

• New Machines and Gadgets •

If you want more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., Washington 6, D. C. and ask for Gadget Bulletin 436. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

☛ **COMBINATION LAMP** shade and fish bowl recently patented by the U. S. government, is a circular type shade to fit over an upright electric bulb which has double transparent walls, fastened together on the lower edges with a circular piece to form a water-tight circular bowl.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948

☛ **SNAKEBITE KIT**, containing a lancet, tourniquet and an antiseptic applicator, has an outfit receptacle to hold these articles which is made of a soft material and can itself be used as a suction device. It has a concave mouth that fits with a vacuum seal to the flesh surrounding the bite.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948

☛ **MICROFILM RECORDER** has a mirror reflex system which makes it possible to photograph both front and back of a document at the same time, and places the two images side by side on 16-mm. film. For single document recordings, one half of the film width can be used at a time.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948

☛ **NEW TYPE SAIL** for the pleasure boat, shown in the picture, is woven of a new high-tensile synthetic yarn which is dimensionally stable. Water will not make



the sail cloth shrink and wind will not cause it to stretch.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948

☛ **WINDOW STRIPPING**, made of fiber glass, can be pushed with a knife blade into cracks around doors and windows to keep out cold air, dust and insect pests. Soft and

pliable, it resists moisture, is non-combustible, can not rot and affords no food for vermin.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948

☛ **EXERCISE TABLE** for curative purposes, recently patented, has a top made of three sections hinged together which can be tilted and flattened again by under-table mechanism. The patient on the table is subjected to continuous motions that impart stimulating massaging of a gentle, undulatory type to the body.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948

☛ **SELF-DUMPING** wheelbarrow, an improved type recently patented, carries its load well balanced over its wheel. A coil spring under the scoop-shaped body tilts it forward over the wheel when a lever on a handlebar is pressed downward by a thumb.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948

☛ **CHIMNEY MOUNTING** for radio antenna is an eight-inch square cadmium-steel plate with two standoff clamps, perforated steel straps and turnbuckles. The plate is placed against a corner of the chimney. The steel straps, passed around the brickwork, are tightened by the turnbuckles without the use of other tools.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948

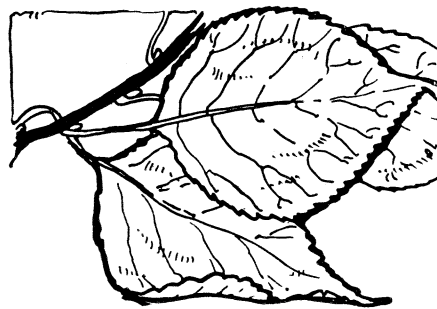
• Nature Ramblings by Frank Thone •

► **GOLDEN**, crimson, purple, russet, scarlet—autumn's brave banners gladden our eyes, give us something to store in our memories against the bleak winter days soon to come. Yet for the most part we are content to take them as chance brings them to us. We plant trees with spring flowers or summer shade in mind; yet with a little additional thought we could insure properly massed and contrasted autumn beauty as well.

If you have room for only one tree, probably that tree should be a hard maple. No other species offers such a full palette of autumn color as this, its background of bright gold touched here and there with vivid reds and warm orange, and occasional lingering patches of nostalgic summer green.

Clear yellow tones, with less of red tinting, are offered by a number of trees: the birches, the poplars, the hickories, tulip-

Choose Your Colors!



tree and *par excellence* the ginkgo. Linden gives us yellow-to-russet, sycamore or butonwood, russet-to-brown. Sassafras tends to take on an old-gold cast.

Not many trees deck themselves wholly in red to bid farewell to the retreating sun. Sumac, which is a tall shrub rather than a

tree, does assert itself right royally. Head-iest of all the flaming leaves, however, are those of the sweetgum—a strong, deep wine-red, especially when caught against the afternoon sun.

Oaks are a tribe apart, in their mode of autumn splendor. Their colors are at once noble and somber—purples and deep reds and dark gold mingled with much monastically sober brown. More than any other familiar trees, oaks have a tendency to cling to their autumn robes far into the winter, clinging to them against the fury of January tempests like ragged exiled kings. There is an individualism among them, too; for of three oaks of the same species standing side by side, one will shed all of its leaves, another will hang onto almost all of them, while the third will let go with some branches and hold fast with others.

Science News Letter, October 16, 1948