

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **LIGHTED "YO-YO,"** the twirling spool-like toy on the end of a string, is made of a translucent plastic and has within it a tiny battery and electric bulb. It is claimed to give weird effects in darkness, operated by amateurs or experts.

Science News Letter, May 19, 1951

⚙️ **FRANKFURTER CORER,** recently patented, includes a tube to hold the skin-covered meat roll and a cutting tube to make a hole lengthwise through its center. The hole is for the insertion of relishes to make a "daintier" hot-dog sandwich.

Science News Letter, May 19, 1951

⚙️ **LIFE BUOY,** to keep persons afloat in water, is ring-shaped and the usual size but is made of an expanded plastic, the material being honeycombed with millions of tiny non-connected cells which make it extremely light. It is unaffected by sun or salt water.

Science News Letter, May 19, 1951

⚙️ **WASHBASIN,** for the automobile, is fixed under the front seat, with a hinged portion of the seat for a cover. Water for use in this recently patented device is carried in a tank behind and above the rear seat, with a pipe leading to the basin. Draining outlet to the basin is provided.

Science News Letter, May 19, 1951

## Do You Know?

A mature goose can furnish about a pound of feathers in a year if plucked every six weeks during the spring, summer and early fall.

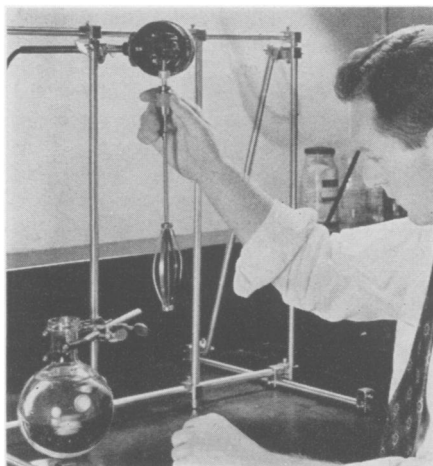
For its weight, the familiar *web* of the spider is said to be stronger than steel.

The earliest meat animal domesticated by ancient people in what is now Iran probably was the *goat*.

"*Apple slaw*" is as mixture of finely chopped apples and finely-shredded cabbage in a sour cream dressing.

Peach tree *borers* feed on the cambrian or inner layer of the bark of the tree, often girdling young trees and causing their death.

Reclamation of *alkali* land in Greece during the past two years is making land for rice-growing available; pumps remove alkaline water from the rice fields and replace it with fresh water.



⚙️ **STIRRER,** for use in narrow-necked flasks or bottles in the laboratory or kitchen, as shown in the picture, has four blades that can be closed while passing through the neck and then opened to egg-beater size and shape for maximum stirring effectiveness. Its 12-inch shaft fits chucks of ordinary laboratory motors.

Science News Letter, May 19, 1951

⚙️ **CLOTHESLINE PUMP,** without pipes or bucket, is an endless rope passing rapidly over a pulley above the water and one submerged. Water sticking to the up-bound rope is thrown off at the top. This old idea, now revived, is used in a two-rope pump, with a quarter-horsepower motor, that raises 12 gallons per minute from a 25-foot depth.

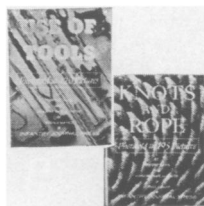
Science News Letter, May 19, 1951

⚙️ **HYDROFIN** is a coined name for a speedy water craft with a hull carried well over the tops of small waves at reasonable speeds, and small water wings under the surface. Propeller blades similar to those on aircraft provide forward movement, and steering facilities are provided.

Science News Letter, May 19, 1951

⚙️ **OPTICAL KIT** has been developed for the armed services for repair of broken spectacles in advanced areas. Each unit consists of two table-high small cabinets that contain frames, lenses, and small tools, and also a hand-operated lens cutter and a grinding wheel.

Science News Letter, May 19, 1951



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