

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **NON-ELECTRIC DOOR chime** sings out with two musical tones when the handle on the outside of the door is turned. Attached to the door, the chime set features a solid brass nameplate which can be used to identify the house residents.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

⚙️ **NEW STAND** converts home work-shop portable drills into vertical drill presses quickly and easily. The stand takes  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch and  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch electric drills and can be fastened to a bench or wall. The drills can be raised and lowered by a lever handle, and can be adjusted for height and radial position.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

⚙️ **BATTERY ASSEMBLY** can be sliced like a banana to yield voltages up to 21 in 1.4-volt steps. Specifically intended for equipment designers and experimenters exploring the possibilities of transistors, the alkaline battery permits rapid assembly of power supplies not readily available with standard commercial batteries.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

⚙️ **NEW SHOE SOLE** is so light in weight that it will float in water, as shown in the photograph, because it contains millions of tiny air cells. The composition sole is



waterproof and is said to be much more flexible than its well-known predecessor.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

⚙️ **ELECTRIC CANDLE** emits soft light but without the hazards of fire or the annoyance of drippings. Powered by small, easy-to-obtain batteries, the candle is portable and can be of especial value to

churches, fraternal orders and schools. The color of the candle light can be changed with special disks designed for the device.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

⚙️ **HEAVY-DUTY RACK** for big books, catalogs and telephone directories is made of metal and has eight two-inch compartments with index tabs for the divisions. Desks are protected from scarring by rubber feet, and hand-holes in the end plates permit the rack to be carried easily.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

⚙️ **PINLESS DIAPER** ties on the baby, fitting securely and comfortably. The manufacturer reports the diapers go on without any folding, that they are light-weight, non-chafing and that they launder and dry quickly. A nylon model, available in white, pink or blue, is said to replace rubber pants.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

⚙️ **INDOOR TV ANTENNA** features two telescoping elements and a tuning knob that permits the user to "tune the antenna" to each channel so that the antenna always yields the best reception of which it is capable. Physically, the antenna has a heavy, padded base upon which a phenolic plastic ball is mounted. The tuning control is attached to the top of the ball.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

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## Do You Know?

Fire is known to cause one out of every 200 business failures.

The newborn opossum is smaller than a honeybee.

Buildings coated with paints having different kinds of bases show up in assorted ways on a radar screen.

A 1,000-year-old skeleton and a handsome, silver-inlaid Viking sword recently were unearthed southwest of Oslo.

Aircraft powerplants can be so powerful that control of the engine is a major problem; this particularly applies to ramjets.

"Presbyopia" is not a disease, but merely the farsightedness that accompanies aging of the eye; it usually begins to set in at the age of 45.

Open hearth furnaces are fired primarily with oil.