

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

☛ **POCKET-HEATER**, the size of a thin cigarette package, generates an even temperature of 125 degrees Fahrenheit for 24 hours on just one filling of ordinary lighter fuel, it is claimed. Vapor from the fluid passes through a heating element, producing the 125-degree temperature without a flame.

Science News Letter, December 31, 1949

☛ **PROTECTOR** for the bottom edges of trousers is a flat guard-plate which is fastened to the lower edge of the cuff by means of pointed prongs pushed through the cloth to engage a plate within the cuffs. This device, recently patented, can also be used on cuffless trousers.

Science News Letter, December 31, 1949

☛ **HOLDER** for cut flowers is made of a sponge-like plastic, is about the size and shape of a cupcake, and has an adhesive base to keep it in position in a bowl. When flowers are jabbed into the sponge, they remain as placed and are kept fresh by water covering the moss-colored holder.

Science News Letter, December 31, 1949

☛ **"FLYING SAUCER"** for the youngster, shown in the picture, can be thrown, skipped or boomeranged because the device is so precisely engineered that it actually glides through the air, it is claimed. It is molded of a tough plastic which will with-



stand rough usage, and it is available in various colors.

Science News Letter, December 31, 1949

☛ **CHECKWRITER**, small enough to fit into a checkbook or pocket, makes large figures, indelibly perforated and inked into

the fiber, showing the exact amount of the check in dollars and cents. Its use insures protection against any check alteration.

Science News Letter, December 31, 1949

☛ **POULTRY-FEEDER**, an endless belt type operated by an electric motor and set in motion 16 times during the feeding day by an electric clock, brings grain along its trough-like bottom for a brief eating period and returns left-overs to the bin. Grain from a storage bin is loaded automatically to the feeder.

Science News Letter, December 31, 1949

☛ **PROTECTIVE PLATE**, easily attachable to the inside or outside of any door, gives the dog something to scratch when he wants to get in or out without marring the door itself. The plate is made of plastic, and has a corrugated surface which gives off an audible sound when pawed.

Science News Letter, December 31, 1949

☛ **ILLUMINATION RECORDER** is an instrument that gives a continuous record of outdoor daylight by means of a photocell placed in the open air with unobstructed exposure to the sky. An indoor recorder measures the electrical output from the electric "eye."

Science News Letter, December 31, 1949

Do You Know?

Copper is said to be the oldest metal of commerce.

Calcium chloride, especially prepared for the purpose, is used in treating coal to keep it dustless.

The area of the United States is approximately 1,905,000,000 acres, not including sizable rivers and lakes.

The common female firefly of the west coastal area is wingless and is seen on the ground, not in the air; the male has wings but is not luminous.

Many soil maps of the present time are made from aerial photographs to which are added lines showing soil boundaries and detailed soil information.

Petroleum from Alberta, Canada, will reach the region of the Great Lakes in a quantity of some 100,000 barrels a day by a pipeline now under construction which will be completed in about two years.

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