as shown in the picture, so that it does not interfere with door action. The seat-height is adjusted by



clamps on the side straps. The swing can be unhooked from the cross arm when not in use.

Science News Letter, November 2, 1946

⚙️ **SEEING-EYE** for blind men is a nine-pound case the size of a loaf of bread that is carried in one hand. A beam of light projected from the case is reflected by an object ahead, picked up and converted by a photocell into code signals in the blind user's earphone.

Science News Letter, November 2, 1946

⚙️ **TRANSLUCENCY** meter, a new photoelectric instrument, measures more accurately than ever before the translucency of chinaware. This property in chinaware imparts its fragile beauty and is the buyer's criterion of quality. The instrument will aid ceramists in research and may be adaptable to production control.

Science News Letter, November 2, 1946

⚙️ **ARTIFICIAL EYE**, that moves in coordination with a person's good eye, is made of plastic with a mesh of tantalum metal covering its back portion. Mobility is obtained by sewing the eye muscles to the tantalum mesh. It can be implanted immediately after an injured eye is removed, or much later if desired.

Science News Letter, November 2, 1946

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 335. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

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