

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **ALUMINUM GRATING** combines the advantages of a rectangular opening and riveted gratings. The design cuts down the possibility of dirt, oil or scum accumulating in the corners of the grating. Rigid regardless of cutouts located in any part of the panel, the aluminum grating can also be used as a window visor and room divider.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957

⚙️ **WINDSHIELD CLEANER** is a handy pad made of nylon fibers bonded with plastic phenolic resins. The pad withstands repeated use, as well as heat, cold and mildew. When watered, the pad easily takes insects and road film off the windshield and can also be used for cleaning chromium, lacquer and white wall tires.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957

⚙️ **DRAFTING MACHINE** changes the angle of the drafting board without the aid of cartridges, weight adjustments or spring counter-balances. With the machine, a draftsman can draw long continuous, parallel, horizontal or vertical lines, or get instant, accurate angle settings with automatic 15-degree indexing. The machine has no overhang or rollers.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957

⚙️ **ADDING CALCULATOR** designed for schoolroom use allows learners to add, multiply, subtract and divide. Hand operated,



the junior-size calculator, shown in the photograph, is said to aid in the teaching of arithmetic. It has repeat and non-repeat keys, a zero clear key in each column and a master clear key for the entire keyboard. Black figures register plus amounts and red figures, minus amounts.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957

⚙️ **LISTENING WING-CHAIR** for the stereophonic sound fan has a loudspeaker

built into each wing. Simulating listening with earphones, a switch is provided on the back of the chair for loudness level and monaural listening. Music may be played from any stereo playback recorder and hooked to the chair.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957

⚙️ **MILEAGE MEASURER** sets to any scale to help the motorist find the shortest distance between two points on his map. The fountain-pen-type device is rolled along the map's roadway's after the scale has been set. Mileage is then read on an indicator scale along the device's side.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957

⚙️ **ADJUSTABLE GRILLS** for barbecuing can be used indoors or outdoors. The chrome grill swings over the fire for cooking and swings away for seasoning or turning. The grill measures 14 by 17 inches and a rigid cadmium plated rod adjusts in height from 24 to 29 inches.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957

⚙️ **ALL-WEATHER CLOTH** is described by its British developer as completely waterproof and windproof. Built-in air channels hold air between the fibers and provide a heat-retaining layer around the body. The cloth is said to furnish greater warmth than a conventional wool cloth of equal weight.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957



Nature Ramblings



By HORACE LOFTIN

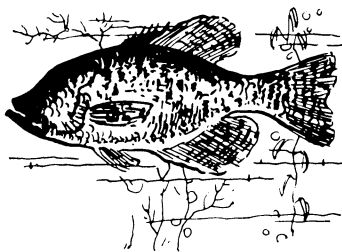
Too Many Names

➤ SCIENTISTS have little trouble with the names of fishes that became extinct long before the first fishermen wet the first hook. They simply examine the fossilized remains and attach a formidable Latin name like *Priscacara peali*, and no questions are asked.

But let the scientist mention the name of a sports fish to a group of fishermen, and he will hear as many other different names for it as there are fishermen present.

Try to tell salt water fishermen that there are no salt-water trout, and they will be quick to cite that they have caught white "trout" and speckled "trout" in the sea all their lives. These are not true trout in the scientific sense.

It is all a question of scientific names versus popular names. The advantage of using a scientific name is that it is the same anywhere you go. The presence of a few key characters immediately allows you to



give a fish its scientific name even if you have never seen it before. The advantage of a popular name is—well, it is the name you learned when you were a kid with a cane pole.

Thanks to the painstaking work of fish experts, however, you do not have to learn jaw-breaking Latin words in order to name properly most of the common American fishes. Most of these fishes now have

standardized and commonly recognized English names that fit the scientific groups of family, genus and species quite well.

Take the sunfish family, for example. These typical panfish of American ponds and rivers can, with a few exceptions, be told immediately by their two back (dorsal) fins being joined together into a single large fin. In many regions of the country these fish are erroneously called perch. But by the standardized system, true perches have the two back fins separated and that lets them out.

Each separate member of the sunfish family, there are 25 species of them in America, has its own standard name, such as the green sunfish, pumpkinseed and the black crappie. The best way to learn these names is to look up each new fish you catch in one of the excellent fish keys put out by nearly every state conservation department or to consult a textbook on the fishes of your region.

Science News Letter, April 27, 1957