

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **PLAYHOUSE** for the youngsters, a tent-like affair made of Vinylite plastic, can be hung on a clothesline and is decorated to resemble a cottage. Dismantled and packed with its knockdown frame, the eight-by-four-foot shelter fits a carton four inches square and 50 inches long.

Science News Letter, June 30, 1951

⚙️ **"OIL-EYE"** on the automobile dashboard shows a driver the level of motor and transmission oil. Hose lines connect it to crank case and automatic transmission. When a button is pushed, the gauge fills if the crankcase oil is at proper level; pushing another button gives transmission-oil condition.

Science News Letter, June 30, 1951

⚙️ **PORTABLE WASHING** machine, which can handle a five-pound load and is mounted on rollaway casters to permit easy storing, has a powerful pump to empty wash water into sink or lavatory. When a button is pushed the agitator is stopped while the pressure pump empties the tub.

Science News Letter, June 30, 1951

⚙️ **"EXPANDED" METAL**, usable for many industrial and household purposes, resembles wire fencing with diamond-shaped



openings, but is made from solid sheets in a huge press with a serrated knife blade, as illustrated in the photograph. After cutting it is stretched to a width of some 10 times that of the original sheet.

Science News Letter, June 30, 1951

⚙️ **FOOT-TREATMENT** device, a recently patented invention for use in relieving pains due to poor circulation, provides massage,

heat and intermittent mild electric shocks to the sole of the foot. The application of heat and shock simultaneously is followed by simultaneous heat and vibration treatment.

Science News Letter, June 30, 1951

⚙️ **OUTDOOR REGISTER** for an indoor gas meter, recently patented enables the "gasman" on his monthly visits to determine the amount of gas used without entering the house. It is called a "remote register" and is operated by the mechanism in the inside meter.

Science News Letter, June 30, 1951

⚙️ **BRUSH FOR** cleaning table glasses is the familiar type with nylon bristles on the end and sides of a wood rod, but this has a base with rubber suction cups so that it stands upright in the sink or dishpan. It washes glasses quickly with a one-handed operation.

Science News Letter, June 30, 1951

⚙️ **WOBBLE-STOPPERS**, fixed with pins to the ends of table legs, provide automatic adjustment to the irregularities of the floor. They operate hydraulically, using silicone "bouncing" putty for their action. They expand or contract to bring four-leg contact.

Science News Letter, June 30, 1951

Do You Know?

The beaver-like *coypu*, which yields fashionable nutria fur, is a native of the South American Andes but a few specimens brought to Louisiana 20 years ago have resulted in thousands.

The common garden *spider* is helpful to man because it captures great numbers of insect pests.

Shading the roof of a house in the hot summer reduces the *temperature* of the air within the dwelling to a marked degree.

Lithium, the lightest known *metal*, weighs about one-half as much as water.

A shortage of *sulfur* makes a shortage of sulfuric acid, an essential chemical in many industrial processes.

Pound for pound, *rabbit meat* has the same food value as beef.

The duck hawk is claimed to be the fastest flying *bird*.

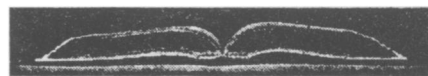
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