

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **SMOKE ring gun**, a pistol-like plastic toy for the youngster, sends perfect rings out its nose when the trigger is operated. Chemical smoke pellets are used in the gun. Snapping the gun housing closed strikes the pellet head against a striker strip, creating the harmless smoke.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

⚙️ **PAINT BRUSH**, for applying paint inside radiators and other hard-to-get-at places, consists of a piece of lamb's wool on a metal strip that will bend to any shape and hold the shape. In use, the wool is dipped into a shallow paint pan, then the paint applied to the surface with sideway rubbing action.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

⚙️ **SPILL-PROOF container** for fluids used in ordinary cigarette lighters is held in upright position in use, with its curved spout extending over the side and into the lighter. Filling is accomplished by pressing the sides of the metal container gently with thumb and fingers.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

⚙️ **METAL toecap** for use in shoes to protect the feet of factory workers from dropped objects differs from types now used in that the metal is thicker near its rear edge and thins out to the front. This gives extra strength where the blow is apt to be hardest.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

## Do You Know?

Baked *spare ribs* is the most popular Christmas dish in Norway.

Aromatic or *Turkish tobacco* is now being grown in Virginia.

*Waterfowl eggs* from Iceland, brought by air to the Philadelphia Zoo, were hatched under mallard ducks, thus obtaining 20 birds of six species.

Nearly 3,000 farms in the United States are now certified as *tree farms*; their principal crop is lumber and other wood products.

*Red lighting* for automobile instrument panels is recommended because eyes adjust more easily from red to darkness than they do from other colors.

The *gypsy moth*, a tree pest that has caused great damage in the northeastern states, is facing elimination with the spraying of DDT on forests and street trees by airplane.



⚙️ **RADIATION detector**, for personnel using radioactive materials, checks hands and feet at the same time. The person stands on the device, as shown in the picture, with hands in checker pockets and feet on a

checker platform. A beta-gamma count registers automatically in five seconds.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

⚙️ **EYE PAD mask**, for hot or cold application to soothe eyes, is a plastic device to fit over the area around the eyes; it has two small openings to permit sight. The device is filled with a sealed-in, temperature-holding chemical solution that is heated by immersion in hot water or cooled in a refrigerator.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

⚙️ **METALLIC ink**, based on vinylite resin and suitable for use on special cards and magazine covers, has exceptional affinity to paper, high gloss and excellent resistance to fading and aging. It does not rub off despite constant handling.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

⚙️ **ALTITUDE device**, that will measure height above sea level with an accuracy of approximately two feet, is an improved aneroid type barometric leveling instrument developed by the Army Corps of Engineers. Improvements include high sensitivity and electric illumination for night lighting.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

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