

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

For addresses where you can get 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 471. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **FENDER PROTECTOR** is a flexible attachment to put on a fender of an automobile which will touch a high curb, before the fender is close enough to be crushed, and operate a warning buzzer under the hood. The electric contacts are sealed in a hard rubber ball with a chrome-plated tip, and the spring is of stainless steel.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1949

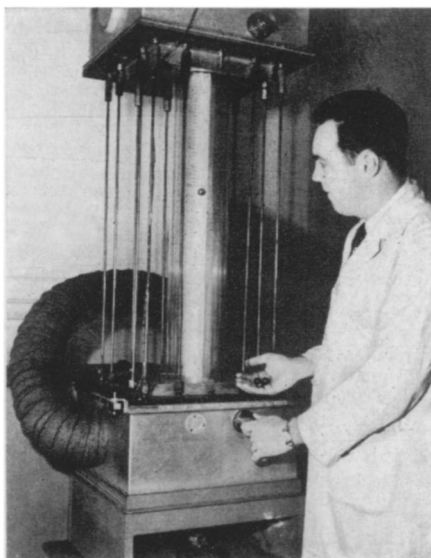
⚙️ **REMOTE CONTROL** unit, for use with any make of television where the receiver must be put in an inaccessible place, can be used to tune in stations, regulate contrast and brightness, and to turn the set off. Another use is with projection sets where tuning can best be accomplished at a distance from the screen.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1949

⚙️ **SPHERICAL** container, made of a plastic and the size of a golf ball, separates into two halves, one holding a nylon-bristle brush and the other a metal spike for use on the greens in cleaning shoe cleats and golf clubs. The spike is threaded, and serves to hold the halves together when not in use.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1949

⚙️ **REBOUND DEVICE**, to test the resiliency of new types of rubber made for use in sub-zero temperatures, determines this essential property by the height to



which a metal ball rebounds when dropped from the top of the tubes shown in the picture. At room temperatures, a ball bounces to the top of the tube from pure gum rubber.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1949

⚙️ **POCKET CASE** for fishermen keeps sharp hooks and fragile lures safely in boxes easily visible through the transparent

material of which both boxes and the case itself are made. It is usable also by scientists to hold small specimens gathered on field trips.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1949

⚙️ **OIL CANS**, for household equipment, have bodies of colorful, shatterproof, transparent plastic crimped onto a tinned steel base, flexible for squirting action. The threaded neck of the container, in which the oil supply is always visible, holds a metal spout with straight or bent tip.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1949

⚙️ **MILK CONTAINERS**, in half-pint to quart sizes, are made by using tasteless, odorless Vinylite resins to coat rolls of paper, from which the containers are die-cut in the flat. Shipped to dairies in this flat condition, they are fed into equipment that automatically forms, sterilizes and fills them in one operation.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1949

⚙️ **VOICE MUFFLER**, to snap on the speaking end of the telephone, permits talk which is heard only by the person at the other end of the phone. A telephone in a busy office can be used without disturbance to others in the room by the flexible device which covers the speaker's mouth.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1949

## Do You Know?

American Indians were using *sunflower seed* as food when the earliest European explorers discovered this country.

*Autotrucks*, with the latest mine-rescue equipment, have now completely replaced in the continental United States, the old government railroad mine rescue cars which rushed to mining accidents to help save lives.

The Brazilian *carnauba palm*, whose leaves furnish the valuable carnauba polishing wax, produces fruit for cattle feed, seeds used as a coffee substitute, sap to make wine and vinegar, and lumber impervious to salt water and insects.

Some 50 inches of *rainfall* a year in parts of the United States is a high average, but the Assam hills in northeast India often have over 50 feet a year due to the moisture-carrying winds from the Indian ocean in the monsoon season.

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