

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

⚙️ **EXIT SIGNS**, designed for emergencies in plants, hospitals and theaters, are equipped with a special relay which switches on battery-powered lights to keep the sign illuminated should regular electric current fail. Special signs can be substituted for "EXIT."

Science News Letter, October 23, 1954

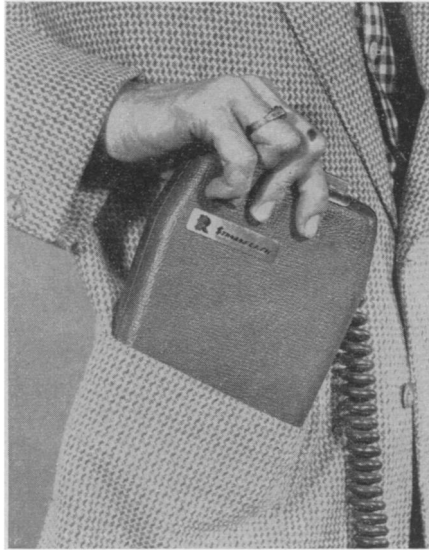
⚙️ **ANTENNA COUPLER** permits two or more television antennas, each aimed toward a specific station, to feed one or more television sets in a household. Especially designed for fringe area reception, the system switches the proper antenna onto the proper television set when the TV's channel selector is turned.

Science News Letter, October 23, 1954

⚙️ **CHRISTMAS CARDS** for business firms to give valued customers bear a cheery greeting on the outside and carry a tiny screwdriver inside. Made of chrome-coated vanadium steel, the drivers are about three inches long and may be used on eye glasses, electric shavers, cigarette lighters and fishing rods.

Science News Letter, October 23, 1954

⚙️ **"STROBE" FLASH** for miniature and candid camera enthusiasts weighs only 50



ounces but flashes 1,000 times using a repeater flash bulb. Its dry-cell battery is housed in a smashproof case, shown in the photograph, that slips into a pocket or clips to a belt. Flash duration is about 1/14 of a second.

Science News Letter, October 23, 1954

⚙️ **CIRCULAR SAW** blade is self-honing due to a "major advance in design," its manufacturer reports. Its teeth point in opposite directions so that it can be used until dull, turned on the shaft and used again. While the second set of teeth wears dull, the first set sharpens itself for reuse.

Science News Letter, October 23, 1954

⚙️ **POCKET TAPE** recorder, billed as "the world's first" measures about four inches wide, two inches deep and eight inches long. It is powered for 45 hours by hearing-aid type batteries and records for an hour on dual track tape, erasing old recordings as it runs.

Science News Letter, October 23, 1954

⚙️ **NEW ROLLER** skates have special plastic-rubber wheels to absorb shock and keep noise down. Said to be harmless to floors when used inside, the skates have only two wheels—one at the toe and one at the heel—to give them more of an ice-skate feel.

Science News Letter, October 23, 1954

⚙️ **SLEEPERS FOR** children are woven of combed cotton and Dynel to yield resistance to perspiration and other body chemicals. The quick-drying garment retains its "cashmere-like softness" and does not shrink.

Science News Letter, October 23, 1954

An extra fillip for every week . . .

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER for **BIRTHDAYS**
ANNIVERSARIES
THE RIGHT PRESENT **HOLIDAYS**
FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY

When you need the right present for the right person, give SCIENCE NEWS LETTER. Put the name of that special person on the coupon below and mail it to us today. We shall send a gift announcement card signed with your name as imprinted at the left.

SEND GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO:

Name

Address

City Zone

State

I enclose \$5.50

Please bill me later

Mail to Science News Letter, 1719 N Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

10-23-4

Do You Know?

The path of a hurricane is usually parallel to the winds in the upper atmosphere.

It takes 18 barrels of water to refine a barrel of oil.

Cotton and rayon garments are not menaced by clothes moths and carpet beetles but they frequently are attacked by silverfish.

Shoes with a "gas-pedal arch" and non-skid soles are being marketed to make auto driving easier.

Soil is a composite grouping of partially decomposed rock, minerals, organic matter, colloids, air space, microorganisms and water.

Snow mold is the common name for one of the fungi that sometimes attacks grass when the thermometer hovers just above freezing.

A test for "good taste" in household interiors and furnishings is being developed to help employers spot people with ability to recognize good design.