

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

⚙️ **SHELTER SIGN** can help your town's civil defense efforts by pointing to safety quarters during possible air raids. The adhesive-backed sign is marked in four-inch yellow block letters against a black background. An associated arrow can be pointed in any direction.

Science News Letter, August 1, 1953

⚙️ **"BULLET PROOF"** aprons that stop a .38 caliber bullet fired eight feet away now are being used by an airplane company to guard its personnel against flying bits of metal in machine shops. The aprons consist of glass cloth laminated with a special polyester resin. They weigh less than three pounds each.

Science News Letter, August 1, 1953

⚙️ **WATER REPELLENT** has a wide range of uses running from waterproofing paper plates and concrete walls to reducing rain seepage into soils. Applied by brush, spray, dip or by mixing into the ingredients of articles being made, the repellent is a solution of sodium salts of certain silicones. It even can be applied to dirt roads to reduce maintenance.

Science News Letter, August 1, 1953

⚙️ **SLENDER TUBE** made of a butyrate plastic, as shown in the photograph, has been designed as an applicator for weed-



killing solutions. Stored in the transparent green tube, the weed-killer is dispensed through a metal nozzle at the end of the tube that works plunger fashion.

Science News Letter, August 1, 1953

⚙️ **CORDLESS MICROPHONE** can be carried through the audience, and increases flexibility of the public address system. The

microphone actually is a small battery-operated radio transmitter. It broadcasts to a receiver which feeds the public address loud speakers. The "mike" has a two-mile range and must be licensed.

Science News Letter, August 1, 1953

⚙️ **SAFETY FUSE** plug for lamps, TV sets, fans, irons and other electrical appliances has an easily replaceable six-amp fuse built into each prong. If a short develops in the appliance, the fuses in the plug blow, thus keeping house fuses intact.

Science News Letter, August 1, 1953

⚙️ **PLASTIC DOOR** guards for autos fit along the edge of the doors and keep the paint from chipping when the door is opened in tight quarters. Made in red, green, black, clear or chrome finish, the guards snap on and lock into place on all makes of cars.

Science News Letter, August 1, 1953

⚙️ **INSECT-KILLING PAINT** contains 2.5% DDT that kills insects coming in contact with it over a long period of time. Made in white, cream, ivory, yellow and "clear," the paint can be sprayed, brushed or rolled on walls in houses, restaurants, hotels, stores and other buildings. It is said to kill flies, ants, bedbugs, spiders, moths, roaches and water bugs among other insects.

Science News Letter, August 1, 1953

We wish to serve you—

LET US ORDER YOUR BOOK

Don't Delay

getting that NEW BOOK you want to read. SCIENCE NEWS LETTER will gladly obtain for you any American book or magazine in print. Send check or money order covering regular retail price (\$5 if price is unknown and adjustment will be made). We will pay postage in the United States. You can attach a separate sheet, to your address coupon at left, listing title, author, publisher, price, and mail to Book Department, Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Do You Know?

Grass is the cheapest and most effective means of holding rainfall in the soil.

Motor vehicle accidents injure 36 civilians in the U. S. for each G.I. wounded in battle in Korea.

A new, improved strain of *wheat*, Onas 53, will be available for certified seed producers in 1954.

Salamanders of the smallest species are barely three inches long and are not nearly as thick as a lead pencil.

Tattooing has been traced back as far as 2000 B.C. in Egypt and 1100 B.C. in China, and probably was practiced in prehistoric times.

Two new varieties of head *lettuce*, named Alaska and Jade, have been developed; each is suitable to grow in a special area and season of the year.