

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

⚙️ **DOUBLE AUTOMATIC** shotgun features short recoil system which "floats" the barrel to a rest against balanced springs. Weighing about a pound less than similar shotguns, the new hunting weapon is designed for a 12-second, two-finger takedown and completely interchangeable barrels.

Science News Letter, March 12, 1955

⚙️ **PLASTIC PORTFOLIO** for businessmen, publicists and artists is a lightweight, multi-purpose case. Fabricated of vinyl plastic except for the zipper pull, the portfolio is available in a variety of colors and embossed patterns.

Science News Letter, March 12, 1955

⚙️ **IMPROVED TYPEWRITER** bail gives secretaries a clear view of printed matter at all times. The transparent paper-lock bar eliminates the blind line created by the conventional solid bail. Designed to be installed on most standard machines in a matter of minutes, number scales on transparent bar are electrochemically engraved for permanence.

Science News Letter, March 12, 1955

⚙️ **DUSTING MITT** is made of fur-like Dynel, described as a new fiber. Entirely washable, the worn-like-a-glove duster,



shown in the photograph, eliminates having to fold and refold dust rags. Additional uses include its handiness for washing and polishing cars or scrubbing floors.

Science News Letter, March 12, 1955

⚙️ **TRANSPARENT BOOK** covers for protection against wear, tear, water and grease are made of plastic and available in three book sizes, 7¼, 8¼ and 9¼ inches. Adjustable to book thickness, the covers are fitted by placing a pocket over the binding's edge.

Science News Letter, March 12, 1955

⚙️ **ELECTRONIC BEACHCOMBER**, an outgrowth of the armed forces mine detector, can be used by prospectors or treasure-hunters for detecting small metal objects under water, rock, ice, cement and other substances. Weighing nine pounds, the metal detector has a one-knob tuning control, uses standard low-voltage batteries, headphone and a meter.

Science News Letter, March 12, 1955

⚙️ **ALUMINUM-COATED FABRIC** for protective garments weighs only half as much as other materials for "hot jobs." Protecting the wearer by reflecting radiant heat rather than insulating against it, the aluminum coating is applied to a light asbestos fabric base. Flexibility gives wearer more working freedom.

Science News Letter, March 12, 1955

⚙️ **ELECTRIC SPRAYING KIT** contains an all-metal gun which is self-cleaning and weighs only three and a half pounds. An automatic strainer and filter are built in. The all-electric spray kit comes in a heavy duty steel case with 15 feet of plastic spray tubing and a 15-foot extension cord. The gun is self-cleaned in 20 seconds by spraying solvent through it.

Science News Letter, March 12, 1955

An extra fillip for every week . . .

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3-12-5

## Do You Know?

Every state in the nation has more students enrolled in colleges and universities now than during the last school year, fall registration figures show.

In the blood stream, the normal red cell lives for about 120 days, but in storage at body temperature it dies in three or four days.

All living material contains traces of radioactive carbon 14 which is formed at high altitudes by the action of cosmic rays on atmospheric nitrogen.

The estimated number of drug addicts in the United States has dropped from between 110,000 and 150,000 in 1924 to 60,000 at the present time.

Legumes require traces of molybdenum to take nitrogen from the atmosphere and convert it to plant protein.