

New Gadgets Reveal Scope Of Tomorrow

Atomic energy was still in the stage of theory this week but science in its every day sense had reached out into another field to produce such extremities in gadgets as an electronic rat trap and an electronic blanket.

One of these articles had been patented and was in the stage of preliminary production while the other was already on the market. Both were viewed as further indication of the breadth of electronic application in the future.

The rat trap, which not only lures, but kills and deposits the dead rodent all in one operation, is the invention of Electronic Traps, Inc., of Rochester, N. Y. It is known as the Rochester Automatic Trap and claims all of the virtues of the Pied Piper with the exception of music.

Rat habits instead of human devices are the principle of lure employed to eliminate the need of poison and bait. Having discovered that rats follow the same routes in travel but avoid dead ends, the inventors say that they have employed this knowledge by constructing their trap in the form of a tunnel.

Both ends are open, but midway is an electric eye beam. When the rat breaks this, doors drop at either end, and the rat finds that his only escape is through a passage leading into the electrocution chamber. This, however, is a device displayed by inventors until another door opens and drops his dead body into a wire container. As promotion for their device the inventors say that it is end less in its operation and requires no attention. They claim a killing of 80 rats in one night for a single trap.

This was science's way of putting rats to sleep permanently but humans, on the other hand were told that they could awaken fully refreshed and healthy after a night's sleep under the new electronic blanket. Displayed for the first time in New York this week, it is a product of the Simmons Company.

Limited sales were scheduled until January, but general distribution was promised in the spring. Long, highly flexible wires are the secret of its bed and body warming capacities, but they are invisible and the blanket is a fluffy and light as an ordinary wool covering.

Regulated temperature is possible by thermostatic control of the fine filament of concealed wires, the Simmons Company said. Electronics tubes act as control and maintain the temperature setting despite open windows, sudden drops in temperature, or other factors contributing to the old type huffer of a cold night's sleeping. Moreover, the company points out, the new blanket does away with the old necessity of voluminous bed covering.

Sufficient in itself, the blanket it says simplifies the entire problem of bedding and laundry. The invention is represented as requiring little care and as being rugged enough to withstand washing in plain soap and water. An electronic safety tube is provided as a reassurance for customers who have a tendency to "shy" away from new gadgets.

Meanwhile, scientists were discussing new opinions that atomic developments for peacetime will not be available for years and that, when they come, they will not revolutionize rail and automobile transportation because of the tremendous weight of protective devices required to shield operators from rays. In England jet propulsion, however, was reported to have been advanced to the

The Message of Christmas

ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Alfred J. Buescher



It came to pass that there went out a decree from Caesar that all the world should be taxed, and all went, every one in his own city, to enroll



Joseph and Mary went out of the city of Nazareth unto the city of David which is called Bethlehem, for he was of the house of David



That night the Babe was born in a manger and shepherds watching their flocks were told of it by an angel and went to Bethlehem to see the Babe



The Child, Jesus, was taken to the temple; and Simeon took the Babe in his arms and blessed Him. MEMORY VERSE—Luke 2:14

Fred Ratcliff Electrical Inspector Here

Electrical inspectors to serve in the rural areas where electric current is being provided, have been appointed by the Haywood county commissioners, it was announced here Wednesday.

The appointment was made in compliance with the state insurance department, L. O. Schaub of the county home and farm agents.

Those who will serve in Haywood county are: Girdwood Smithers, Canton area; Fred Ratcliff, Waynesville, and J. R. Garanger, Hazelwood.

Mr. Schaub explained that all cities have rigid inspection, but in the rural areas much of the construction work is inadequate and likewise the type of inspection is often of little benefit.

The state insurance department has very few inspectors, so obviously they cannot check on all of the work being done throughout the rural areas, and all who plan to install current are urged, as a matter of economy as well as safety, to secure competent electricians and then follow with competent inspection before completing payment for the work.

George Trostel Chairman Red Cross Fund Canton Area

George M. Trostel has been named fund chairman for the 1946 Red Cross drive in the Canton area, according to H. E. Walker, chapter chairman of the Canton chapter.

In making the announcement, Mr. Walker states that the chapter is fortunate to have Mr. Trostel serve in this capacity. Mr. Trostel has been finance chairman for the chapter a number of years, and has served on the finance committee of the First Baptist church. He has been active in other civic developments.

Mr. Trostel is expected to name his operating committee at an early date.

SECOND ATOMIC BOMB LIFE INSURANCE FOR CREWMEN

In a recent interview at Miami Beach, Maj. Gen. Leslie R. Groves, army head of bomb development, told his interviewers that the dropping of the second bomb on Japan was a necessity to insure the safe return of crewmen of the Superfortress carrying the cargo.

"En route to Nagasaki a careful check determined that there was only enough gasoline for one run on the city, and that if the bomb were not dropped, thus lightening the load, there would not be enough gasoline left to take them back to the emergency landing field," the General declared.

stage of a one-wheeled "flivver" capable of 250 miles per hour.

