

• New Machines and Gadgets •

For addresses where you can get more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., Washington 6, D. C. and ask for Gadget Bulletin 473. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **WINDOW VENTILATOR**, that fits snugly under the sash of a partly open window, contains within it an air filter of glass fiber or a processed fiber that will remove the entering air dust particles, pollen and dirt, it is claimed. It is available in natural aluminum or tan-baked enamel finishes.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1949

⚙️ **SCISSORS SHARPENER** for the home or office is a small block to rest on the table which has a bevel cut in its upper face into which an abrasive surface is fitted. A handle makes it easy to hold the block in position while the scissors blade, guided by the bevel, is pushed over the abrasive.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1949

⚙️ **CARPET SWEEPER**, operated on the ordinary house current, has a whiskbroom-like action, cleaning at the rate of 3,500 sweeps to the minute. It is light in weight and easily maneuvered on its gliding, wheel-less base, and is claimed to be able to pick up lint and small particles that defy the vacuum cleaner.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1949

⚙️ **BATHTUB SEAT** for the baby, shown in the picture, makes the job of washing the wiggler easier. The device is made of a durable plastic, uninjured by soap and



water, and has four rubber suction cups to secure it to the bottom of the tub, while two strips of webbing hold baby in place.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1949

⚙️ **RUBBER MATS**, for the kitchen, bathroom or hallway, have brilliant, full-colored illustrations inlaid in the rubber itself as integral parts of the mat, where they remain permanently. Including the picture is due

to a new development that makes it possible to inlay pure rubber with designs.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1949

⚙️ **PLASTIC CUP-SHAPED** container for food in the home has an overlapping flexible plastic cover that is easily "peeled" off by hand but can be used over and over again. The cover continues to make a tight seal, which prevents the leakage of liquids, and cover and container are both transparent, permitting easy examination of contents.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1949

⚙️ **CARPET**, in which weaving is eliminated by cementing the tufts to a heavy cloth backing, is ravel-proof and fray-proof, and can be cut in any direction for fitting or repairing. The adhesive, a development of a rubber company, is tough but flexible, holds the wool tufts, or pile, securely even under rough usage.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1949

⚙️ **HIGH-SPEED PAPER** counter which can count as many as 1,000 sheets in a pile in a few seconds, is an electronic hand-tool whose stylus is slid quickly over the edges of the paper after the package has been stacked to provide a step-like end. As each sheet is touched separately by the stylus, an electric impulse makes a recording.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1949

Do You Know?

One of every 25 new permanent single-family dwellings started in America in 1948 in non-farm areas was a factory-built or prefabricated house.

The origin of the *speedometer* used on automobiles is attributed to Benjamin Franklin who, while Colonial Postmaster General, invented and used a device on his carriage to measure distances between post-offices.

Fuel that will burn in the airplane engine, but will not catch fire in combat or in a crash, is needed because fire is the greatest hazard of flying.

Germans developed a satisfactory *edible fat* from coal during the recent war.

Hay on many farms is now being cut in bad as well as good weather and dried in the haymow by means of a powered blower that forces air through tunnels under the crop and out through many openings into the hay itself.

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