

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

⚙️ **AUTOMATIC TIMER** for public speakers operates on three flashlight batteries and utilizes a six-volt buzzer. The allotted time is set on the device. A warning light turns on automatically two minutes before the end of the time. The buzzer operates at the end of the period.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1950

⚙️ **ROLLER-SKATE**, to put under a flat tire on the automobile so that the car may be hauled or driven to a repair station, consists of fabric covering on a light metal frame under which are rubber-tired wheels. By means of a ramp block, the flat tire is easily driven into the cradle of the skate.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1950

⚙️ **INNER TUBE** for automobile tires, made with nylon cord for reinforcement, will outwear as many as three sets of tires, it is claimed. In event of a puncture, the nylon construction squeezes rubber around the puncturing object, thereby preventing sudden flats and permitting only slow leakage.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1950

⚙️ **RADIOACTIVITY DETECTOR**, shown in the picture, is designed for rugged field use in prospecting for such radioactive ores



as uranium, thorium and radium. It contains a small Geiger tube, and the entire instrument is so constructed that it will operate even after being submerged in water.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1950

⚙️ **POCKET-SIZE TELESCOPE**, of five-inch length and designed for the sportsman

or naturalist, offers six-power magnification. It has a scientifically computed system of six lenses that are claimed to give full correction for spherical and color aberration.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1950

⚙️ **SOLDIER KIT** for Arctic uses by downed airmen includes 22 packages of equipment needed to keep a man alive for several days. Included are a sleeping bag, a canned heat stove, 10-day food rations, revolver, signalling devices, compass and waterproof matches.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1950

⚙️ **ALCOHOL BLOW TORCH**, an improved type for use in soft soldering, has a gun grip plastic handle for easy holding and a sliding windshield to permit its use indoors or outdoors with equal efficiency. It produces a flame of over 2700 degrees Fahrenheit.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1950

⚙️ **BABY SPOON**, with a scoop-like bowl "swiveled" to the handle, stays level when being raised to the mouth. When the child puts the spoon against food or against the dish, the slightest pressure downward on the handle keeps the bowl firmly in one position.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1950

Do You Know?

Winter *laying* of well-bred American hens is now nearly on a par with summer laying.

Creatures with *slit pupils* in the eye, like the house cat, are mainly those that are active both by day and by night.

The average *painter* using a brush spends about one hour of an eight-hour work day in merely dipping the brush into the paint pot.

So-called snowshoe *rabbits* of western mountain areas have feet densely covered with long fur, enabling them to travel on snow.

Floating on his back, the sea *otter* of the Pacific coast uses his chest for a table on which to tear apart sea urchins gathered for food.

Although there are many natural caves in the United States, few of them would be suitable for military purposes or underground factories because of their irregular shape.

An extra fillip for every week . . .

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