

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

⚙️ **BUTANE LIGHTERS** for smokers, using the butane gas which is delivered in tanks to thousands of homes for cooking purposes, have replaceable cartridges of the gas which hold a supply great enough to last several months. This light-weight lighter has no wick, fluid or odor.

Science News Letter, September 23, 1950

⚙️ **ZIGZAG ATTACHMENT** for sewing machines makes easy the job of zigzag stitching on home-made garments, and produces results from almost invisible stitching to boldly decorative effects. Straight stitching, without removing the attachment, is obtained by a lever adjustment.

Science News Letter, September 23, 1950

⚙️ **BICYCLE ENGINE**, a British product claimed to give about 250 miles to a gallon of gasoline, is a two-stroke engine that comes mounted on a special wheel to replace the regular rear wheel. The replacement can be fitted to any bicycle, and weighs a total of 20 pounds.

Science News Letter, September 23, 1950

⚙️ **PLASTIC MICROPHONE**, for use with an office dictating machine, not only receives dictation but will play back the last words for review. When a switch,



shown under the thumb in the picture, is pushed up the machine records. For playback the switch is pushed down.

Science News Letter, September 23, 1950

⚙️ **ALUMINUM CONTAINER**, for home and other canning, is a German development similar to the long-used glass jar with lid, rubber sealing ring and clamp. The

aluminum is protected from chemical action due to contact with the food by a protective lacquer.

Science News Letter, September 23, 1950

⚙️ **CARD SHUFFLER**, for canasta players, is claimed by the manufacturer to shuffle cards 40 ways in one speedy operation and offer them cut ready for play. It is a device easily operated by the amateur, and is an ideal box in which to keep cards.

Science News Letter, September 23, 1950

⚙️ **ELECTRIC POWER generator**, for medium-power dielectric heating in work with plastics, wood, rubber, textiles and food, is push-button operated, motor-driven and has a self-contained power output control. It utilizes a line voltage of 230 volts and employs two heavy-duty air-cooled power tubes.

Science News Letter, September 23, 1950

⚙️ **FLASHING SIGNALS**, to give warning of an automobile turn, are easily installed with a kit which contains everything needed to convert front parking lamps and rear tail lights to do the job. Turn signals are operated by a switch on the steering wheel.

Science News Letter, September 23, 1950

## Do You Know?

The coconut is one of the largest seeds in the world.

Japan's tea production is now about 60% of its prewar amount.

Giant redwood trees of the West started from tiny seeds about one-sixteenth of an inch long.

Over 200,000,000 pounds of copper and its alloys will be used in America this year in household labor saving devices.

Addition of castor oil to the paint used in marking highways improves sticking qualities and prevents chipping off.

Ancient Hebrew manuscripts, found recently in rolls of leather and papyrus in a cave near the Dead Sea, are said to be at least 20 centuries old.

Cotton, jute, rice and tea will be sent from Pakistan to Poland under a new trade agreement, and Poland will send the Asiatic nation coal, chemicals, textiles and minerals.

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