

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **STRINGLESS PIANO** has electronic tone production system which never needs tuning. Used with ear phones, no one but the player hears the music, but grand-piano volume can be had by plugging the piano into many TV or radio sets. The 80-pound unit rests on detachable, folding legs and is easily carried in the back seat of an auto.

Science News Letter, August 28, 1954

⚙️ **SLIDE VIEWER** has lens so large it permits user to see slide images clearly with both eyes, even with the unit held at arm's length. The viewer's battery-operated light automatically turns on when 35mm or Bantam slide is inserted, switches off when slide is discharged. The pocket-size viewer's case is of plastic reinforced with glass fiber to withstand hard wear.

Science News Letter, August 28, 1954

⚙️ **BIRD REPELLENT**, owing to its disagreeable feeling under avian feet, shoos birds from treated areas. The product, applied directly from its aerosol bomb, is effective for a year or more. The spray blends with the color of painted surfaces to which applied, is odorless and harmless to birds and human beings.

Science News Letter, August 28, 1954



⚙️ **ATTIC INSULATION**, thin as cardboard yet more effective than three and five-eighths inches of glass wool, can easily be

tacked or stapled to wall and overhead studing by the amateur handyman. The new lightweight insulation, made of reinforced asbestos material and aluminum foil, is shown in the photograph. It comes in rolls 18 or 36 inches wide, and is rodent- and fire-proof.

Science News Letter, August 28, 1954

⚙️ **AUTO THERMOMETER**, for easy reading of outdoor temperatures from 40 below to 120 above, clips onto outside of vent window and cannot be stolen when window is locked. The instrument, made of durable, transparent plastic, will be on the market in September.

Science News Letter, August 28, 1954

⚙️ **GLASS FIBER** reel has the strength to resist tremendous tension buildups caused by stress applied to the lighter, monofilament lines currently coming into wide use. The four models of the new reel, designed for salt-water and heavy fresh-water fishing, are rust- and corrosion-proof.

Science News Letter, August 28, 1954

⚙️ **EARRING SAFEGUARDS** fasten around back of wearer's ears and onto earrings to catch these easy-to-lose pieces of jewelry if the regular clip or screw fastener becomes loose. The guards are practically invisible and can be bent to fit different ears.

Science News Letter, August 28, 1954

⚙️ **SPORTS CAR lighter** that works in any wind prevents burned fingers or nose by refusing to light until user puts it to the end of his cigarette and takes a "healthy drag." This flameless lighter's grid becomes hot when air and fumes from the gadget's fuel are drawn through it.

Science News Letter, August 28, 1954

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8-28-4

## Do You Know?

When a person drives his car at 80 miles an hour, air friction raises the surface temperature of the car one full degree above the air temperature.

A wintertime analysis of 1,038 *minx* stomachs showed frogs were the most common item in their diets; mice and rats, fish, rabbits and crayfish followed in that order.

A new, 35-fold unsweetened lime juice "superconcentrate" has been developed by chemists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Many *birds* consume half their weight in food each day; young birds often eat more than their weight in a day.

