

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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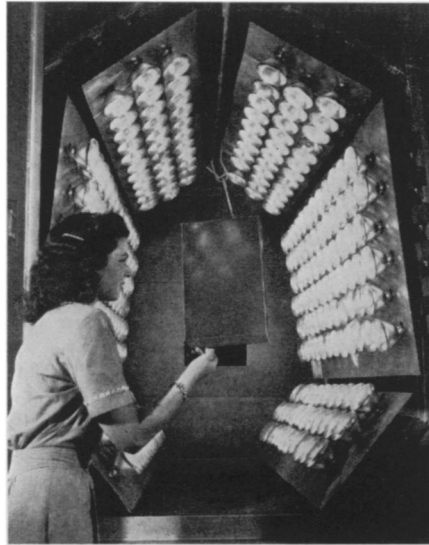
⚙️ **HAND TOOL**, operating with blank cartridges, drives metal studs into wood, concrete or steel with a great saving in time over former methods. The cartridges are fastened to the end of the studs, which become imbedded so solidly that they will support a weight of several tons, it is claimed.

Science News Letter, December 4, 1948

⚙️ **HOLDING TAPE**, to hold a man's shirt inside his trousers or a woman's blouse within her slacks, is a strip of neoprene sponge rubber with a backing of cotton tape so that it can be easily stitched inside the waistband. This synthetic product does not soften and become sticky from perspiration and body oils.

Science News Letter, December 4, 1948

⚙️ **TEST OVEN**, combining the advantages of both infrared and convectional heating, was developed to establish standards for the baking of organic finishes and to discover new uses for infrared heating. As shown in the picture, the infrared lamps are arranged in six adjustable banks



with regulators to allow variation in the voltage used.

Science News Letter, December 4, 1948

⚙️ **ASPHALT** remover quickly and effi-

ciently digs out, by a revolving cutting wheel, old asphalt from expansion joints in concrete paving. Guided by plow handles, the rubber-tired, gasoline-power device has exchange cutters for joints of different widths, and it has a pick-up unit to gather the waste material.

Science News Letter, December 4, 1948

⚙️ **PHOTOCOPY** finishing equipment, made of hard rubber and fitted with a lid, puts an end to the bother of mixing chemical solutions, then storing them again every time after prints are made. Solutions may remain in these tanks for months, protected from light, dust and evaporation by the lids.

Science News Letter, December 4, 1948

⚙️ **TWO-WAY** communication set, developed in England, allows a mother to work indoors and hear the baby in an outdoor playpen. It operates from two ordinary flashlight batteries, and is worked by pressing a lever to speak and releasing it to hear. The portable receivers are placed one near mother and one near the child.

Science News Letter, December 4, 1948

• Do You Know? •

Spareribs and sauerkraut are as American as baked beans.

American farmers are spending three times as much now for *medical care* as they were a decade ago.

High-strength *copper alloys* include magnesium bronze, silicon bronze, and certain so-called white brasses sometimes called nickel silver.

A small amount of *calcium chloride*, added to the water in which apple slices are soaked prior to freezing or canning, makes slices that retain their shape and firmness when baked in pies.

An *ancient city* in Colombia, South America, recently excavated, had over 3,000 houses, according to the foundations unearthed; it was inhabited until shortly before the Spaniards came to the continent.

Scientists have resorted to blowing *soap bubbles* in an effort to find out what makes metals strong; soap bubbles have proven more useful than anything else tried in constructing a working model of a metal's crystal structure.

Several *copper-base alloys* have been developed that have an ultimate tensile strength rivaling that of steel.

A manganese shortage in *poultry feed* is said by poultry men to result in eggs of low hatchability.

A collection of some 2,000 *butterflies* from the remote Nyasaland region of Africa has been presented to the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Rubber reclaiming, for reuse, is a big business in America; some 300,000 tons of the salvaged material are consumed in the United States each year.

In 1874, just 15 years after the first oil well was drilled in America, a Pennsylvania scientist estimated that the United States had enough *petroleum* to keep its kerosene lamps burning for only four years.

An *all-aluminum bridge* 504 feet from abutment to abutment is under construction in Quebec, Canada, which, it is said, will weigh 2,000 tons less than a similar bridge of steel; some bridges already in use are in part aluminum.

In 1947, *coffee* ranked first in value among imports into the United States, accounting for more than 10% of the total value of imports.

Sixteen Navy Seabees are spending the winter at Point Barrow, Alaska, living in a new type of *prefabricated house* designed to provide summer warmth in 65-below-zero weather and to withstand 150-miles-per-hour gales.

Science News Letter, December 4, 1948

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