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

FURNITURE PAINT contains a newly discovered resin which seals off the wet surface so that dust and dirt specks are not embedded during the drying process. It dries evenly to a professional hand-rubbed look and contains no lead pigments that can harm children who nibble on the articles it protects.

Science News Letter, March 13, 1954

PEARL SPRAY is packaged in an aerosol can and is designed to produce a mother-of-pearl finish on almost any surface, including cloth, glass, wood, leather, ceramics, paper and metal. The spray is transparent, permitting the under color to show through. It comes in a kit with suitable under colors, thinner and a small paint brush.

Science News Letter, March 13, 1954

CLAM SHELLS, polished to a pearly finish, provide a novel way of serving sea foods, eggs, vegetables and meats on special occasions. The shells are about five inches long and will not crack, discolor or become dull in luster due to heat or cold.

Science News Letter, March 13, 1954

EXPLOSION SUPPRESSOR makes empty fuel tanks on boats virtually explosion-proof. The device is a wire canister filled with dry ice, shown in the photograph. Lowered into the empty fuel tank, it emits enough carbon dioxide to nullify fire and explosion dangers. It was originally developed for use with the U. S. Air Force's F-89 Scorpion interceptor.

Science News Letter, March 13, 1954

HEAT-SHIELDING SUITS, made of glass fibers and cloth, protect industrial workers who must operate in high-temperature areas. Up to 500% lighter than conventional protective clothing, the garments have aluminized coatings which help to keep the wearers cool by reflecting heat.

Science News Letter, March 13, 1954

INDIVIDUAL SIZZLING platters for cooking hamburger retain the natural juices of the meat during broiling. The small platters can be transferred directly to plates and the meat can be served just as it was cooked. They can be rinsed clean easily after the meal.

Science News Letter, March 13, 1954

SILICONE LEATHER preservative keeps work shoes and leather equipment soft and pliable despite deteriorating influences present in many industrial plants. Swabbed on the leather, the silicone coats individual fibers, permitting the leather to "breathe," yet keeping out water and oil.

Science News Letter, March 13, 1954

PLASTIC PANES for the windows of industrial plants are designed to help reduce damage in the event of an explosion by blowing out of their frames, giving vent to the built-up pressure inside. In addition to helping to prevent damage to the wall, the shatterproof panes eliminate the hazard of flying, sharp-pointed glass fragments.

Science News Letter, March 13, 1954

Do You Know?

The National Arboretum in Washington has 450 different azalea *plants* growing.

Chicago had its cleanest year on record in 1953 with an average monthly *dustfall* of 53.61 tons per square mile.

The total number of visitors to the 180 areas under the National Park Service set a new record in 1953 with 46,224,794 *people*.

Industrial output of countries west of the Iron Curtain has increased to 140% of the pre-war average.

A "rubber" *stamp* has been made of transparent plastic so draftsmen can see where the impression goes.

Less than five percent of the *salt* produced in the United States is consumed in the home, the rest is used commercially.

Tiny droplets of a sulfur-containing thioaldehyde compound produce the tears when an *onion* is cut.