

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

⚙️ **HOUSEHOLD FIRE** alarm is compact, attractive and plugs into ordinary electrical outlets. Hung on the wall near any fire hazard, the device uses no current until triggered by excessive heat. Then it rings loudly and penetratingly, warning the house owner of fire or an impending fire.

Science News Letter, July 25, 1953

⚙️ **UTILITY LEGS** attach quickly to wood, masonite and many other materials, and are particularly good for use on ping-pong tables, work benches and laundry tables. Made of one-inch, 16-gauge steel tubing with a brown baked-on enamel finish, a set of the folding legs weighs only 12 pounds but will support nearly a ton.

Science News Letter, July 25, 1953

⚙️ **SOAP-TYPE ERASER** is made of vinyl plastic resins and is said to remove pencil marks more quickly and thoroughly than conventional types. The eraser's resistance to crumbling enables it to outlast conventional soap erasers.

Science News Letter, July 25, 1953

⚙️ **SPRAYER ATTACHMENT** screws on garden hose in place of the usual nozzle, as shown in the photograph. It uses special insecticide cartridges compounded to fight



insect or plant pests. Other cartridges are available for car-washing or for spraying dogs. The chrome-plated attachment has an adjustable range of three to 25 feet.

Science News Letter, July 25, 1953

⚙️ **"ZIPPER" CLOTHESLINE** does away with the need for clothespins. The clothes-

line has a "zipper" that runs down the chrome-plated, stainless steel wire, permitting clothes to be inserted into the wire. Clothes are easily removed when the line is unzipped, even when the garments are frozen. The clothesline also comes in a pulley model.

Science News Letter, July 25, 1953

⚙️ **STEEL-WOOL HOLDER** has a six-inch handle and protects hands so that rubber gloves do not have to be worn as a precaution. An automatic release rod simplifies the changing of steel wool pads. The rust-proof device helps the housewife clean those hard-to-reach places in deep pots, small-necked utensils and tall drinking glasses.

Science News Letter, July 25, 1953

⚙️ **"WHITE" LIGHT** bulb features light levels of 50, 100 and 150 watts and is designed for use in single-socket portable lamps that lack diffusing reflector bowls. The new bulb is coated inside with white silica to diffuse light. Both bulbs and a new line of lamps soon are to be widely distributed, the maker reports.

Science News Letter, July 25, 1953

⚙️ **NEW ROSIN** flux is said to be devoid of free acid and completely non-corrosive. Its ability to withstand prolonged applications of heat enables it to solder through badly oxidized copper surfaces, and many hard-to-bond metals and alloys. Its fast fluxing action particularly suits it to dip-tinning of printed circuits.

Science News Letter, July 25, 1953

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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?

To de-emphasize the role of memorization, a college physics teacher has advanced the theory that each student should be required to bring to his final *physics* examination a "crib sheet" containing any information he desires.

A typical World War II *bomber* carried an 11-man crew and contained 10 miles of electric wiring; a new jet bomber carries a three-man crew and has 27 miles of wiring, exclusive of wiring in automatic equipment.

The International Labor Organization has found that more persons in the world live under thatch *roofs* than under any other type.

No one uses more than a small fraction of his *mental capacity*.