•New Machines and Gadgets•

PORTABLE service station supplies high-pressure lubrication for farm trucks and tractors in the field. The small unit, mounted on two wheels, has gasoline power, and its own air compressor which will inflate tires as well as put grease and oil where needed.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1945

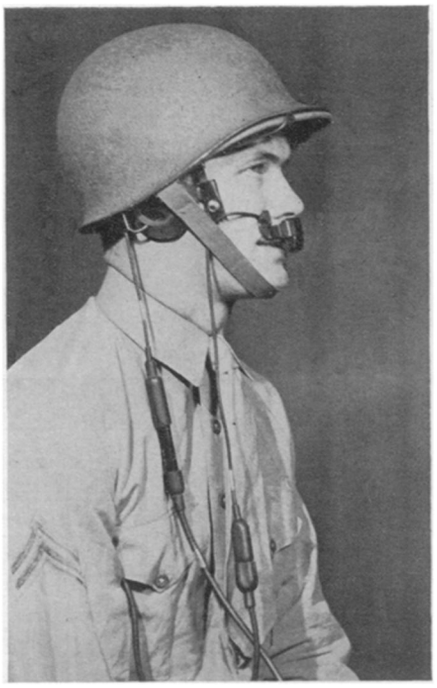
ELECTRIC MOTOR, explosion-proof, for use in rooms where the surrounding atmosphere is charged with ethyl ether vapor, is so enclosed in a metal casing that ignition of the vapor is prevented. It is built to meet the specifications of the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., and carries its label.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1945

STRAIN-GAUGE, to measure stress-strains in metal construction in bridges, automobiles, aircraft and other structures, consists of short fine wire cemented to the material under test. Instruments, electronically operated, measure and record the electrical resistance in the wire, which varies with elongations and contractions.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1945

LIP MICROPHONE is fitted with an especially designed gland that will pass air but exclude water. If the wearer gets ducked in a beachhead landing, the microphone, shown in the picture, is unharmed by the water. Up to 25 minutes under 10 inches of sea water is safely withstood.



Science News Letter, July 7, 1945

FOURTH-OF-JULY pistol, made of plastics instead of metal, has few joints and therefore probably longer life than the usual toy gun. When the trigger is pulled, an inner metal spring strikes the side, making a "bang" somewhat like that of a real pistol.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1945

GAS-PROOF shirt has special flaps that fold upon themselves in the front opening, and others at the cuffs. They prevent the entrance of poisonous gases when closed and buttoned, forming a triple-ply closure when pulled together and fastened over the chest.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1945

REAR-VIEW device for automobiles is made of a series of connecting tubes extending from a position in the fore part of the car through the rear, with a mirror at each angle. A wide-angle lens on the rear gathers the view and projects it on a ground-glass screen in front of the driver.

Science News Letter, July 7, 1945

If you want more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, *1719 N St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 266.*

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Question Box

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What is the scale of the miniature plastic animals at the Chicago Natural History Museum? p. 5.

Where published sources are used they are cited.

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