

New Machines And Gadgets

Novel Things for Better Living

Every housewife knows how slippery is the dishpan full of soapy water, how hard it is to lift by that narrow rim that runs around the top. All this has been remedied by the simple device of putting a few crimps in the rim at two opposite places into which the four fingers of the hand just fit. For this the inventor was awarded a patent.

Replacing a burnt-out fuse is a ticklish job for the ordinary householder afraid of getting a shock. The difficulty is to ascertain which fuse is burnt out. This is easy and safe with a diminutive neon test lamp made for this very purpose. The two well-insulated leads have hard plastic sleeves near the bare tips which prevent these tips from ever touching each other. The lamp is also provided with a clip—like a pen—so that the professional lineman can hook it over the top edge of his pocket.

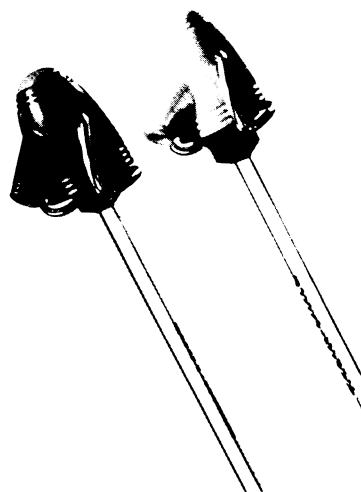
A method devised to train persons with poor binocular vision to see in depth is, at the same time, an entirely new method of producing stereoscopic pictures or pictures in depth. Two pictures, one for each eye, are printed on thin transparent polarizing screens, the polarizing direction of one at right angles to that of the other. Viewed superposed, they appear as one badly blurred picture. But when viewed with two appropriately polarizing glasses, one for each eye, the result is a picture in three dimensions.

Shellac is one natural resin for which no synthetic product has yet been found that will replace it in all its uses. However, a product has been developed that will satisfactorily replace it in one of its main uses, namely as a floor finish. The new product may even be superior in its resistance to water and steam.

Small copper tubing can for many purposes be replaced by a flexible semi-transparent plastic which is tough and resists moisture, brines, solvents, acids and alkalis. It can withstand a temperature of 275 degrees Fahrenheit for a short time, and shows far less fatigue to flexing and vibration than does copper tubing.

A spectacle case with a clip, so that it can be held in the pocket like a pen or pencil, has been patented.

Lovers of soda water, here is just what you've been looking for—a contraption that instantly converts any bottle of charged water into a siphon—



keeps in the sparkle, lets out the liquid whenever and in such portions as you may desire. It is made entirely of plastic, even the tube which looks like glass, but isn't. Confidentially, it can also be used for other beverages.

You've heard of the fellow who bent his gun barrel so that he could shoot around a corner. Now we have a portable drill that can drill a hole around a corner. Attachments, fitting any standard portable drill, are provided, that can be turned to any angle with the main drill stem, out at right angles, pointing up or pointing down, or even all the way around so that the drill points directly backwards like the tip of an L. With this arrangement many places can be reached that could not be reached with a straight drill, thus speeding production.

If you want more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St. N. W., Washington, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 83.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1941



SCIENCE CLUBS OF AMERICA

Sponsored by Science Service

NEWS OF CLUBS

AVOCA, N. Y.—The Bunsen Burners has not yet completed its plans for holding a Science Fair this year but this club certainly expects to be able to carry through this idea to a successful completion. The group meets at the Avoca Central School under the sponsorship of the Science Teacher, R. Arthur Gaiser.

PERU, N. Y.—The Alchemists Club of Peru Central High School is planning to hold a Science Fair early next spring. Representatives from schools in the north country will be invited to participate. This year, the club is studying heredity in rats; the effect of colchicine on animals; dyes; and how well rats learn. The entire club recently made a trip to Schenectady where it visited the General Electric House of Magic and Radio Station WGY. The group continued to Albany and examined the interior of a submarine stationed in the harbor. The Alchemists Club is sponsored by Morton Bromley, Head of the Science Department and Director of the Peru Science Center.

● RADIO

Saturday, December 20, 1:30 p.m., EST

On "Adventures in Science," with Watson Davis, director of Science Service, over Columbia Broadcasting System.

Captain John C. Adams, M.C., U.S.N., will discuss aviation medicine in this great national emergency.

Listen in each Saturday.

Monday, December 22, 9:30 p.m., EST

Science Clubs of America programs over WRUL, Boston, on 6.04 and 11.73 megacycles.

One in a series of regular periods over this short wave station to serve science clubs, particularly in high schools, throughout the Americas. Have your science group listen in at this time.

WILLIAMSVILLE, Ill.—The Kem Kam Klub is the name of a group which has been formed at the Williamsville Township High School. Under sponsorship of the Science Teacher, Walter Slater, the group prepares exhibits and laboratory projects. Photographic interests, as the name Kem Kam would convey, have many followers. Of great popular interest are the scientific plays prepared and presented by the club members.

TAMPA, Fla.—Don V. Giunta, sponsor and General Science Instructor, gives lectures and presents demonstrations of interest to the Futurians Science Club of the West Tampa Junior High School. Following demonstrations, or after a field trip, the club members engage in science forums. The members also work on individual projects which are exhibited at local, state and regional conventions. This club is also affiliated with the Florida Junior Academy of Sciences.

CONCORD, N. H.—While the group as a whole joins in science walks, reports and investigations, most of the members of the St. John Science Club at St. John High School work on individual experiments. This is remarkable because the club, sponsored by Sister Mary Eulalia, has a large membership.

BELLWOOD, Pa.—An evening with Dr. Yeagley of the Penn State Observatories will highlight the activities of the Orion Club at the Bellwood-Antis High School. The members then continue to observe the heavens with their own eight-inch telescope. This astronomy club is sponsored by George D. Weiss.

AVISTON, Ill.—The Science Forum, a club formed at the Aviston Community High School, expects to present a Science Fair exhibit early during the spring of 1942. This club finds "Things of Science" generally useful. "Their worth cannot be gauged by the price we pay for them" reports Sister M. Hermias, teacher of Science and mathematics, and sponsor.

NEW BRITAIN, Conn.—The Progressive Chemistry Club of Senior High School, is delving deeply into chemical topics. Papers are written by its members; exhibits, and extensive laboratory work, considerably more advanced than that contained in the school curriculum, is carried on. This group is sponsored by Francis F. Rio, chemistry teacher.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill.—Cold weather does not interrupt field trips taken by members of the East Side Science Club of East St. Louis Senior High School. During every month of the year the members always gather plenty of material useful for study by both the club and the biology department of the school. The group is sponsored by J. W. Galbreath, biology teacher.

Clubs are invited to become affiliated with SCA for a nominal \$2 for 20 members or less. You can become an associate of SCA for 25 cents, which includes a copy of the 128-page Science Handbook for 1942. Address: Science Clubs of America, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D. C.

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