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

SMALL COLD-FRAME, for home gardeners who want to have early plants, is a box with sliding covers of a plastic-coated wire mesh. The cover is lightweight, shatter-proof and hail-proof; it admits ultraviolet and infra-red rays from the sun and holds the heat in.

Science News Letter, April 3, 1948

SPECIAL CONVERTERS make television available to the many people who live in city areas and elsewhere served by electricity of the direct current type. No special wiring is required for them; they operate with a new-type automatic remote starting system.

Science News Letter, April 3, 1948

SHOWER CONTROL for the bathroom consists of two special valves, one in the hot-water line and the other in the cold-water pipe, which are connected with two small copper tubes. It protects the bather from temperature changes when someone turns on a kitchen faucet. Science News Letter, April 3, 1948

RAILROAD CAR washer cleans the outsides of coaches, one car per minute, as the train passes. Upright rotary scrub brushes whirl as the car goes by. Jets of cleaning solution spray the coaches. then additional brushes shower cold water and give the train a final shine. Science News Letter, April 3, 1948



MUSICAL HORN, shown in the picture, has a full chromatic scale and is tunable by the mouthpiece. Fingering is like that of a simplified flute. The horn itself is made of a plastic that can stand abuse, careless handling and repeated cleanings.

Science News Letter, April 3, 1948

COLOR-PRINTING machine, that will print on any material from tissue paper to six-inch-thick metal, is reported in England. It is little larger than a

typewriter, and is designed for the rapid reproduction of drawings, signs, notices, and even paintings, on wood, rubber, glass, textiles, plastic or metal surfaces. Science News Letter, April 3, 1948

BUTT GAGE, to simplify and speed the hanging of doors, is a steel die with a curved handle. The three sides of the gage have chisel cutting edges, accurately ground and honed. In use, it is placed on the edge of the new door, and hammered in.

Science News Letter, April 3, 1948

d GLARE FILTER is for use in automobiles to eliminate the hazard caused by glaring headlights behind the car reflected from the rear-view mirror. It is a plastic shield, neutral in color, that can be swung in front of the mirror when needed.

Science News Letter, April 3, 1948

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# **Question Box**

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What drugs are being used to fight TB?

#### RADIO

What fallacy is there in the belief that television reception is restricted to line of sight? p. 213.

Photographs: Cover, p. 219, University of California; p. 211, National Bureau of Standards; p. 213, Eckert-Mauchly Computer Corp.; p. 214, Navy; p. 215, S. J. Inglis, Lick Observatory.