

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

⚙️ **WHEEL CHAIR** drive "motorizes" most standard collapsible wheel chairs so that patients with extremely limited use of their limbs can get around. Operating on a 24-volt storage battery, the device consists of two motors, one to a wheel, and a tiny, easy-to-move "joy stick" to control forward motion, reverse and steering.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1954

⚙️ **ANTI-FOAM AGENT** sprays from a push-button can to kill foam in chemicals and foods. Its effective concentrations of silicone usually range from 0.01 to 1.0 parts per million, far less than the 10 parts per million permitted in foods by the Food and Drug Administration. In most cases, no trace of the aerosol mist can be detected in the finished product after defoaming.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1954

⚙️ **DRAW CORD** for window drapes is made of cotton braided over a core of glass fibers. This yields a cord that will not stretch appreciably, thus preventing unsightly gaps from developing after the drapes have been pulled closed several times.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1954

⚙️ **PRIVATE-WIRE TV** system now is in production for customers who want to monitor gauges, processes, exits, prisons and



stores by remote control. The "eye" is a small four-tube camera that feeds a home-type TV receiver on any unused channel from channel two through six. It does not interfere with regular TV reception on other channels. The device is shown in the photograph.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1954

⚙️ **HEATING CONTROL** for large buildings, schools, apartment houses and hospitals consists of an inside control panel and an outside "weather head." The device regulates the building heat while compensating for weather, sun intensity, wind velocity and chimney draft.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1954

⚙️ **FOUR-PIECE SALAD** set consists of a slicer having five tempered-steel knives, a grater, a coarse shredder having 46 knives, a fine shredder having 95 knives and a glass oven-proof dish to which the grater and shredders attach. The bake dish can be used independently in ordinary cooking operations.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1954

⚙️ **SUCTION FAN** attaches easily to the back of a television set to draw out the hot air inside and to pull cool air in to cool the tubes and resistors. The device quietly operates only when the set is on, and is said to reduce repair bills by preventing TV overheating.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1954

⚙️ **FORK-LIFT TRUCK** comes equipped with an automatic brake-setter as optional equipment. When the operator climbs off the industrial machine, the seat snaps up slightly, putting on the parking brakes. Three minutes later, a time-delay relay shuts off the engine to cut maintenance costs.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1954

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Do You Know?

It is estimated that there are a million undiagnosed *diabetics* in the U. S.

Clove is the dried flower bud of a medium-sized evergreen tree that grows well only in open clearings in the humid tropics.

The 179,000 *rivets* in a modern jet fighter would tower two and a half times as high as the Empire State building if placed on top of each other.

The highest known speed of a *star* is that of a double star in the constellation of Cygnus; the star's speed is 1,500,000 miles an hour.

Bumblebees are the only *bees* that can reach the nectar in red clover.

An individual's color *vision* usually improves up to about 25 years of age, then declines gradually until about age 65.