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

GARDEN KIT helps home growers check the nutritional needs of flowers and vegetables they grow. Easy to use, the kit comes complete with test tubes, chemicals, eyedroppers, a chopping block and directions for use. Results can be obtained in less than 10 minutes, the manufacturer reports. The kit also provides an easy method for analyzing soils.

Science News Letter, July 11, 1953

to FURNACE CLEANING machine works like a powerful vacuum cleaner and removes ash, scale and soot from industrial furnaces and boilers to improve efficiency. Accessories include attachments for cleaning flues, air ducts and chimneys. The machine has a 115 volt a.c.-d.c. motor, weighs 43 pounds, stands 32.5 inches tall, is 21.25 inches wide and has a tank diameter of 17 inches.

Science News Letter, July 11, 1953

DASHBOARD TRAY for automobiles is safety-designed with no sharp edges and swings under the dashboard when not in use. Easily attached without drilling special holes, the rattle-proof tray holds maps, cigarettes, refreshments and other paraphernalia. The tray, made of a brilliant



red plastic with heavy chrome attachments, is shown in the photograph.

Science News Letter, July 11, 1953

ANNIVERSARIES

PLASTIC FLAT labels, formerly available only in rolls, stick without moistening to any smooth, clean surface. Especially designed for typewriter use, they can also be written on with any dry, blunt point. Pressure of the writing instrument alone causes the writing to appear; no pencil lead, ink or typewriter ribbon is required. Coldand heat-resistant, the labels do not fade or discolor with age.

Science News Letter, July 11, 1953

WATER-BASE paint for exterior masonry dries quickly and forms a hard, waterproof film. It has a styrene latex vehicle. Soon after application, the odorless paint can withstand driving rains. It also strongly resists mildew and fading, and can be applied over new construction after only a few days of curing, the maker reports.

Science News Letter, July 11, 1953

S FOLDING TABLE, especially useful where an open floor area must be converted daily into a cafeteria or meeting room, seats 16 adults and up to 24 children. When not in use, the table folds into a small storage space. Benches are detachable and can be obtained with an optional under-seat rack to receive books. The table top is of 34-inch exterior fir plywood.

Science News Letter, July 11, 1953

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SQUEEZE TOYS, for children up to two years old, are made of soft vinyl plastic which is not damaged when sterilized in boiling water.

Science News Letter, July 11, 1953

SANDING BLOCK, which holds precut home and shop sandpaper 1.75 inches by nine inches, is made of rubber and works especially well on flat surfaces, narrow edges and inside curves. The device can be used for both dry and wet sandpapering.

Science News Letter, July 11, 1953

Do You Know?

Some trees are estimated to consume 200 gallons of water a day.

The water ouzel, a relative of wrens and thrushes, actually can fly under water and against the current for 30 seconds or more.

The flight of the Wright brothers' first plane in 1903 covered a distance only about one-half the wingspan of a modern heavy bomber.

More than 2,000,000 Americans will be living in mobile homes by the end of 1953.

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