

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

☛ **ASH-TRAYS** of plated silver have clips by which they can be easily attached to the edge of a saucer on the dining table. Provided in sets, one for each smoker, they discourage putting cigaret ashes into tea cups.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1948

☛ **WHEEL ALIGNMENT** device for automobiles, recently patented, is a horizontal cross-bar which can be placed at any position from one front wheel to its mate in contact with the treads, with movable brackets which are adjusted to contact the side walls of the tires.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1948

☛ **FLAT-STEM THERMOMETER**, which can be clamped or screwed down in any desirable position to a machine part the temperature of which is wanted, enables the heat element to go snugly against the object under test, presenting a wide heat-absorbing area. It is a dial-type instrument.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1948

☛ **WINDOW WASHER** for passenger trains scoots down the side of the train while it is stopped at a station and cleans all windows in a few minutes. It is an upright revolving brush, mounted window-height on a powered platform tractor truck and water tank; the glass is sprayed as scrubbed.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1948

☛ **WATER-WARMER**, to keep drinking troughs for livestock from freezing over in cold weather, is a floating elec-



tric heater that never gets hot enough to burn or frighten the animal. No ice forms near it, as shown in the picture, and the heat is cut off by thermostatic control when not needed.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1948

☛ **SLIP-SPOOL** reel for fishing eliminates backlash in bait casting. The spool winding is at right angle to the shaft of the rod, and the line slips off the front of the reel, released by a trigger, with the forward motion of the cast. The spool is manually turned to rewind the line.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1948

☛ **LOCK AND LATCH** sets for the new home are available in unit pack-

ages, complete for all needs. The individual pieces are selected to harmonize with the architecture of the average small home, and contain among other fixtures a front door and a rear door lock both opening with the same key.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1948

☛ **POWER RECORDER** for aircraft and other engines makes a record of the total power-hour units turned out by an engine by continuously measuring the engine speed, manifold pressure and atmospheric pressure. One use is on fly-yourself planes so that customers can be charged for engine-service time.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1948

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Things of science

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Question Box

AERONAUTICS

How was the first flight of a guided missile achieved? p. 132.

BACTERIOLOGY

How could air-borne disease germs be checked? p. 131.

ENGINEERING

What has been proposed as a solution to congested traffic? p. 130.

What is the new home-heating device? p. 140.

Photographs: Cover, Westinghouse Electric Corp.; p. 130, Gibbs and Hill, Inc.; p. 131, Yale University; p. 133, Bell Telephone Laboratories; p. 135, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago.

MEDICINE

How does mental conflict express itself in the body? p. 135.

NUCLEAR PHYSICS

What is at the heart of Yale's new atom-smasher? p. 131.

PALEONTOLOGY

What "missing link" bones have been unearthed in South Africa? p. 140.

PUBLIC HEALTH

What other war may wartime volunteer workers be asked to fight? p. 142.

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