

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

⚙️ **PAINT-TREATING FLUID**, when mixed with paint remaining in the can, prevents skin from forming and keeps the left-over paint fresh for long periods of time. Since the fluid does not discolor or harm the paint, the remaining portion can be used for touch-up jobs.

Science News Letter, May 31, 1952

⚙️ **DICTION SYSTEM** permits several persons to dictate by telephone to one machine by remote control. Control buttons allow the dictator to play back part or all of his dictation, to indicate corrections and to signal his secretary. Lights on "party line" phones glow when no one is using the system.

Science News Letter, May 31, 1952

⚙️ **ISOLATION BOXES** made of phenolic plastic permit television sets in apartment houses, hotels and in communities out of the normal television service to operate from master antennas with negligible line loading. The boxes require no power source, and can be obtained for either 300-ohm or 72-ohm cable.

Science News Letter, May 31, 1952

⚙️ **UNBREAKABLE SIGNAL** light for control panels is only $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch long and fits into a molded nylon socket of about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch in diameter. Easily replaced from the front of the panel, the bulb operates satisfactorily on power sources varying from three to six volts.

Science News Letter, May 31, 1952



⚙️ **MICRO-MOTION MOVIES** taken with simple equipment break each minute into 1,000 pictures and enable design engineers to improve production line efficiency. One such study is shown in the photograph.

After studying the 16 mm. record of machine operators at work, engineers have redesigned the machinery and, in one case, increased output by 400%.

Science News Letter, May 31, 1952

⚙️ **FORMED STEEL** plates strengthen boat oars at the oar-lock pin and prevent the pin from cutting into the wood. Riveted to the oars by the user, the rust-resisting plates should last the lifetime of the boat.

Science News Letter, May 31, 1952

⚙️ **SAUCE WARMER**, a ceramic pot heated by a long-burning candle, will keep butter, hollandaise, Bernaise and other kinds of butter sauces warm during an entire meal. Available in two colors, the pot has a two-ounce capacity and is held over the candle flame by a stainless metal stand.

Science News Letter, May 31, 1952

⚙️ **SURFACE TENSION** meter consisting of two 5" x 7" glass plates clamped together with removable clips yields results accurate to within 5% for any liquid that wets glass. Easy to operate, the instrument is handy for making on-the-spot checks.

Science News Letter, May 31, 1952

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Photographs by Fremont Davis and text by Marjorie Van de Water and Morton C. Mott-Smith, Science Service Staff.

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Do You Know?

The present world population is about 2.3 billion; at the current rate of growth, it will double in 85 years.

A five-tube radar amplifier no larger than a cigarette package is the principal steering factor in one modern guided missile.

The only liquid that has more chemical uses than sulfuric acid is water, just plain water.

An octopus can make half of its body quite dark and the other half light; it is capable of more striking color changes than almost any other animal in the world.

The cost of electronic equipment alone in some of the new jet bombers is more than the entire cost of two World War II heavy bombers.