

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **TRANSPARENT** plastics have entered new fields. One type is used to make 300-gallon olive brine vats; another to make storage tanks for a chlorine bleaching solution. They are free from reactions with the chemicals used, and the contents can be seen continually.

Science News Letter, April 5, 1947

⚙️ **AIRPLANE** reading lamp is a peacetime version of the wartime gunsight lamp. Inserted over the passenger's head, the new 20-watt lamp provides almost 10 times the illumination of lamps of the same wattage previously used.

Science News Letter, April 5, 1947

⚙️ **CORN CUTTER**, a household device to remove green corn from the cob, has a saddle base hollowed to fit over the ear, and a raised handle for pushing it forward. A cutting edge is set at a proper depth below an opening in the center of the base.

Science News Letter, April 5, 1947

⚙️ **GARDEN HOE**, recently patented, has a spring loop in the lower part of its handle that absorbs shocks, strains and vibrations in use.

Science News Letter, April 5, 1947

⚙️ **IMPROVED abacus**, with braille column-indicators on the frame for use by the blind, is a simplified type for busy executives to use in adding, subtracting,



multiplying and dividing. The fifth and sixth digit disks on each rod, as shown in the picture, are larger than others to speed operation and particularly to assist the blind.

Science News Letter, April 5, 1947

⚙️ **BABY WALKER** recently patented, can be used for a go-cart, rolled on its four casters. The metal framework that holds the child carries a suspended seat with leg holes for walking. The insertion of a foot board and handles converts it into a go-cart.

Science News Letter, April 5, 1947

⚙️ **THICKNESS GAGE**, to measure electrically from the outside the thickness of iron and steel pipe from one-quarter to two inches in diameter, includes an indicating instrument, a gage head, and a saddle connected to the gage head by two screws. Different saddles, which must fit the pipe, are required for each diameter.

Science News Letter, April 5, 1947

⚙️ **WIRE STRIPPER**, for removing cotton, silk, plastic or rubber insulation from electric wires by a continuous process, makes use of two electrically heated stripping blades. Fumes and smoke created in the process are drawn away by a built-in exhaust, and strippings fall into a water compartment.

Science News Letter, April 5, 1947

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Question Box

AERONAUTICS

How is aircraft noise being reduced? p. 222.

BOTANY

What is the appearance of the dogwood's real flower? p. 218.

When and where was Arbor Day started? p. 221.

CHEMISTRY

From what will nylons be made in the future? p. 215.

DENTISTRY

What research leads to the prediction of tooth banks in the future? p. 214.

ENTOMOLOGY

Why should butterflies be symbols of Easter? p. 222.

MEDICINE

Is cancer primarily a woman's disease? p. 216.

What is thought to be a cause of cancer? p. 211.

Why will it take several generations to tell the total effect of the atomic bomb on the Japanese? p. 219.

PHOTOGRAPHY

What is the highest distance from which a photograph has ever been taken? p. 213.

PSYCHIATRY

Why are people left-handed? p. 212.

PHYSICS

How can air eddies be prevented in wind tunnels? p. 212.

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