

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

⚙️ **SLIP-ON TOPS** for standard beer cans make drinking from the can easy. They provide a cup-like top so that in drinking the lips do not touch the can itself. They are made of unbreakable plastic, can be stacked to require little space, and are easily washed for re-use.

Science News Letter, February 23, 1952

⚙️ **LAMPSHADES** of thin wood panels covered on each side with a rigid sheet of plastic combine the warm color and natural beauty of wood with strength and durability of the plastic. Easily cleaned with a damp cloth, these shades are resistant to flame, moisture and warping.

Science News Letter, February 23, 1952

⚙️ **SYNTHETIC CATALYST**, cast in the head or piston of the automobile or airplane engine, tends to prevent carbon formation and the destructive impact of knock. It assures a more complete combustion of the fuel within the cylinder and thereby reduces the need for higher octane gasolines.

Science News Letter, February 23, 1952

⚙️ **MOTION PICTURE** screen for the movie theater, has side panels on all four sides which are set at an angle and pick up diffused light from the image, eliminating the conventional black surrounding. Increased viewing comfort is provided to patrons and pictures become more realistic.

Science News Letter, February 23, 1952

## Do You Know?

In the absence of modern preservation, much of America's peach crop in the early days of the republic was made into brandy.

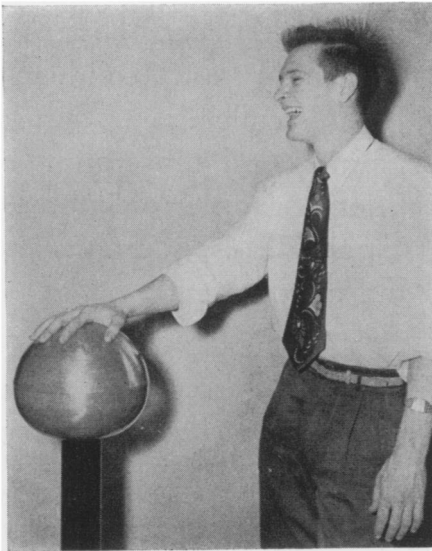
Each automobile spark plug fires about 15,000,000 times in 10,000 miles of driving.

So-called culture pearls are produced by oysters into which small beads have been placed by men to stimulate the growing of pearls.

Explosions in coal mines are dramatic but they cause only about 21% of the fatalities occurring in the mines.

There is no such thing as truly dry rot in wood; rot is caused by fungi and they can not work without moisture.

Two new breeds of meat type hogs, developed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, have a higher proportion of lean to fat than ordinary breeds.



⚙️ **ELECTROSTATIC DEMONSTRATOR**, for school and home use, is a simplified Van de Graaff type 33 inches in overall height that produces a maximum potential of 248,000 volts but a current so low it is

harmless to the human body. The hair on the head of a boy with his hand on its spherical top will stand on end as shown in the photograph.

Science News Letter, February 23, 1952

⚙️ **SAFETY GOGGLES** for workers handling acids have a frame of bright yellow vinyl plastic, acid resistant and soft enough to mold to fit facial contours, and a one-piece lens of acid-resistant vinyl plastic.

Science News Letter, February 23, 1952

⚙️ **VOLTAGE TESTER**, housed in shatter-proof plastic and small enough to fit in a pocket, will test AC and DC voltages up to 600 volts and 60 cycles. It has 30-inch rubber leads tipped with steel probes and four-inch fiber grips just back of the tips.

Science News Letter, February 23, 1952

⚙️ **INSECT-KILLING** floor wax gives high finish to floors of linoleum, asphalt and rubber tile, cement and wood and kills roaches, ants, waterbugs, silverfish and other household insects that come in contact with it. The insecticide lindane, used in it, is harmless to humans and pets.

Science News Letter, February 23, 1952

Spring is coming . . .

## 4 EXPERIMENTAL KITS \$2<sup>00</sup>

TO GIVE YOU A HEAD START

★ **1952 SEEDS**—Salad Bowl lettuce, long-lasting and heat-resisting garden lettuce, Mandarin Chinese cabbage and Celosia Pampas Plume, a new cockscomb—all available this spring for the first time; Dianthus Double Gaiety, new member of the "pink" family . . . these are flowers and vegetables your neighbors won't have.

★ **1951 SEEDS**—Recent flower breeding progress demonstrated by Glitters marigold, top-flight new marigold, and Limelight Marigold, best of its type a decade ago. Two cucumber varieties, one wilt-resistant, show progress in breeding new vegetables.

★ **NUT TREE KIT**—6 specimens of nuts grown in the U. S.—hickory, pecan, almond, filbert, Persian walnut and pistachio. Learn how to grow nuts and what varieties do well in your area.

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