## New Machines and Gadgets

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TELEPHONE EARPIECE AT-TACHMENT, which fits over the earpiece but has no electrical connections with the telephone, enables incoming voices to be heard through the radio loud speaker. It is a midget inductor unit designed to operate with the standard radio receiver or any type of disk-wire-filmcylinder electric recorder.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1948

TREE-MARKING device for foresters, to indicate trees for cutting by a paint spray, is quickly converted into a torch for starting back-fires in case of a forest fire. Conversion is made by removing the paint nozzle, screwing on a backfiring attachment and filling the container with a 50-50 mixture of kerosene and gasoline.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1948

MECHANICS' level measures the degree of slope of a bridge strut or a roof rafter. Made of aluminum and usable on all four surfaces, the 16-inch level has a central dial marked in degrees and a needle that remains vertical, thus indicating the slope. It has two horizontal and two vertical spirit vials.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1948

KNIFE SHARPENER, shown in the picture, has plastic wheels that will not injure a kitchen table surface. The center part of the spool-like device is a grinding stone between which and the plastic wheel the knife is inserted. A pull-push



motion of the knife rotates the spool, putting a keen edge on the blade.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1948

them to be flown from coast to coast in perfect condition. It is an insulated boxwood carton which controls temperature of the lobsters in transit, and a bag-type plastic liner to retain moisture of the seaweed in which the crustaceans are packed.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1948

TRUCK TIRE EXPANDER, just patented, consists of a light-weight lever

carrying a sleeve which is worked forward by means of a handle and a ratchet device. Lever and sleeve have downward projecting, hook-like, tire-engaging arms which spread the tire as the sleeve advances.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1948

ELECTRIC FISH SCREEN unit, a portable type suitable for the average farm pond, consists of a new type electronic generator used in conjunction with a free-swinging electrode system. The generator produces a series of mild, harmless underwater shock waves which keep fish away from outlets.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1948

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