

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

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⚙️ **TOY HELICOPTER**, resembling a military flying platform, consists of a rigid circular frame, three vane blades, a crow's nest-type enclosure containing a toy pilot, flexible metal cable and a crank box with a handle. The blades are rotated through the cable when the geared handle is cranked.

Science News Letter, February 14, 1959

⚙️ **PIPE INSULATION** of glass fiber is manufactured in one piece for quick, simple application. Available in several sizes, it can be installed on hot and cold lines. It will not burn, corrode metals or shrink, and is unaffected by moisture. Pipe expansion or contraction will not crack it.

Science News Letter, February 14, 1959

⚙️ **CALIPER** has direct reading zero-to-four-inch scale. Operated with one hand, it opens by squeezing the handle and its spring closes over the object to be measured. Useful to machinists, inspectors and home craftsmen, the caliper can also be used as a gauge by locking a set screw at any position on the scale.

Science News Letter, February 14, 1959

⚙️ **TOY ROCKET CARRIER-LAUNCHER** is 18-inch truck, shown in the photograph, carrying an eight-inch rocket on a platform



that can be raised and lowered. Molded of polyethylene plastic, it is equipped with a spring plunger that actually launches the rocket. The light weight of the rocket is said to keep it from marring furniture or floors.

Science News Letter, February 14, 1959

⚙️ **LIGHTWEIGHT RIFLE** is made of structural nylon except for barrel and bolt assembly of steel. The nylon parts of this 22-caliber rifle will not fade, warp, shrink, chip or peel. Since all moving parts bear against nylon, no lubrication is necessary.

Science News Letter, February 14, 1959

⚙️ **PROTECTIVE GLOVES** of polyethylene are sanitary, watertight, alkali and acid resistant. Useful on messy production jobs involving bonding, potting or coating, they are said to offer greater fingertip sensitivity than rubber gloves.

Science News Letter, February 14, 1959

⚙️ **FLAME PHOTOMETER** determines the concentration of sodium and potassium in samples of blood and other biological fluids. Concentrations can be read directly from a meter on the clinical instrument. Designed for microsampling techniques, it is portable and needs no galvanometer.

Science News Letter, February 14, 1959

⚙️ **TOILET FLUSH GUIDE** stops running toilets by eliminating mechanical linkage between lever and flush ball. Flush mechanism consists of a rubber flush ball with a stainless steel lift rod, and a tubular guide through which the lift rod moves freely and precisely.

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## Nature Ramblings



By BENITA TALL

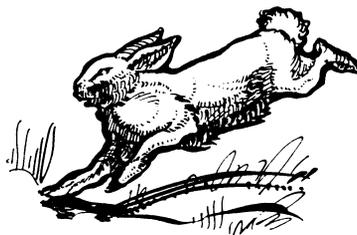
► **DARKEST AFRICA** has its "big game," lions, hippos, rhinoceroses, Cape buffaloes, which draw hunters from many lands. The successful hunters return with trophies to mount on their walls, while even the unsuccessful ones have literally fabulous reports on the wealth and variety of game they saw.

Yet, the United States can offer inducements to the hunter as long as he is satisfied with "little game."

Some of the sport is regional, Dr. J. P. Linduska, director of wildlife management for Remington Arms Company, Inc., points out. In the South, the bobwhite quail probably ranks first in the hunters' esteem. New Englanders take to ruffed grouse shooting, while in other northern states hunters set their aim for pheasants.

The squirrel also has a place in the sportsman's bag. But no other animal re-

**In Darkest United States**



places the cottontail rabbit as king of the small game.

No matter how young the hunter, or how old, the cottontail is a sought-after prize. And since the animal lives in virtually every county of every state, there is no reason for the hunter to complain of a shortage. Some states at one time imported live-trapped rabbits from other states that had an over-supply. This has proved impractical,

however. Now game officials simply count on the native supply.

The national total for cottontail harvest is some 30,000,000 rabbits with several states reporting a yearly hunter take of 2,000,000 to 3,000,000.

Fence-rows and corners, brush piles, or a "game planting" of shrubs provide good homes for rabbits. For instance, a little multiflora rose, red osier and gray dogwood, shrub lespedeza or sericea will quickly attract rabbits.

Brush piles can be built even quicker. A few big stones, a log, stump or an old oil drum is suitable as a base upon which the brush can be piled.

Fence corners are particularly practical for brush piles on farms since it is difficult to maneuver farming equipment into corners. The border between cropland and woodlot is another favorite spot that appeals to rabbits. This type of haven will not conflict with a paying farm operation.

Science News Letter, February 14, 1959