

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **MOUSETRAP** permits the prowler to see the bait, but never to touch it because it is enclosed in a clear-view plastic compartment. From any direction the mouse approaches, he steps onto a spring platform that drops him through a trap door into a chamber below, which has a perforated aluminum base to facilitate drowning.

Science News Letter, February 26, 1949

⚙️ **MULTIPLE COUNTER**, for counting all sorts of small objects from pills to screws in the packaging process, has up to ten parallel channels down which the articles flow from a holding shaker. The small objects cut photoelectric beams as they fall from the individual channels.

Science News Letter, February 26, 1949

⚙️ **PLASTIC CANISTERS**, to hold food in refrigerator or pantry, come in sets of three in proper sizes to nest within each other when not in use. Their airtight lids keep the contents fresh and clean, with no odor getting in or out.

Science News Letter, February 26, 1949

⚙️ **LEAK DETECTOR** for use in high-vacuum work finds a modest application in testing footballs. The pistol-like device, held in the operator's hand in the picture, sucks in air and makes a buzz in the ear



if the air contains gases of the Freon group. Footballs under test are filled with such a gas.

Science News Letter, February 26, 1949

⚙️ **PHONOGRAPH**, capable of handling all new speeds as well as records of conventional speed, has two pick-up arms, one for conventional records and the other for

the two speeds in use for the new long-playing records. Brass collars, to slip over the normal spindle, handle the center hole-size problem.

Science News Letter, February 26, 1949

⚙️ **GARMENT BAGS**, designed for use in automobiles, are made of a translucent plastic and have zipper closures to make them dust proof. Large enough to accommodate men's and women's suits, they can be carried by their handle hooks to hotel closets, or to home closets for storage.

Science News Letter, February 26, 1949

⚙️ **HOME AIR-CONDITIONER**, that cleans and controls the humidity of air passing through it, vaporizes a chemical known as triethylene glycol into the air stream to kill certain types of airborne bacteria. Its glass fiber filter is continuously flushed by a liquid to clean it and add moisture to the air.

Science News Letter, February 26, 1949

⚙️ **MITTENS** for youngsters are lined with double-fleece for warmth and covered with durable, waterproof neoprene, a synthetic rubber. The wrists contain enough of the neoprene for protection against melting snow and rain.

Science News Letter, February 26, 1949

## Do You Know?

Although Canada produced nearly 48,000,000 pounds of honey in 1948, there is a decreasing demand because candy makers and bakers are now able to get sugar.

The king of Egypt is reported to be buying two British *helicopters* to use in mail delivery, but more extensively in spraying crops to control insect pests.

The use of a *coffee beverage* is perhaps a thousand years old but the process of roasting the beans was not used until during the 16th century.

Two guest houses have been erected in *Greenland* in expectation that this great Danish island will soon attract many American tourists.

A living *electric catfish*, placed on the brow of a patient with epileptic fits, was used by a Moslem doctor several centuries ago to give relief.

The United States is the largest user of *apparel wools* in the world, consuming 1,000,000,000 pounds annually, of which some three-fourths are imported.

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