

# • 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 462. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **CHAIR PADS**, easily installed on slip-seat chairs, are made of a heavy-gauge vinyl plastic combined with a thin plastic under layer with cellulose cotton filling. They are stitchless pads, but the parts are firmly held together by an electronic bonding process.

Science News Letter, April 23, 1949

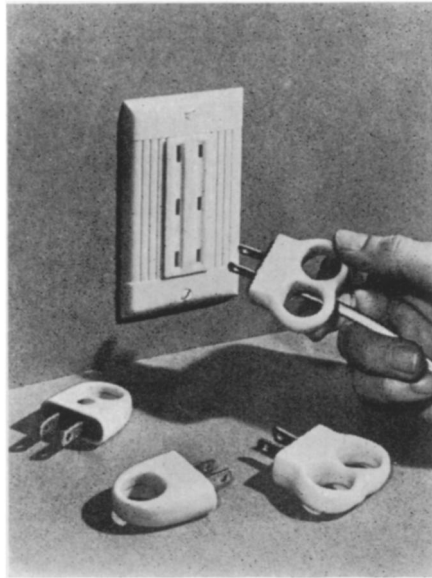
⚙️ **HIGH-FREQUENCY WELDER**, that creates no interference with the reception of neighborhood radios and television sets, uses a new tube-type oscillator and modified torch which prevents the nuisance by staying on its assigned frequency. Welding with an arc shield by helium gas is now widely practiced.

Science News Letter, April 23, 1949

⚙️ **INDOOR TELEVISION antenna**, particularly for use in urban apartments, is what is called an end-load dipole type, with two horizontal metal rods, extending in opposite directions from a movable base, which have aluminum disks at their extremities. It is hand-turned to get the best reception position.

Science News Letter, April 23, 1949

⚙️ **ELECTRIC PLUGS**, equipped with finger grips as shown in the picture, solve



the problem of the housewife in disconnecting her electrical equipment. The plugs are molded of a white plastic that is attractive, durable and an excellent electrical insulating material.

Science News Letter, April 23, 1949

⚙️ **DIRECTIONAL-LIGHT switch**, which tells a motor vehicle driver if his lights are working, is attached to the steering column and employs a jewel light in its top to signal failure of bulbs in the system. If the jewel light fails when a switch is thrown to the left, it shows that the directional light on the left of the vehicle is out.

Science News Letter, April 23, 1949

⚙️ **LIGHTWEIGHT INSULATION** for use in building walls comes in rolls to fit between the upright studs of the wall and weighs only one-third as much as ordinary mineral fiber insulating materials. Made of extremely fine glass fiber, it is fire-resistant, rot-proof, vermin-proof and pack-resistant.

Science News Letter, April 23, 1949

⚙️ **MUCILAGE APPLIER**, for the office desk, is a decorative two-piece affair consisting of a small flask to hold the adhesive and a plastic base, the top of which is shaped to hold the flask in an inverted position. A sponge on the mouth of the flask is always mucilage-moist, soft and ready to use.

Science News Letter, April 23, 1949

## Do You Know?

Armed vehicles and airplanes are being used in Finland to battle *wolves*.

Of America's total utility energy from *hydro-electric plants*, 18% is from government installations.

*Seed corn* can be kept for many years without much loss of vitality if dried to 8% or less moisture and stored in airtight containers at a uniform low temperature.

*Hybrid corn* is already giving farmers greatly increased yields; hybrid so-ghum, now under development, is expected to give a 40% increase in grain.

Louisville, Colo., has a "male tax" of \$3 per year payable in cash or labor, levied against all men from 21 to 60 years of age except war veterans and firemen.

The *railroad track* extending over six miles through the Moffat tunnel in Colorado is made of continuous, jointless, welded, 131-pound rail, and is said to be the only installation of its kind in the country.

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