

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

☛ TELEPHONE NUMBERS are easily available when written or typed on a paper strip which is placed inside a cylinder on the front end of a base for the household telephone. Rolling the strip out at one end of the cylinder brings the number desired to where it is easily seen.

Science News Letter, June 16, 1951

☛ PORTABLE PROJECTOR of motion pictures, and sound, is for use in screening 16-millimeter films to preview television spots. The pictures are thrown on a screen at right angles with the projector, the screen being the size of the 12-inch television receiver.

Science News Letter, June 16, 1951

☛ MOTORCYCLE COVER is a vinylite plastic film that completely covers the vehicle when not in use to protect it from the weather but which can be rolled into a small package to fit into a saddlebag. The covering is flexible at all temperatures, and does not crack or peel.

Science News Letter, June 16, 1951

☛ SPEAR GUN, a home-made device for spearing large fish, uses a 2.5-pound carbon dioxide fire extinguisher with a long tube barrel replacing the nozzle and holding the spear. Triggering the release valve on the high-pressure tank permits the escape of the driving power.

Science News Letter, June 16, 1951



☛ MINIATURE BAGPIPE for the youngster is about one-fourth the size of its European counterpart. As the illustration shows, the miniature looks exactly like the conventional bagpipe, but it is easier to play and has a sweeter sound. The single reed of

the Scotch instrument is replaced by a plastic reed plate containing eight reeds tuned in the key of C.

Science News Letter, June 16, 1951

☛ SCHOOL DESK tops, made of sawdust, phenolic resins and resin-impregnated paper, are economically produced, structurally strong, and are resistant to impact, abrasion, moisture, flame and most chemicals. Sawdust mixed with resin is highly compressed between sheets of the impregnated paper.

Science News Letter, June 16, 1951

☛ POP-DOWN toaster for the breakfast table is a recently patented device similar to the ordinary electric toaster but has a higher base with a chute into which the toasted bread is released. An abutment at the bottom of the chute holds the bread within to keep it warm until wanted.

Science News Letter, June 16, 1951

☛ GRASS-CUTTING sickle, recently patented, uses razor blades for cutting edges, and they are placed on the outer, rather than the inner, edge of what is ordinarily a curved blade. The used razor blades are held at angles with the rear edge of the holding-arm by a saw-tooth device into which they are clamped.

Science News Letter, June 16, 1951

A MEMBERSHIP IS NOW OPEN TO YOU

Things of science

Do You Know?

What doctors call gastroenteritis is often known as *ptomaine poisoning*.

In the fossilized remains of animals, *teeth* are usually the best preserved of the organs.

Ripe *bananas*, including skins, have been found satisfactory as a replacement for corn in growing and fattening pigs.

The terror *shark* of the tropics is called the carcharodon; it will attack any living thing that crosses its path.

Otters in the Philadelphia Zoo gather up the paper cups and boxes which thoughtless visitors drop into their pool, and put them in a neat pile.

America's first *glass* factory was at Jamestown, Va.; established in 1608, its principal product was glass beads for use in trading with Indians.

ONCE A MONTH for a year we will pack a blue package with scientific fun, with mental stimulation, with hours of absorption, with future hobbies, with knowledge; but specifically we will pack the boxes with THINGS of *science*—real objects of science to be handled and looked at and owned by you. And with them, sheets of suggested experiments and complete explanations of them. There are now more than ten thousand members of the group of friends of science who receive one of these exciting boxes each month. This unusual service comes one year postpaid for \$4.00. Use this coupon to send in your membership NOW and we will include, free, a Gift Unit as our thanks for your prompt acceptance.

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6-16-51