

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

⚙️ **AUTOMOBILE POLISH**, which is a four per cent silicones solution, cleans fast and easily and gives the car a glass-hard surface that keeps moisture and heat from penetrating the paint, it is claimed. Silicones are relatively new chemicals made from sand and organic materials.

Science News Letter, June 3, 1950

⚙️ **COMPLETE KIT** to make a home-built Geiger counter, to detect the mineral uranium needed in atomic energy developments, contains all necessary tubes, batteries, resistors, headsets and other parts. It contains also a metal case for the counter and complete directions for assembling.

Science News Letter, June 3, 1950

⚙️ **PLASTIC WINDOWS** with frames can be quickly inserted into fabric coverings used to store army equipment and protect the contents from damage by moisture. These miniature portholes, an Army invention, permit easy inspection of contents. They unscrew if replacement of the water-absorbing materials employed is necessary.

Science News Letter, June 3, 1950

⚙️ **TINY SCREWS**, threaded and slotted and small enough to almost pass through the eye of a needle, as shown in the picture,



are said to be the world's smallest mass-produced precision screws. They are used in precision watches and several types of military timing instruments.

Science News Letter, June 3, 1950

⚙️ **BUBBLE LEVEL**, attachable to any hand-held portable electric or pneumatic drilling machine by two screws, makes it easy to drill a perfectly straight vertical hole

through a floor or a horizontal hole through a wall. Operators watch the level, not the drill, to keep from making a wobbly hole.

Science News Letter, June 3, 1950

⚙️ **DRINKING GLASS HOLDER**, for outdoor use, is a pointed rod, some two foot in length, to stick in the earth, the top end of which is formed into a coil into which the glass fits. The rigid rod is of steel with a plastic coating in color to provide decoration and protection from rust.

Science News Letter, June 3, 1950

⚙️ **MAGNET DEVICE**, to remove iron pieces from acid baths, alkali baths and electroplating tanks in industrial plants, is a permanent magnetic stainless-steel tube mounted between tiny wheels. It is easily rolled, like a carpet sweeper, over the bottom of the tank.

Science News Letter, June 3, 1950

⚙️ **TRUCK LABORATORY**, used by Pennsylvania's Bureau of Industrial Hygiene, can be rushed to areas suffering from air pollution to determine the particular gases or fumes causing the condition. It carries 25 scientific devices for air sampling and chemical analysis.

Science News Letter, June 3, 1950

Do You Know?

Many *sharks*, unlike most fish, give birth to living young.

Most *stutterers*, unable to talk except with difficulty, can sing with ease.

Norway's *merchant fleet* is now 6% of the world fleet; it was 7.1% of the world's prewar fleet.

Women live longer than men practically everywhere in the world except India.

Carboxymethyl cellulose, added to rinse water each time that cotton goods are washed, makes the fabric more resistant to soiling and easier to wash.

Fluorescent street *lights*, which will provide uniform brightness with a minimum of glare, are now increasingly being installed on city streets and heavy traffic roads.

Marks in snow on the ice of a Yellowstone Park lake, made by a pair of trumpeter *swans*, showed that the birds landed in parallel 12 feet apart and that each skidded 25 feet to a stop.

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