

• New Machines and Gadgets •

For sources of more information on new things described, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 679. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **COLORING BOOKS** for young children have plastic-coated pages that can be colored, wiped clean and colored again with special enclosed crayons. The crayons are non-toxic, have a soap base and can be wiped easily from any washable surface. Pages are gripped by a special plastic binder that insures easy page-turning.

Science News Letter, June 20, 1953

⚙️ **CASEMENT WINDOW** of steel is especially designed to enable installation of any standard room air conditioner without removing window parts, cutting, welding or adding special attachments. Made in four standard sizes, it has adjustable parts which fit snugly around the machine.

Science News Letter, June 20, 1953

⚙️ **"BLOWER BRUSH"** for camera lenses, negatives, slides and other easily scratched things, has a soft, fine-quality brush attached to a rubber bulb. A squeeze of the bulb gets rid of most of the dust. The brush sweeps away the rest.

Science News Letter, June 20, 1953

⚙️ **PAINT MIXER** resembles a paint-can lid that has been cut in half, as shown in the photograph. It has a handle on top which turns a paddle down in the paint. In use,



the mixer is laid over the open paint can and the crank is turned to stir the paint. The device provides a straight edge for brush-wiping, and also a hanging hook for the brush.

Science News Letter, June 20, 1953

⚙️ **TV TROUBLESHOOTER** helps repairmen choose proper line or antenna filters to trap pesky video interference at the set. Covering the entire IF and RF range of TV, the toolbox-sized wave-trap meter switches in standard filters to eliminate the trial-and-error method now widely used.

Science News Letter, June 20, 1953

⚙️ **WOOD PRESS** turns out low-cost wood panels continuously, much as a paper mill produces an endless web of paper. Secret of the new machine's current success in England lies in the way it converts fibrous and wood wastes into an attractive wood product, somewhat resembling plywood, which does not warp.

Science News Letter, June 20, 1953

⚙️ **WHITE ENAMEL**, containing newly discovered non-yellowing alkyds, produces an "extraordinary" white surface on walls and woodwork, the maker reports. Its rugged tile-like finish resists grease, steam and frequent scrubbing. The enamel can be brushed or rolled on interior walls and dries in a few hours.

Science News Letter, June 20, 1953

⚙️ **STEEL SCAFFOLDING** system uses standard tubular steel frame in an exclusive slip-fit design which permits scaffolds to be thrown up without tools or without use of nuts, bolts or pins. With a few accessories, the system can be made to span the full range of scaffolding applications in plant maintenance, repairs and construction.

Science News Letter, June 20, 1953

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6-20-53

Do You Know?

Today desert and semi-desert areas still make-up more than one-fourth of the earth's surface.

The *thyatron* is a gas-filled tube used extensively for switching large amounts of power.

Fire can spread through walls which do not themselves burn.

Berries of the *sassafras tree* feed 18 species of birds.

Research shows that *apple* growers get better yields by cutting back old, small or weak branches instead of pruning them out completely.

The inner dome of a new *planetarium* is made of lightweight aluminum instead of stainless steel.