

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

☛ **SATIN-TEXTURED BILLFOLDS** for women are made of a durable plastic in polka dot patterns with heat-sealed seams resistant to ripping or tearing. Easily cleaned of smudges and stains with a damp cloth, this inexpensive billfold comes in many colors to match fashion shades.

Science News Letter, December 1, 1951

☛ **BRAILLER**, a typewriter for the blind, features a compact, portable aluminum case and comfortable plastic keys and embodies a new operating mechanism. The only moving part is the Braille unit which carries a small embossing head across the page. Paper emerges over a flat plate.

Science News Letter, December 1, 1951

☛ **PORTABLE SEWING** machine, held in one hand in use, is designed particularly for closing the tops of heavy cotton, burlap or paper bags after they are filled with a product. Electrically-operated on any 110-volt line, action is controlled by a switch under the thumb of the user.

Science News Letter, December 1, 1951

☛ **ELECTRIC EYE**, trained on small graphite crucibles used for fusing together small electronic tube parts, regulates temperatures up to 3,500 degrees Fahrenheit. It detects minute changes in color and intensity at high temperatures, sending an electric impulse to cut the heating current at the proper moment.

Science News Letter, December 1, 1951

Do You Know?

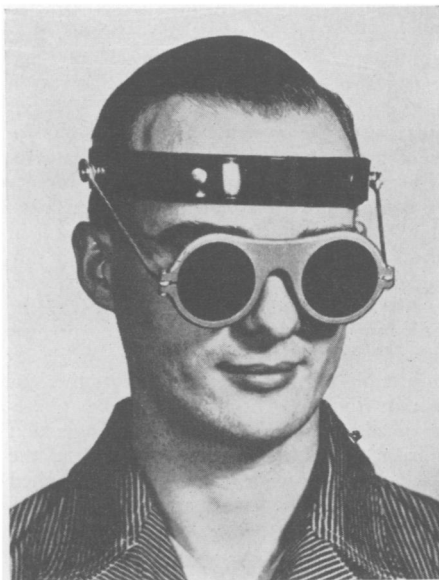
Gila monsters of New Mexico and Arizona are the only poisonous lizards in the United States.

Soybeans now widely grown in America produce 20% more beans containing 10% more oil than those of 25 years ago.

Popcorn is a warm-season crop; it grows best in the warmer parts of the United States.

Krypton, a rare gas used in television tubes, is obtained from the atmosphere although some 10,000,000 cubic feet of air are required to yield one cubic foot of this gas.

South American chinchilla, one of the most valuable fur animals in the world, is now being experimentally but successfully bred in Norway.



☛ **HEADREST SPECTACLE**, which distributes its weight over the entire head of the factory worker rather than on nose alone, is shown in the photograph. It has a broad band to fit around the head and

forehead to which the spectacle legs are pivoted over the ears. Spectacles are easily swung to the top of the head.

Science News Letter, December 1, 1951

☛ **METAL DETECTOR**, in use in a candy manufacturing plant to detect metal particles that might be in the product, is a magnetic device through which the candy passes on a conveyor belt. A metal particle upsets the magnetic field causing the belt to halt.

Science News Letter, December 1, 1951

☛ **RUBBER BOOTS** for men of the armed services, now being shipped to Korea, are wool-insulated to prevent frostbite in zero weather. The boot consists of two layers of rubber with two plies of knitted wool between them. Nylon film on the inside prevents friction inside them.

Science News Letter, December 1, 1951

☛ **COUNTER TUBE**, for use in Geiger counters to detect radioactive isotopes, has a fusion-sealed mica end window supplied in various thicknesses. Tubes have an extremely small overall size, and are said to be efficient and to cost less than half the price of others.

Science News Letter, December 1, 1951

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