

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

⚙️ **FLEXIBLE STRAW** makes drinking easy for a reclining bed patient. It can be curved to a U-shape or to an angle without breaking or closing the tube to the passage of a liquid. It is a throw-away type, which has been treated with wax to prevent disintegration in hot liquids.

Science News Letter, December 22, 1951

⚙️ **EAR PROTECTOR**, a recently patented type for use by persons working in deafening noises, is made of a special wax and spans the entrance to the ear canal instead of being inserted into it. When put in position a little pressure secures a seal that will hold it in place indefinitely.

Science News Letter, December 22, 1951

⚙️ **ICE CUBE MAKER**, for restaurants and other commercial establishments, produces 5,000 clear cubes in 24 hours. Within its fiber-glass insulated housing a continuous stream of water evenly covers a refrigerated plate to build up a slab of ice which is automatically cut into cubes by electrically heated wires.

Science News Letter, December 22, 1951

⚙️ **KNITTED FABRIC** effect is given with a combination of spun nylon and rayon, shot through with a gilt metallic yarn. These dress fabrics are made in a raised diamond pattern that looks like fine hand-crocheting. The nylon lengthens the fabric's life and simplifies its care.

Science News Letter, December 22, 1951

⚙️ **ELECTRIC JEEP**, a toy for the youngster, travels forward, backward, right or



left by remote control. It is maneuvered with a control box held in the operator's hand and a six-foot electric cord connecting the two, as shown in the photograph.

The pint-size jeep will operate on pavements or rugs, and will even climb grades.

Science News Letter, December 22, 1951

⚙️ **WORLD CLOCK**, for the office desk, tells not only local time and that in the various time belts in America but also the correct time around the world. It has a conventional clock in an upper corner and a map of the world below with a time-indicating disk that revolves every 24 hours.

Science News Letter, December 22, 1951

⚙️ **CAN INSPECTOR**, for use in canning plants, is an X-ray device to spot partly filled cans and leaky ones as the filled containers pass it on a conveyor belt. It sends a tiny beam of X-ray through the cans which is absorbed in varying amounts, depending on the level of the contents.

Science News Letter, December 22, 1951

⚙️ **VINYLLITE PLASTIC** playing cards are long-wearing and will outlast 100 decks of ordinary paper cards, it is claimed. They are coated with a lacquer made of this resin, are washable, odorless, flame-resistant and resist action of alcohol, water, oils and most chemicals.

Science News Letter, December 22, 1951

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## Do You Know?

Bagasse, the now largely wasted crushed sugar cane from which the sap has been extracted, can be used to make newsprint paper, relieving in part the demand for wood pulp.

There are about 20 pounds of copper in the average automobile radiator.

Gypsum promises to become an important source of sulfur.

Most fruit trees are pruned during the winter but peach pruning is best done in March.

About 20,000,000 bushels of potatoes a year are used for making chips and French fries.