

• New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **SALT SHAKER**, for table use, has a cap of a blended natural mineral which, it is claimed, absorbs moisture when the humidity is high, and gives up the moisture when the humidity is low.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

⚙️ **INSTRUMENT SHARPENER**, for use where razor-keen edges are needed, is square in shape, instead of round as in the ordinary hand hone, and has three faces of various gradings of needle-shaped aluminum oxide coated on cloth. Its fourth face is leather.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

⚙️ **THE ANGLE** at which the sun will shine on a house in any part of the world at any time of the day can be determined by a device for architects building solar houses which includes a rotary table for the house model and a movable lamp on a semi-circle graduated scale over the table.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

⚙️ **REAR-WINDOW wiper** for automobiles is designed especially for the efficient clearing of curved rear window surfaces. It is operated by means of a push-pull knob under the left side of the dash.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

⚙️ **SCALLOPER**, shown in the picture, is suitable also to serve as a rule and as a



button spacer. It is made of rigid plastic that will not warp or curl, and is not affected by changes in the humidity.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

⚙️ **SHEARS** for trimming the edges of the lawn, recently patented, are positioned in front of a small roller and operated by

a person in standing position by two handles, pivoted at knee height. Moving the handles apart or together works the cutting blades of the shears.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

⚙️ **HOT-WATER AIR VALVES**, for use on radiators in a building heated by a hot-water system, are automatic in operation and act continuously to keep air out of the system. This keeps the radiator always filled with hot water, which enables it to give off full heat.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

⚙️ **PANAMA-TYPE HAT**, made of rayon braid treated with a new resin, will retain shape in spite of exposure to moisture or even rain. Another function of the resin is to bond pigments, making possible the dyeing of the braid rather than the yarn.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

⚙️ **FISH BAG**, with a draw-string closure and a 30-pound capacity, is made of woven plastic mesh and can be easily washed, the moisture shaken out, and stored in a small space. Its chemical inertness and its strength make it an ideal fishing accessory.

Science News Letter, April 2, 1949

Do You Know?

Safflower is a promising oil-bearing crop for America.

A *flame-resistant* cellulose product has been developed.

Potatoes in six months of storage may lose two-thirds the vitamin C they had at harvest.

The *caddy cart*, developed for golf links, is now being used in at least one American city for collecting coin from the city's street parking meters.

Over 1,500,000 feet of sunken *hemlock* logs have been salvaged recently from the sea bottom in Puget Sound; the logger does his logging in a diving suit and works in water up to 120 feet in depth.

Fish in the North Sea were becoming less plentiful from activities of European commercial fisheries prior to World War I but became plentiful during the war when the sea was closed to fishing; history repeated itself during World War II.

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