

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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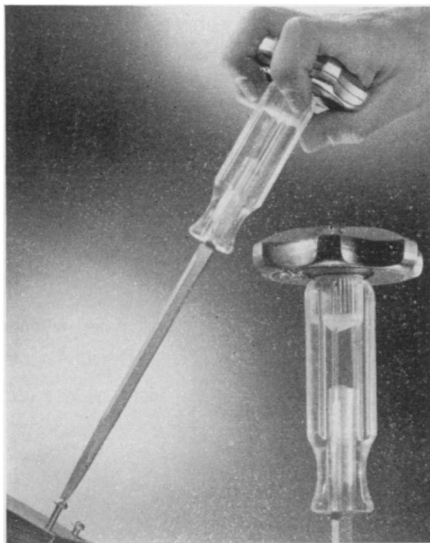
⊗ **FLOATING BLANKET** for the baby's crib, which he cannot kick off while sleeping, has plastic rings near its edges which fit the slats of the crib. The rings, easily placed around the slats because they open, are attached three inches from the blanket's edge to provide a lap under the edge of the crib.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **LADY'S HANDBAG**, with a built-in flashlight inside on the top directly under its handle, has its interior illuminated, like the inside of a refrigerator, when the bag is open but dark when it is closed. A simple switch disconnects the lamp during daylight hours.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **RACHET GRIP** on a new screw driver is a scalloped-edged knob that fits the palm of the hand while the scallops on its edge fit the fingers, as shown in the photograph. The knob provides unusual leverage and



control. A lever on the underside holds the ratchet stationary or permits it to be turned.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

## Books of the Week

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every five. For patients requiring more prolonged care, there should be a doctor for every 150. No public hospital has yet achieved this.

A **TREASURY OF THE WORLD'S GREAT HEROINES**—Joanna Strong and Tom B. Leonard—Hart, 190 p., illus., 2.50. Stories for young girls about great women. Includes a sketch on Marie Curie.

THE **USE OF SAWDUST FOR MULCHES AND SOIL IMPROVEMENT**—F. E. Allison and M. S. Anderson—Govt. Printing Office, USDA Circular No. 891, 19 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Suggesting a way to put to good use the mountains of sawdust formerly wasted by burning.

WHY **SOME WOMEN STAY SINGLE**—Elizabeth Ogg—Public Affairs Committee, 31 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. This discussion of several case histories, showing how family life may shape a girl's attitudes toward herself and toward the opposite sex, is intended to help the single woman clarify her own thinking so that she can make realistic decisions. "Marriage should be regarded as a way of life, possibly even as a career, but surely not as a goal of life."

THE **WORLD'S FAVORITE RECIPES FROM THE UNITED NATIONS**—American Home Economics Association—Harper, 59 p., paper, \$1.00. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, in her foreword, indicates that "to take dishes from every country in the world into our kitchens is one of the ways to bring about better international understanding." Recipes have been adapted to American cooking methods.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **LIGHTED OIL CAN**, a recently patented combination device with a flashlight bulb on the top whose beam is focused on the oil can spout, illuminates dark spots where oil is to be applied. The flashlight batteries are in the can's side handle and connection wiring is within the can.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **THICKNESS GAUGE**, an improved type using X-rays to measure the tin plating on sheet steel, sends a beam through the tin to the underlying steel and measures the rays emitted by the iron by Geiger counters. Their intensity is reduced to a reading on a printing register.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **SOLIDIFIED CREAM** or milk, solidified by the addition of gelatine, can be cut, wrapped or handled yet dissolves quickly in hot coffee, tea or cocoa giving no unusual taste. This product, with the consistency of the white of a hardboiled egg, can be shipped in cardboard boxes.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **SOLDERING GUN**, for the home shop, is an improved model whose transformer-type soldering device heats in a few seconds when the trigger is pressed and cools when it is released. The gun has a long tip to reach hard-to-get-at spots and a built-in light to illuminate work.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **MIDGET PUNCH KIT**, a home book-binding set to bind albums, papers, reports and blueprints, consists of a simple hand punch with adjustable paper margin regulator, and 150 plastic binding tubes. These tubes, inserted by hand after the material is punched, are made with a special interlocking construction.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

## Do You Know?

Scented bait is now used by fishermen to attract lobsters to their traps; the bait is made from fish to which perfume oils are added.

Housing the aged has become a special problem in some American cities and several low-rent housing projects exclusively for older people without children have been constructed.

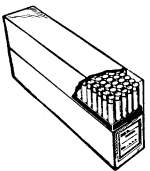
Rice in cooking expands about three times in size.

The Orinoco river in Venezuela is to be dredged to accommodate American ocean vessels which will carry the rich iron ore of the Cerro Bolivar deposits to the United States.

Juice left over after cooking dried fruits is a good beverage.

Fertilizer for the lawn should be applied early in the spring so that plant food is available when the grass begins to grow.

Tomatoes, particularly small-plant varieties, can be grown as house plants during winter months and will produce ripe fruit in four to five months.



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