

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **HOMEMADE CLOCK** is designed for the do-it-yourself fan. The timepiece kit contains all the parts needed to build a full-sized wall clock. The face of the all-hardwood clock measures 12 inches square and 19 inches from the top of the face to the bottom of the pendulum.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955

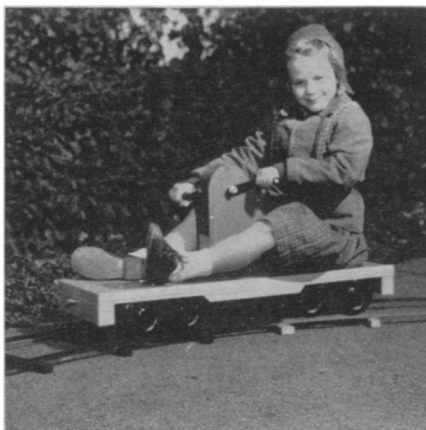
⚙️ **HOSTESS APRON** made of either flaked or plain linen features two napkins, one in each of two pockets. Guaranteed color fast and measuring 18 inches by 34 inches, the apron with the napkins was designed for quick serving by a busy homemaker.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955

⚙️ **PORTABLE GENERATOR** weighing approximately 30 pounds is a completely self-contained gasoline-engine-driven package that supplies 26 volts DC at 50 amperes continuously. Ideal for boats, trailers, camps and aircraft, the bantam weight generator has a carrying handle and suction-cup feet for securing it.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955

⚙️ **BACKYARD RAILROAD** for junior engineers choo choos one or two children around its circular track. The hand-car, shown in the picture, and 40 feet of rail-



road track come as a unit, providing a roadbed of 12 feet in diameter. More track can be added. In operation, muscle building handpower by the kids turns the chain drive connected to the rear wheels.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955

⚙️ **BRIEFCASE RECORDER** offers sleuths and private eyes a unique secret means for recording. Camouflaged in an average sized leather briefcase, the battery-operated magnetic tape recorder enables the natural recording of comments, conversations and

conferences. The unit weighs 11¼ pounds and records for 1½ hours.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955

⚙️ **EMERGENCY SIGNS** and markers can be seen inside a factory even if the plant is completely blacked out. Made of reflective sheeting mounted on non-corrosive aluminum, the signs can be seen and read up to several hundred feet away with a flashlight. Looking the same in daylight or under flashlight beams, the signs are in full color.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955

⚙️ **SPRAYING AID** is a chemical, eight to ten drops of which make each gallon of garden spray spread better and last longer. Available now for gardeners, the material has been long used by commercial sprayers. The chemical keeps the spray from "beading," and slows down weathering.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955

⚙️ **SPORTING TOY** is a harmless adaptation of South American "bolas," the traditional South American Indian and gaucho war weapon. Made of pliant rawhide and three soft rubber balls, the boleto is thrown by grasping one ball and whirling the others over head.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955

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Do You Know?

Varying the color of an object was found to change its apparent distance from an observer.

Though females pass *hemophilia*, a blood disease, from generation to generation, they are rarely afflicted themselves.

An all-electronic direct-reading *spectrograph* has been developed that can analyze up to 65 different elements in two minutes.

Addiction to opiates occurs most frequently in males, usually begins early in the second decade of life and is most frequent in the economically depressed areas of certain large cities.

Physical exertion, fever, drugs, abnormal environment, and burns may interfere with one's use of food and bring about a nutritional deficiency on *diets* that would ordinarily be adequate.

The *soldier ant* in many species blocks the entrances of the colony's wood burrows; the worker who wants to come out taps the soldier with her antennae and he steps aside.

Science News Letter, April 30, 1955