

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

⚙️ **SUN GLASSES**, adjustable to meet all varying light conditions, have two polarizing lenses in each cell. The front lens is in a fixed position but the rear lens can be turned through a 90-degree arc. This permits finger-tip adjustment to allow only the desired degree of light to reach the eye.

Science News Letter, May 13, 1950

⚙️ **TINY TRANSFORMER**, for use in hearing aids, miniature equipment used on airplanes and other low-level electrical applications, weighs about one-fourth of an ounce and is said to be the smallest in the world. Dependability is provided through the use of a molded nylon bobbin and non-hygroscopic insulation.

Science News Letter, May 13, 1950

⚙️ **THROW-AWAY RAZOR**, recently patented, is basically a small hollow cylinder of a cheap plastic with a cutting blade molded in its rounded surface. A projection along the same surface in front of the blade makes the end-view of the device look like a comma. The cylinder itself is the handle.

Science News Letter, May 13, 1950

⚙️ **PLASTIC BOOMERANG**, shown in the picture, has leading edges beveled to work like the ailerons of an airplane. When



hurled, it flies out nearly horizontally, then veers to the left, and returns to the vicinity of the thrower, making a spiral landing.

Science News Letter, May 13, 1950

⚙️ **ATTRACTIVE BACK YARD** rubbish burner is a sheetmetal box-like affair with a pyramidal hinged top, the whole resembling somewhat the old square parlor stove.

Vents at the bottom and top provide air admission and smoke emission, and a removable wire basket for a grate makes debris disposal easy.

Science News Letter, May 13, 1950

⚙️ **DIESEL ELECTRIC GENERATORS**, on a common steel base, are designed for continuous service applications ranging from farms to factories. The engine is directly connected to a single bearing generator. Ordinary units are 60-cycle, with 40 to 250 kilowatt ratings.

Science News Letter, May 13, 1950

⚙️ **WHEEL CARD FILE**, for telephone use, is mounted directly over the rear of the ordinary telephone desk set above a base into which the telephone is placed. The loose leaf cards are in a handy position, and the file and telephone together require no more desk space than the phone alone.

Science News Letter, May 13, 1950

⚙️ **FIRE HOSE**, 12% lighter and 50% stronger than present types, owes its lighter weight and greater strength to a new, chemically-produced fiber which is used in the filler cords in the jacket. The new hose is more flexible, easier to handle, and takes less space when coiled than standard constructions.

Science News Letter, May 13, 1950

Do You Know?

Coal-eating does not help pigs in spite of a popular belief.

Human hearts and brains are now being mapped by radar.

Italy is the principal tobacco-producing country of Western Europe.

A water spray containing small amounts of maleic hydrazide in its diethanolamine salt delays the blossoming of strawberry and raspberry plants about 10 days.

An anesthetic used by dentists for the past 25 years is now found to be the best "truth serum" ever discovered; it is somniform, and is particularly helpful in cases of amnesia.

Piezoelectric effect is the ability of certain crystals, such as quartz, to develop electric charges on their surfaces when mechanically pressured, and to convert electric charges applied to them into mechanical action.

Ascorbic acid, also known as vitamin C, gives promise as a chemical for the treatment of certain types of insanity.

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