

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

⚙️ **ANTI-SLIP PLASTIC** paint coats stairs, steps and floors with abrasive aluminum oxide granules held in a plastic base to increase friction between shoes and floor. The product originally was developed for the armed forces as a non-skid deck coating for ships, rudder pedals of airplanes, cat walks and slippery tank bottoms.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1954

⚙️ **PORTABLE DRAWER** case, designed especially for the serviceman, repairman, demonstrator, salesman and doctor, features 24 transparent plastic drawer compartments housed in a hammer-finished, two-door, rubber-footed case. The drawers are 1 7/16 inches high, 2 3/4 inches wide and 5 7/8 inches deep. A large steel drawer is built into the bottom of the case.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1954

⚙️ **SIX-IN-ONE FUSE** is a cartridge that screws in ordinary fuse boxes. When an overload blows a fuse, a tiny neon lamp blinks on to show which fuse needs changing. Instead of putting in a new fuse, the homeowner merely clicks the fuse cap to the next position, after first removing the overload on the circuit. This restores the electric power.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1954



⚙️ **JUNIOR-SIZED PLANETARIUM** is a small, inexpensive, plastic globe that can show about 40 constellations of about 300 stars. Designed for use in the home or school, the planetarium projector, shown in

the photograph, works in any dark room of any shape. It can be adjusted for seasons and hemisphere.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1954

⚙️ **TELEPHONE AMPLIFIER** is a neat, two-way electronic device that permits you to carry on a conversation up to 15 feet from your telephone. The phone cradle is placed on the instrument, and the voice of the caller is amplified through a loudspeaker.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1954

⚙️ **HOSE VALVE** works with a push or a pull to turn garden hoses off or on. The valve can be screwed into the hose between sections, or between hose and nozzle. The device will save the user a lot of trips to the faucet, say, while washing his automobile.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1954

⚙️ **DOOR STOP** for cars is made of natural rubber and triple-plated rustproof chrome. Clamping to all makes of auto doors, the stop protects car doors from damage when opened against a brick wall, or against another car in a tight-fitting parking lot.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1954

⚙️ **RUBBER KNEE** pad fits the big-boned joint of the burly factory worker as well as the more delicate knee of his feminine counterpart. Strapped high on the calf, the knee pad will not slip out of place, and its waffle-like tread is designed to grip slick surfaces tenaciously.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1954

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5-22-4

Do You Know?

A 40% drop in tuberculosis deaths among World War II veterans from 1948 to 1952, inclusive, has been reported.

Specifications for the last Hoover Dam generator have been issued by the Department of the Interior; the dam was started in 1931.

A captive elephant eats 120 pounds of hay, 36 pounds of assorted grains, vegetables and stale bread, and drinks 30 to 50 gallons of water a day.

Special ballots marked with metallic pencils to be tabulated by electric accounting machines at the rate of 400 votes every six minutes have been tested in elections.

England was probably the first country to pass *smoke ordinances*; King Edward I (1272-1307) prohibited the burning of coal in London when Parliament was in session.