

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

⚙️ **RAZOR BLADE sharpener**, an improved type operated electrically that enables a double-edge blade to give 100 good shaves, has six revolving leather rollers, two of which are impregnated with a fine abrasive. It operates on either direct or alternating household current.

Science News Letter, July 21, 1951

⚙️ **SPRAY NOZZLE**, which can be used with the ordinary garden hose to fight fires inside buildings, gives a fog that will instantly blanket and extinguish oil, textile and wood fires. The same fog nozzle can be used for spraying lubricants and other solutions.

Science News Letter, July 21, 1951

⚙️ **VINYL PLASTIC window shades**, available in several colors and sizes, add fire-protection to such desirable qualities as pleasing appearance and being washable, and are colorfast and rainproof. They will char but not flame.

Science News Letter, July 21, 1951

⚙️ **ROTATING RED light for airplanes**, a safeguard in flight, is a 75-watt lamp of 15,000 beam candlepower mounted under a red plastic dome atop the vertical stabilizer. Two revolving reflectors over the lamp cast fan-shaped beams 180 degrees apart in the horizontal plane.

Science News Letter, July 21, 1951

⚙️ **GOOSE SKIN**, for uses ranging from trim for negligees to powder puffs, is made by tanning the pelt with the down on, then dyeing the down. The result is a soft



warm pelt, as shown in the photograph, that can be finished in black, white or many pastel shades.

Science News Letter, July 21, 1951

⚙️ **PROPELLERS for use on lighter-than-air ships**, commonly called blimps, enable them to move forward, backward or to hover in a stationary position by means of a special transmission device. This electrically-operated transmission in the propeller hub gives quick-responding control.

Science News Letter, July 21, 1951

⚙️ **ELECTRIC LAWNMOWER**, an improved type in a plastic casing that can not rust or corrode, has an electrically driven rotating steel blade that cuts when the mower is pushed forward or pulled backward. The blade makes 1,750 revolutions per minute which assures clean cutting.

Science News Letter, July 21, 1951

⚙️ **POCKET STOVE**, so called because of its tiny size, consists of three metal parts that fit together like a match box but which can be assembled to form a shelf between two uprights. A chemical pellet, placed on the shelf and lighted with a match, provides heat enough to boil water or fry an egg.

Science News Letter, July 21, 1951

An extra fillip for every week . . .

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER *for* BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES

THE RIGHT PRESENT FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY

When you need the right present for the right person, give SCIENCE NEWS LETTER. Put the name of that special person on the coupon below and mail it to us today. We shall send a gift announcement card signed with your name as imprinted at the right.

SEND GIFT SUBSCRIPTION TO:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____

State _____

I enclose \$5.50

Please bill me later

Mail to Science News Letter, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

GIFT ORDER

in the name of
7-21-51

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

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

Do You Know?

Thunder is the sound waves resulting from the rapid expansion, really an explosion, of the air along the path of a lightning flash.

Peat is a product of decayed vegetation, mostly of such aquatic plants as reeds, rushes, mosses and sedges.

Rats harbor and carry the germs of six diseases serious to man.

Some of the world's strongest *steel wire* is used for banjo and guitar strings; it is drawn so fine that a pound of steel will equip nearly 1,500 banjos with strings.

Sugarcane wax is a relatively new American product.