

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **RADIATION COUNTER**, for laboratory and factory personnel working with radioactive substances, has a platform for the feet and cavities on two upright posts for the hands. When hands and feet are properly placed, a red, yellow or green light flashes to indicate whether decontamination is needed.

Science News Letter, February 11, 1950

⚙️ **PEEPHOLE FOR DOORS**, by means of which a person wanting admission can be inspected, consists of a tube invisible from the outside which can be rotated to give a wide range of vision. Padded to be noiseless, this recently patented device has a single lens in the tube.

Science News Letter, February 11, 1950

⚙️ **BLIND STITCH ATTACHMENT** for a widely used sewing machine is a practical, easy-to-use device which produces invisible hemming with perfect blind stitches. It is attached when needed to the sewing machine in place of the presser foot.

Science News Letter, February 11, 1950

⚙️ **THREE-POWER BINOCULARS**, which may be worn like ordinary glasses as shown in the picture, are easily focused



by a simple fingertip motion. They are light in weight, being made of aluminum, with nose piece and temples of plastic.

Science News Letter, February 11, 1950

⚙️ **MOISTURE-RESISTANT BAG**, to hold a rose bush or other plant during shipment and until replanted, is made of double layers of polyethylene film, heat-sealed

around the edges to prevent moisture from escaping. A special wax prevents moisture loss through the plant itself.

Science News Letter, February 11, 1950

⚙️ **DEFROSTING SYSTEM**, automatic and rapid in operation, is a feature of a new combination household refrigerator-freezer. Defrosting requires about three minutes under ideal conditions, and the refrigerator may continue to be used during the period.

Science News Letter, February 11, 1950

⚙️ **WHEELED GUARD** is used at an aircraft factory to protect ground crew men from the jet intakes on military planes under stationary tests with engines in operation. The castored, heavy frame and wire device fits under the nose of a plane covering both air intakes.

Science News Letter, February 11, 1950

⚙️ **LAWN MOWER**, of a new type, recently patented, has a stationary low-placed cutting bar with forward projecting triangular teeth, and a series of circular rotating blades on a powered shaft which parallels the axle of the machine. These rotators force vegetation of any height against the triangular teeth.

Science News Letter, February 11, 1950

Do You Know?

Headaches come in about 47 different types.

The largest use made of nickel in America is in steel alloys.

Pure nickel is used for cathodes in television cameras and picture tubes.

Fluorspar is the mineral from which the Freons used in refrigerator and cooling systems are made.

The ancestor of the American celery is a wild plant of Europe which grows in swamps from Sweden southward to Africa.

Glass for television tubes may contain up to 30% by weight in lead to increase electrical resistivity and give high light dispersion.

Petroleum consumption is a good measure of a country's standard of living; in the United States per capita consumption of crude oil and its liquid products amounts to 575 gallons a year.

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