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

SALT SHAKER, with an electrical heating element in an air chamber in its base, gives promise of relief from the summer problem of delivering salt to the food at the dining table. This recently patented device is merely plugged into an ordinary electric outlet for a while when the salt gets sticky.

Science News Letter, August 20, 1949

HEADREST, for persons who like to read while in the bathtub, is made of aluminum and has on its upper surface a covering of cushiony sponge rubber. An arm behind the curved piece of aluminum has a base by which the device can be attached to the tub in the best position for the reader.

Science News Letter, August 20, 1949

ETRACTION DEVICE for motor vehicles, recently patented, is attached to the outside of the wheel and has elongated grouters, or spikes, that project when wanted beyond the tire. These grouters are pivoted and can be turned along the tire when not needed for traction; they are adjustable in projection length.

Science News Letter, August 20, 1949



SPRAYING DEVICE, shown in the picture, is for hayfever victims, to give quick relief by a local application of Pyribenzamine. Pressure on the flexible noncorrosive plastic tube produces a fine spray. The drug is available only on a physician's prescription.

Science News Letter, August 20, 1949

carrying Handle for a bowling ball is made of a flexible material and holds the ball by means of a suction cup. An air passage within this recently patented device has a port or opening to the upper part of the handle which can be closed by the bowler when the cup is pressed into gripping engagement with the ball.

Science News Letter, August 20, 1949

ODOR ABSORBER for the refrigerator utilizes activated carbon as a filter to remove gases and odorous vapors, and a small motor-operated blower to draw the air through the filter and recirculate it. Plugged into an electric outlet within the refrigerator, no service is needed except to reactivate the carbon occasionally.

Science News Letter, August 20, 1949

EDUCATIONAL TOY for youngsters consists of a set of plastic cut-out designs which will adhere by finger-pressure to a glass, enamel or porcelain table top, or to a special board provided with the set. The cut-out designs, vari-colored, are circular, triangular, rectangular and other shapes, and can be arranged to form a house, doll or other object.

Science News Letter, August 20, 1949

Do You Know?

The trumpeter swan is the heaviest flying bird in America.

A cord of good *hardwood*, well seasoned, can produce as much heat as a ton of coal or 200 gallons of fuel oil.

Calcite, a metamorphic limestone, mixed with cement, appears to give a concrete with unusual water- and acid-resistant properties, Norwegian scientists have discovered.

The *saddle-horse* population of the United States is estimated at about 850,000, more than half of which are work animals on western ranges.

Among the several types of radio broadcast services in the United States are the "Standard" or AM (amplitude modulation), the improved static-free FM (frequency modulation), TV or television, noncommercial educational, facsimile, and international.

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