

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

🌀 **ORNAMENT MOLDING** kit lets you make your own plastic Christmas decorations in as much time as it takes to boil an egg. The kit includes ball, bell and star-shaped molds of heavy zinc-plated steel, and molding crystals. Large, solid plastic decorations are produced when the expandable crystals are inserted into the molds and immersed in boiling water for three minutes.

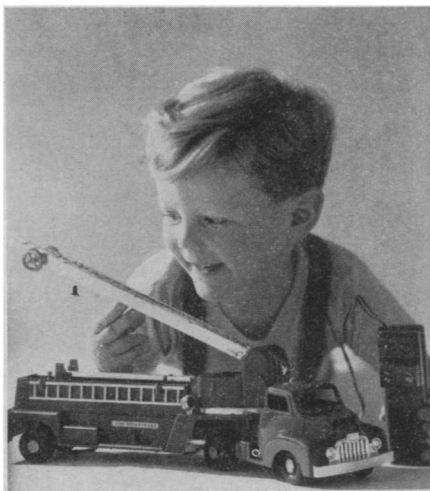
Science News Letter, November 13, 1954

🌀 **ELECTROSTATIC GENERATOR** for young electrical experimenters is harmless and constitutes no fire hazard, but it startles onlookers with crackling, inch-long sparks and dancing pith balls in a plastic box. When someone touches its charged dome, his hair springs to "attention." The device works on house current.

Science News Letter, November 13, 1954

🌀 **ILLUMINATED PLAQUES** designed as outdoor Christmas decorations for your house are made of vinyl rigid sheets. Lightweight and durable, they depict large colorful figures such as a team of reindeer, 31 inches wide, 25 inches high, towing Santa Claus in a sleigh. They can easily be cleaned with a damp cloth.

Science News Letter, November 13, 1954



🌀 **FIRE ENGINE** toy for Junior is made of a shatterproof acetate plastic, as shown in the photograph. Two buttons on its hand-held remote-control box move the truck forward or in reverse. Tilt the control box and same buttons raise or lower the ladder. Separate motors, powered by flashlight batteries, activate the truck and ladder.

Science News Letter, November 13, 1954

🌀 **ENAMEL JEWELRY** package for the adventurous do-it-yourself hobbyist allows him to make enamel designs on copper earring, pin and clasp blanks. The home-made jewelry is fired in a small electric kiln which, using ordinary house current, heats to 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit in four minutes.

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🌀 **TOY "INTERCOM"** system permits brother to talk to sister over 50 feet of wire. It consists of two units, each with a four-inch speaker, two-way switch and built-in buzzer. It operates on two D flashlight cells and has proved useful even in the business world.

Science News Letter, November 13, 1954

🌀 **THREE-DIMENSIONAL GAME** of tic-tac-toe provides brain-teasing fun for the whole family. Play is made on all four levels of this plastic set. One marker is placed on any square in turn, the object being to get four straight in any direction. Being able to see all levels makes possible any number of different plays.

Science News Letter, November 13, 1954

🌀 **DOCTOR'S BAG** for children's "medical instruments" is molded completely out of a polyethylene plastic to look and wear just like a real doctor's kit. The bag contains toy stethoscope, spectacles, thermometer, ear flashlight, medical scissors, microscope and hypodermic syringe, all plastic.

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Do You Know?

The chipping sparrow, weighing less than an ounce, is the smallest of all sparrows.

There was a 13% rise in juvenile delinquency cases from 1952 to 1953.

The number of alcoholics in the United States has increased nearly 50% in ten years.

The largest bird having the power of flight is the wandering albatross; one was found with a wingspread of 11 feet, 4 inches.

A study of diabetics whose disease began at age 40 or over indicates that 85% previously had been overweight and that 60% were extremely overweight.

Research reveals that the incisor teeth of a pocket gopher grow at the rate of 46 inches per year, or almost an inch per week, but his incessant gnawing keeps them worn down for practical use.