

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

🌀 **VINYL RESIN DOLL** is rubber-like in appearance and approaches the human skin in touch. It has life-like facial expressions, detailed arms, fingers and toes, all due primarily to the accurate detail which can be obtained in molding processes using this plastic.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

🌀 **ROTATING BRUSH**, an improved type to attach to the end of the hose when washing cars or windows, adds a cleaning material to the water when desired or delivers untreated rinsing water. Operator flips a switch to add the detergent. A water-operated turbine in the device gives the rotating action.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

🌀 **PORTABLE ADDRESSER**, easily held in use by fingers and thumb of one hand, is designed to get mail addressed quickly and accurately by organizations with limited mailing lists. Master copy is typed on a spirit roll which holds 250 addresses and is easily inserted into the machine.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

🌀 **FLAT IRON** of the electrically heated type may be quickly converted into a hot plate for usual uses in a device recently awarded a patent by the government. Two hinged parts swing upward to form a handle for ironing but when in a level position form the hot plate.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

🌀 **WATER-SOFTENER** for the home,

Do You Know?

Yocco, an African jungle drink, cuts hunger and fatigue.

Straight hairs are somewhat circular in outline, while curly hairs are flattened.

Homes near high-tension electric power lines are apt to have much trouble with radio reception; a good antenna helps.

The fertilizer business in the United States had its real beginning in 1850 when the first commercial fertilizer mixture was manufactured in Baltimore.

Pentachlorophenol, a highly recommended substance for preserving wood, does not affect the appearances or natural odor of the wood impregnated with it.

Chemotherapy in plant culture means applying disease-killing chemicals in water to the soil in which plants are growing; the chemicals enter the plant by way of the roots.



shown in the picture, is a simplified and less expensive type of the softener utilizing ion-exchange principles. It is connected into the water system, and is electrically operated. Hard water, released near the bottom, passes upward through a high-capacity bead resin to the household distributing piping.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

🌀 **WATER-TIMER**, for use on the lawn hose, automatically cuts the water off after a pre-set quantity has passed through it, thus preventing over-watering. It is a small device which is inserted between the outlet faucet and the hose. By the turn of a knob, "untimed" water is delivered.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

🌀 **ORCHID GREENHOUSE** for the window sill is made entirely of plastic and is eight inches long and six inches wide. It can be purchased with four potted hybrid orchid seedlings or is available empty for those who want to use it for African violets or other plants.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

🌀 **CONTROL DEVICE** protects water-cooled electrically operated equipment, such as air compressors and vacuum pumps, against damage through water failure. If the water supply fails, a weighted lever falls, opening the circuit. This stops the equipment or sounds an alarm.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

🌀 **NICKEL-CLAD** copper wire of very small diameter, suitable for use in high-temperature or corrosive atmospheres, is produced by automatic equipment which assures uniformity and quality. Good workability and electrical characteristics are assured through heat-treating and annealing processes.

Science News Letter, May 20, 1950

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