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

BOOK MATCHES can be obtained in a kit containing four sheets of a 23-carat gold transfer paper. Using the transfer paper and a pencil or ball-point pen, the owner can "personalize" his own match books with gold lettering, script or picture designs. The matches make novel place cards when personalized for each guest.

Science News Letter, February 6, 1954

3 NEW FIRE extinguisher goes into action when a pin is pulled and a lever is squeezed. Its dry chemicals fan out to cover the blaze effectively, snuffing out the fire rapidly. The water-tight, non-corrosive extinguishers have been tested for vibration and operation at temperatures from minus 40 degree Fahrenheit to 150 degrees.

Science News Letter, February 6, 1954

ACCELERATOR CONTROL for automobiles is designed to hold the accelerator in a predetermined spot so the motorist can rest his right leg by moving it from the gas pedal. The device works only when the left foot rests on a special switch. The instant the driver takes his left foot from this floorboard switch, the throttle snaps to the idle position.

Science News Letter, February 6, 1954



M PLASTIC IRRIGATION dams can be folded up and carried about due to their light weight. Stretched across an irrigation ditch and over its banks, the dam is held in place by the weight of water it retains, as shown in the photograph. Made

of a vinyl sheeting, the dams are available in four-, five-, six- and seven-foot depths cut to any desired length.

Science News Letter, February 6, 1954

ELECTRIC KNIFE sharpener for the kitchen features a small grinding wheel and buffer on the same motor-driven shaft. A plastic guard prevents the housewife from accidentally touching the grinder with her silverware as she polishes it to a sparkling brightness on the buffer.

Science News Letter, February 6, 1954

MAILABLE 3-D picture souvenirs of some U. S. national parks and big cities consist of a cardboard viewer and color slides. The inexpensive viewer also is said to accept standard third-dimensional slides now being taken by many amateur photographers. The device folds into a small unit that can be slipped in an envelope.

Science News Letter, February 6, 1954

NEW 200-WATT light bulb has been made smaller so that its size will be more convenient in homes, offices and factories. Now the size of 150-watt bulbs, the new 200-watt light has a coiled filament and a heat-reflecting disk designed to keep the base of the bulb from getting too hot.

Science News Letter, February 6, 1954

de CELLULAR PLASTIC insulation is a new polyethylene product that has been used successfully to insulate ultra-high frequency television antenna lead-in wires. The insulation's electrical qualities and its ability to float in water make it highly attractive for special applications.

Science News Letter, February 6, 1954

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Do You Know?

Several states have laws which require young hunters seeking their first hunting licenses to take instruction in the proper care and use of firearms.

More people visited Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry during 1953 than bought tickets to professional baseball games played in that city.

For the second consecutive year, U. S. domestic scheduled airlines in 1953 operated at a passenger fatality rate of less than one per 100,000,000 passenger-miles flown.

The nation spends only \$4 a year per patient for research in the field of mental illness, while research in several physical diseases receives more than \$30 per patient.