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

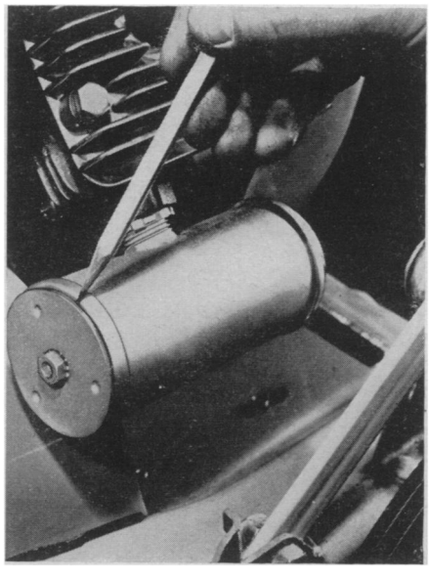
"CONDIMENT CADDY" consists of a French-designed ceramic pepper mill, salt shaker and mustard jar carried to the table in a black or white iron rack. A matching salad set also can be obtained. The salad set consists of the ceramic pepper mill and salt shaker, plus flask-like cruets for oil and vinegar.

Science News Letter, April 10, 1954

TOLL-ROAD EQUIPMENT, suitable for installation on turnpikes, uses photo-electric "eyes," weighing platforms and toll recorders to assess properly and quickly how much toll a given vehicle should pay. Its electronic "brain" also will figure traffic density to help officials utilize available manpower better. The device weighs vehicles and counts their axles as they roll toward the toll booth.

Science News Letter, April 10, 1954

MUFFLER FOR gasoline-powered lawn mowers uses the "silent dog whistle" principle to convert about half of the mower's putt-putt noise into sounds that human ears cannot hear, the company reports. The



muffler, shown in the photograph, does not appreciably impair engine efficiency.

Science News Letter, April 10, 1954

REMOTE FILM-ADVANCE mechanism works from a pushbutton control unit that the user can hold while talking to his audience from a position near the screen. Designed only for Viewlex "V" combination slide and filmstrip projectors, the device advances the film one frame when the pushbutton is depressed.

Science News Letter, April 10, 1954

THREE-INCH REFLECTOR for the M-2 sub-midget flash bulb features a parabolic-shaped polished reflector two inches in depth, and a small metal battery case with an adjustable accessory clip mounting at its base. Loaded with two pen-sized batteries, the unit weighs six ounces and provides even illumination free of "hot spots."

Science News Letter, April 10, 1954

CRACKER-CRISPER CAN has a small knob on its lid that absorbs moisture from crackers, potato chips, pretzels, cereals and other snack foods that lose their crispness when unprotected. Made of spun aluminum, the can is lightweight, rustproof, seven inches in diameter and 7¾ inches deep.

Science News Letter, April 10, 1954

MICROFILM READER has a motor drive and interchangeable lenses that yield magnifications of 23, 30 and 40 times. The device has all film-loading and operating controls located on its front within easy reach. Facsimile prints of the enlarged film images can be made in ordinary room light through use of a special photographic paper.

Science News Letter, April 10, 1954

BUTTER DISH has a "built-in refrigerator" in its base which absorbs cold from the kitchen refrigerator while stored in the usual manner. On the table, this base keeps the butter cold through the entire meal, "even in the hottest temperature," the maker reports.

Science News Letter, April 10, 1954

Do You Know?

Hearing aids are being used by *television* repair men to trace vibration noise in faulty sets quickly.

Measuring an estimated 100,000 light years across, our *galaxy* has half its matter in the form of interstellar dust and half in the form of stars.

In Russian *schools* closely resembling our secondary schools, about 25% of the curriculum is devoted to mathematics, physics and chemistry.