Pagant in Bethlehem

There was nothing spectacular, nothing new about their entrance into Bethlehem—Mary on a donkey, Joseph on foot, the halter in his hand. No one noticed; no one cared. They were poor, ordinary, lowly Nazarenes, common peasants come to sign the census-rolls, foot-sore and weary, typical of others who had come for days in steady streams to the city they called their own. Bethlehem, tiny village, lay prostrate on a Judean hill. Swollen with strangers, aching with activity, moaning aloud in drunken music and lustful laughter—this was the village through which Mary and Joseph picked their way, searching for a room. From inn to inn they went in desperation... but always there was no room, not a single bed, even for Mary, heavy with child. At last, alone in the quiet outskirts, they chanced upon a rude shed built for cows, and there beneath the breath of beasts Mary brought forth her son, wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Somehow nature went wild that night, the world turned topsy-turvy—all Creation shook for joy and bowed toward the stable. Angels appeared to shepherds on the hillside and sang the news that He had come. He of whom the prophets spoke, for whom the world had waited. A pinpoint star fell from its orbit and traced a way across the midnight sky. Wise men saw the star and set out on camels to adore. Nature rejoiced and laughed for joy for He had come, this Child of Mary, on Christmas Day—He, the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Agred prophets, centuries before, had told about His coming—holy men with bushy heads, so speaking terms with God. For God had told them Adam's crime would one day be reversed; that He would send His only Son to ransom Adam's children. God had promised, and now His Word was Flesh; Christ had come to save the world from sin.

Strange birthplace for so great a birth—a stable filled with cows! Strange place to cuddle at Mary's breast, to feel the touch of gentle hands, to listen to her lullabies! Strange birthplace for the Son of God!

But that is what He chose—a strange beginning for a strange career. For thirty years He would live unknown, as Joseph's son in Nazareth, earning His bread with labor and sweat, a lowly Nazarene. And then one day He would leave His home and foot His way through Palestine, raising the dead, curing the sick, giving sight to the blind, his heart on fire to do the work for which He had come. People would follow Him, praise His name, on Sunday try to make Him King, and on Friday nail Him to a cross.

Strange career for the Son of God, nestled now in Mary's arms. Strange, indeed, that this little Child should come to earth that all men might be saved. Wondrous, that this Child who suckles should be the God who made us. Strange, but true. And breathless, we adore!

Nation Shows Is Foreseen In Christmas

With American streets deep in the medley of tinsel, Yuletide green, and the bright colors of gifts and ornaments, the nation this week was on the verge of recapturing the full pre-war spirit of its traditional Christmas holiday.

Surveys showed a serious skimp here and there in choice and availability of gifts, but trees were plentiful, ornaments ran to a more hazy spectrum than ever before, and display windows traced an interesting if not copious trend towards post-war development in design, fabrication, and use of synthetic materials.

Postal authorities were gauging a heavy volume of holiday mail and railroads generally were preparing for one of the worst strains in recent years. They estimated that hundreds of thousands of servicemen will use the railways over the holiday period, taxing every resource to the limit.

Because of this, they had issued a warning against holiday jams, asking civilians to defer any unnecessary travel to give servicemen a chance to reach their homes. Despite this and other handicaps and shortages, however, the public was reported to be in a Yuletide mood and papers generally were reflecting revived interest in the meaning and background of the season.

A few thumbnail highlights: ST. NICHOLAS dates back to the original Nicholas bishop of Myra in Lycia, in the fourth century, who was known and revered here and later as a giver of gifts.

EVERGREEN decorations and trees as holiday symbols date back to pagan celebrations in Druidic England, Rome, and barbaric Germania; the Low Countries also decorated trees, but Christian sym-

Hands And Teeth Not Dangerous Weapons, Declares La. Court

NEW ORLEANS—The Louisiana State Supreme Court has ruled that hands and teeth are not dangerous weapons.

The court has set aside the conviction of Carey Lee Calvin who had been sentenced for aggravated battery with a dangerous weapon. He had hit and bitten another man.

Refreshes Silk
Water in which peeled potatoes have been boiled is excellent for reviving worn silk. Sponge silk with this water. It will freshen it and make it look almost like new.

bology for this practice came from Scandinavia.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC had with hymns replacing ancient pagan chants, pred to stature with Handel and Bach and then took its first step toward modern popularity with composition of "Silent Night, Holy Night" in 1818 by Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber, Austrians.

SANTA CLAUS in American is variously traced, but a widely accepted version is that he evolved from a New Amsterdam Dutch custom of choosing a letterbox in dress as St. Nicholas and of bringing toys and sweets with the aid of his helper, Black Peter, children shortened the name Nicholas to Claus and Spanish influence changed the "Saint" to "Santa."

POPULAR MYTHOLOGY now rounding Santa Claus in America dates back to 1822 when Prof. Clement Moore wrote "Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house"

CHRISTMAS CARDS originated in 1848 when J. C. Horsley, a member of the British Royal Academy, designed and mailed out the first printed greeting.

CHRISTMAS

... brings to each of us an appreciation of those fine friendships and memories which make life worth living. And so at this glad Holiday Season, we extend to you our cordial greetings and wish for you both health and happiness throughout all the coming year.



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AND

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FOR THE

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to wish

YOU

a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year

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