

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **ASH TRAY**, flower and candle holder in combination, is an elongated tray with a grill cover which has a round hole in its center to support a candle. The stems of flowers are stuck through the rectangular openings in the cover into perforations in a platform below.

*Science News Letter, November 22, 1947*

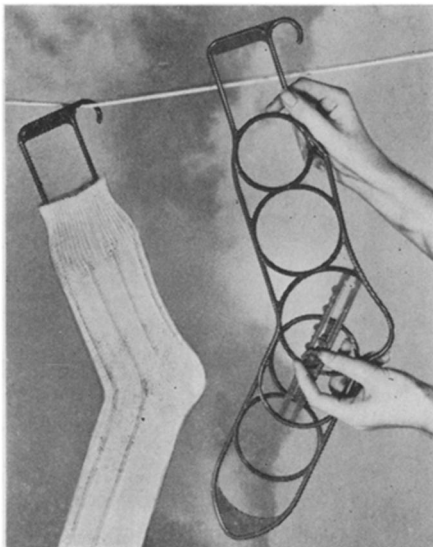
⚙️ **STAPLES** for low-voltage household electric wiring are held together in strips of ten by an insulating material which fits on the inside of their U-ends. When one staple is driven, the remaining strip with its staples is easily separated by means of perforations in the insulation.

*Science News Letter, November 22, 1947*

⚙️ **ELECTRIC HEATER** and battery charger in combination, recently patented, has an electric resistance heating element with terminals to connect to a commercial alternating power line, and also a transformer to change the alternating current to direct current of the proper voltage for battery charging.

*Science News Letter, November 22, 1947*

⚙️ **SOCK-STRETCHER**, particularly to prevent shrinkage of wool socks when drying, is made of a flexible plastic frame, shown in the picture, and has an adjustable foot which can be ex-



tended from size 9 to size 13. The adjustment is made with a thumb knob.  
*Science News Letter, November 22, 1947*

⚙️ **CHEMICAL COATINGS** for artificial fish lures, such as flies, spinners, and miniature crawfish or frogs of rubber that are drawn along the water's surface, have a distinctive odor for the lure on which used. Some fish are guided by smell; the value of these scented lures is now under test.

*Science News Letter, November 22, 1947*

⚙️ **BOW-PIN**, for curling hair, is a flattish metal strip used in combination with a plastic tube and an ordinary hairpin. The bow-pin, with ends close together, is inserted into the tube with the hairpin outside through its loop. When the hair is wound around the tube and the tube pulled out, the bow-pin snaps down to hold the curl in place.

*Science News Letter, November 22, 1947*

⚙️ **LAMP TO KILL GERMS** in the air by indirect radiation, and molds and fungi on surfaces or in liquids by direct radiation, will find uses in homes and schools to destroy airborne bacteria, and wide uses in food-processing plants and other places to destroy contaminating germs and fungi.

*Science News Letter, November 22, 1947*



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## Question Box

### AERONAUTICS

What combined power will enable a new plane to approach the speed of sound? p. 325.

### AGRICULTURE

What factors are responsible for Europe's dire food needs? p. 326.

### ASTRONOMY

How soon will the earth stop receiving the heat from the sun? p. 328.

### ELECTRONICS

How are metal fragments located in trees? p. 327.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

What is the attitude toward science at the UNESCO meeting? p. 322.

*Photographs: Cover, Westinghouse; p. 323, left, Chemical and Engineering News; p. 325, Navy; p. 227, General Electric Co.; p. 330 and 331, Fremont Davis.*

### MEDICINE

What new TB inhibitor has been reported? p. 322.

What pleasant use has been found for mustard gas? p. 329.

### NUCLEAR PHYSICS

What facts make it seem unlikely that the Russians had an atom-bomb test? p. 334.

### NUTRITION

Where will the feast be missing on Thanksgiving day? p. 330.

### PHYSICS-CHEMISTRY

Who are the Nobel prize winners in physics and chemistry? p. 323.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

What forecast for longer life has been made? p. 324.

