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

© CIGARETTE CUTTER for persons who want a short smoke, has two small flat pieces of metal, one of which slides over the other in side grooves. One piece has a hole through which a cigarette is inserted; the other a V-shaped cutting edge.

Science News Letter, January 13, 1951

HEATED STEERING WHEEL for automobiles is a newly-patented device in which half the plastic wheel itself and two spokes carry an embedded electric resistance wire. Electricity from car's battery and generator is used to warm the wheel to the touch.

Science News Letter, January 13, 1951

\*\*POTATO RACK, for use in baking, is an aluminum alloy shelf that will fit in any oven. It holds potatoes upward by projecting V-shaped prongs. These prongs also make a vent to permit excess steam to escape.

Science News Letter, January 13, 1951

## Do You Know?

The only dogs with wholly blue or black tongues and lips are the Chinese Chows.

Italy is improving its *corn* crop by adapting American hybrid corn to local conditions.

Mountain *beaver* of the Pacific coast area is structurally somewhere between the porcupine and the marmot.

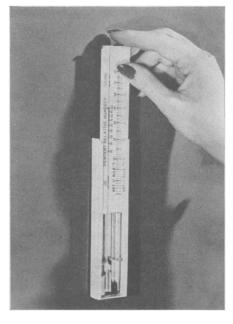
Durable wrapping paper is being made which has a layer of glass fibers between two sheets of kraft paper.

Briquettes of small-grade coal are to be made at mines at Spitsbergen in the Arctic north of Norway to use in heating in Norway itself.

Aluminum posts for street lights are found satisfactory; they have the necessary strength, are light to handle and present no corrosion problem.

"Balanced pruning" of grape vines means a fixed relationship between the number of fruiting buds left on the vine and the weight of wood removed.

If a glaring headlight dazzles an automobile driver for three seconds and the driver requires seven seconds to recover, he will travel 440 feet without proper vision if his speed is 40 miles per hour.



HUMIDITY INDICATOR, pocket-size, has two thermometers within a plastic case as shown in the picture. One is a wet-bulb thermometer with a wick easily moistened.

After wetting and fanning the instrument through the air, both temperature and relative humidity can be read from the sliderule cover.

Science News Letter, January 13, 1951

MECHANICAL BUS for the youngster, made of chip-proof plastics, has front and rear adjustable bumpers which provide automatic direction-control. When the bus hits a table leg or baseboard, direction is reversed and it starts backward across the floor to meet another obstacle.

Science News Letter, January 13, 1951

TELEVISION EYEGLASSES are made of a new absorptive type of optical glass designed to reduce glare and minimize eye fatigue. It is claimed that they permit allevening viewing without discomfort and provide softer pictures even when sets are tuned up bright.

Science News Letter, January 13, 1951

WRITING GUIDE for the blind, recently patented, is a board with side pieces to hold the writing paper and a movable cross piece. This cross piece has a slot extending throughout its length to confine writing to the paper below it. Pins hold the crossarm in position.

Science News Letter, January 13, 1951

We wish to serve you—

## LET US ORDER YOUR BOOK

## **Don't Delay**

getting that NEW BOOK you want to read. SCIENCE NEWS LETTER will gladly obtain for you any American book or magazine in print. Send check or money order covering regular retail price (\$5 if price is unknown and adjustment will be made). We will pay postage in the United States. You can attach a separate sheet, to your address coupon at right, listing title, author, publisher, price, and mail to Book Department, Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

**Book Order** 

1-13-51

Clip and enclose this address imprint whenever you write us to renew you SCIENCE NEWS LETTER subscription, change address, order other materials, etc. It identifies you as one of the SNI family. Lower line date is expiration. Allow three weeks for address change.

SCIENCE SERVICE
1719 N Street N. W. • Washington 6, D.