

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

⚙️ **SHAMPOOING machine for upholstery** is an improved type said to be lighter in weight, more efficient, faster and better-looking than previous models. While the entire machine weighs 40 pounds, the cleaning head, the part held in the hand by the user, is made of magnesium and weighs only three pounds.

Science News Letter, September 24, 1949

⚙️ **MAGNETIC FLY-BOX** will hold 36 fishing flies, any one of which can be brought to the front of the device by merely turning a dial. It makes use of a permanent rotating magnet assembly. It has a clear plastic top which permits the user to see all the flies in the box without opening the cover.

Science News Letter, September 24, 1949

⚙️ **CHEMICAL WORM DIGGER**, to eliminate the labor of spading for fish bait, is a white powder which is dusted lightly over an area containing fresh earthworm holes, then thoroughly sprinkled with water. The worms come completely out of the holes for easy picking; the chemical does not injure the grass.

Science News Letter, September 24, 1949

⚙️ **HAMMER TOYS**, shown in the picture, are made of tough plastic material



and are designed for youngsters who have reached the pounding age. The peg table has six non-removable pegs that can be driven in separately, then released by a blow on the center post.

Science News Letter, September 24, 1949

⚙️ **SOLDERING device** automatically feeds solder to the tip of the iron. The feeding

attachment will fit any standard electric soldering iron from 75 to 250 watts. Slight pressure on a trigger on the attachment, made by one finger of the holding hand, brings the solder to the iron tip as needed.

Science News Letter, September 24, 1949

⚙️ **CARPENTER'S LEVEL** for a blind workman has been developed by the American Foundation for the Blind. It consists essentially of a highly polished steel ball rolling in a highly polished brass angle section, and is read from a dial at one end of the level.

Science News Letter, September 24, 1949

⚙️ **SPRAY-GUN**, for paint or any sprayable liquid, is a self-contained, 17-pound unit with compressor, motor and gun within a single streamlined housing. This improved sprayer, which operates on household current, will apply one quart of paint in four minutes, operating with about 50 pounds air pressure.

Science News Letter, September 24, 1949

⚙️ **PLASTIC WASH bottle** for the laboratory will eject a strong, easily controlled stream of fluid when lightly squeezed. This non-breakable Polyethylene bottle is for use with distilled water or commonly used laboratory acid and alkaline solutions.

Science News Letter, September 24, 1949

Do You Know?

Bromine is becoming a widely-used disinfectant for swimming pools.

Only about 200 of the once-numerous Asiatic lions are thought now to be alive.

A six-inch door key, recently discovered in ruins of an English abbey, is coated with tin and is estimated to be 700 years old.

A five-bladed propeller, recently tested on a U. S. Coast Guard cutter, gave practically no hull vibration at any speed; the ordinary propeller has three blades.

In seeding burned-over rough land by airplane, what is called "pelleted seed" is sometimes used; it is seed mixed with soil to form small marbles which, on disintegration, leave soil-covered seeds.

The element fluorine was first isolated by the French scientist Henri Moissan; in 1886 he succeeded in obtaining it by the electrolysis of a solution of potassium fluoride dissolved in liquid hydrofluoric acid.

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