

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

☛ **SUN-TAN COT** made of light-weight aluminum fits into an automobile trunk when folded. Rope-lashed to the frame, the cot's fabric can be obtained in blue, green or red to blend harmoniously with lawns, beaches or patios. The cot can be adjusted for prone or semi-prone sunbathing positions.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

☛ **PAGING SYSTEM** for hospitals quietly buzzes persons carrying pocket-sized, battery-operated, remote-controlled receivers. A desk-sized selector triggers a stationary radio transmitter that sifts the desired doctor out of 800 doctors and nurses and buzzes him. The system has a four-mile range from the hospital.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

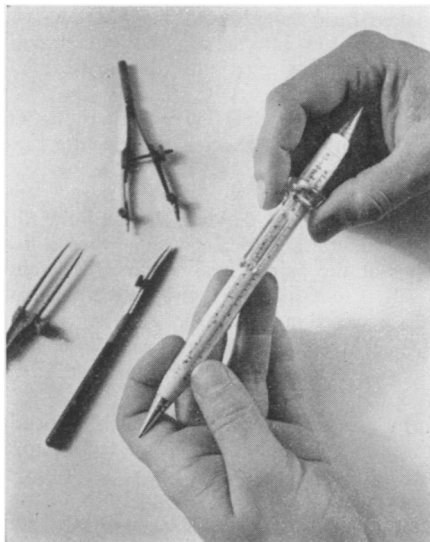
☛ **AIR DEHUMIDIFIER** for basements, closets and store rooms does not require frequent drying out. Available either in a 5- or 10-pound size, the moisture absorbent is suspended above a special pail by a wire assembly that allows air to circulate freely around the chemicals.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

☛ **MOISTURE BALANCE** cuts the time from hours to minutes required to measure the moisture content of commodities ranging from cereal grains to foundry sands. Expressing the moisture content in percentages, the instrument uses infra-red light to drive moisture from a five-gram sample.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

☛ **POCKET SLIDE RULE** actually is a mechanical pencil with a point on each end, as shown in the photograph. Six stationary



slide-rule scales are printed on the pencil barrel. Three sliding scales are printed on a transparent tube which slips over the barrel. The plastic pocket clip doubles as an indicator.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

☛ **GLOWING LIGHT** switch plate fits over standard wall light switches and shines a pale blue-white color in the dark, making it easy to find the switch in blacked-out rooms. After exposure to light for one minute, the plate glows up to 12 hours without having to be "recharged" with more light.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

☛ **BATTERY CAPS** that preserve water in automobile batteries also reduce corrosion and can warn of battery overcharge by becoming too hot to touch. The sealed-in palladium catalyst converts battery gases back into water, thus maintaining the liquid at a safe level eight times longer than present-day caps.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

☛ **REPLACEMENT MUFFLER** for automobiles is designed to reduce exhaust noises and to minimize back pressure by using a sound-absorbing glass fiber as the muffling element. In developmental tests, the unit cut back pressure to one-fifth its normal value, thus improving engine efficiency.

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Do You Know?

Young salmon swim tail-first downstream, their heads always pointed against the current.

The highest land of the Bimini Island group in the Bahama Islands is only 30 feet above sea level.

Bald eagles legally cannot be killed in Alaska unless found committing damage to wildlife or domestic stock.

When eggs are first laid, they have a protective film covering them which is known as the "bloom;" it seals the pores and helps to keep odors out of the eggs.