

FARMERS, TOWNSPEOPLE ENJOY FINE UNDERSTANDING, FORUMS AGREE

On Monday evening, February 2, a varied panel was heard on the weekly farm forums radio broadcast on the topic "farm versus urban relations." The panel consisted of Kingsley Brown, editor of the St. John Telegraph-Journal and also former editor of the Rural Co-operator; O. J. W. Shugg, publicity director of the Dairy Farmers of Canada; Mrs. W. R. Walton, Oakville, president of the Canadian Association of Consumers, with chairman Ralph Marven, agricultural writer and commentator. He proved a very capable chairman, keeping his panel on the subject and summing up the conclusion of the facts very concisely.

Reports from Halton Forums claim this to have been one of the best broadcasts of the season.

Forums were asked, "Do you think there is good understanding between the farmers and the people of your neighboring towns and villages?" Some thought this should read, "people of your neighboring cities," rather than towns and villages. The latter are made up mostly of retired farmers who have experienced farm life, its pleasures and trials, whereas the city dwellers are inclined to underestimate the farmers' difficulties and the cost of producing farm crops. Most reports claimed there was a good understanding between farmers and the town and village folk.

The second question dealt with six different methods which would tend to improve this understanding between the farmers and the townspeople. However, Pinegrove suggested a method of their own: the country dweller to choose the partner for life from the city, while the city dweller choose his from the country.

Practically all groups agree that farm women should become more active members of the Canadian Association of Consumers. It is also suggested that a public relations representative be maintained by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture to present the farmers' case through publications that may be available and by means of public speeches. Regular contact by local forums with newspaper and radio stations was suggested.

Ligny Forums suggested a chart at the C.N.E. showing what share the farmer gets and the price the consumer pays for the food might prove beneficial towards a better understanding.

JOKER

"My good friends," boomed the political speaker, "I'm pleased to see this dense crowd here tonight."

"Well," said a voice from the back of the hall, "don't be too pleased. We ain't all dense."



by Kay Dee
Nobody in England can really be satisfied with the present, my friend Allison wrote from England recently. And since I know a lot of you have friends and relatives there or, failing that, at least have a strong interest in the British Isles, I thought I would tell you some of the things she said.

Salaries are microscopic, she stressed. One of her friends, who works at the Harwell observatory, had spent a great deal on an Oxford education. He had just managed to buy a house and was furnishing it on 350 pounds a year... how much would that be? Something over \$1,000 a year, I guess, and he and his wife were expecting a baby on that salary.

While the salaries are so low, prices are not accordingly low. "Cars are almost twice as much here as at home: clothes are slightly less expensive. Furniture prices are about equal. Rationed foods are less here, canned goods more."

"All in all then, materially speaking, life has become very difficult for the English family," said Allison. "It is all too easy to see why so many want to emigrate."

But Allison and her husband aren't considering emigrating, although they've had plenty of opportunity. They love England as so many do, and especially their house that I told you about last week.

Even more discouraging will be the prospect to some English housewives, since Allison wrote, of their homes flooded and property ruined. As if England hadn't enough straws to break the camel's back already. But she's a wonderful camel and certainly not broken, despite all the might-be "last straws."

Sunday we drove to Brampton, through the most imaginative winter weather possible. Sometimes the sky was low and dark and snow swirled over the windshield. Then the clouds would scud away and the winter sun would beam its warmest on us from a delphinium blue sky. The view from the hill-tops would change from monotone grey, polka dotted with snow, to a sunny roll of fields with soft-red barns and white and green houses and delicate brown-green branches in woods. The view was a great deal more entertaining than our Sunday afternoon conversation, for we were too full of a good dinner.

From winter we stepped right into the tropics in Brampton. After walking along catwalks, down stairs, up stairs and through corridors we came to hot, heavy-aired greenhouses at the Dale estate where 15,000 orchids were in bloom. Yes—15,000. And there were hundreds more in pots that had bloomed or were about to.

Most of them were the usual purple and white orchids (retailing for about \$12 each) but some I would never even have recognized as orchids. The spray orchids hooped out from their pots like branches of exotic apple blossom. One of the guides told us these were used in bouquets for weddings. That's something I'd love to see!

There were all kinds of variations and formations and colors, but the most beautiful orchids I saw were those white sprays. The retail price? I didn't want to spoil the beauty by asking!

We had a color camera with us, and in one greenhouse a tour guide suggested we take a picture of a very special group of orchids. He opened a door behind him and we slipped in. He pointed to a raised shelf where a dozen or so pots with blooming orchids had been placed. "That's \$4,000 worth up there," he said, and closed the door behind us. So there we were, alone with \$4,000 in leaf, blossom and flower pots. We took our picture rather gingerly. The greenhouse was full of other orchids too, and we felt as if we were standing in a roomful of growing gold.

I don't want to sound like a homey philosopher, but I have to tell the truth. We passed through greenhouses of daffodils and tulips on the way to the special orchid display—and I liked the sturdy, gay, spring-promising flowers there better than the orchids. Just shows what poor taste I've got.

Demonstrate Hems To Nifty Needlers

The members of the Hornby Nifty Needlers' Club held their seventh meeting on January 24 at the home of Martha May. The meeting opened with the Institute Ode. The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting.

Roll call was a suggestion for club exhibit or demonstration. Betty May demonstrated on "How to Hem." The leader showed how to sew on a button. The rest of the time was spent cutting out cuffs. The meeting closed with God Save the Queen and supper was served.

ALWAYS AN INVENTION

Every 15 minutes an amateur or professional inventor thinks up something that eventually will be patented, says Reader's Digest. Although some 90,000 trained technicians in research laboratories are constantly looking for patentable ideas, about half of all patents go to garage and basement amateur inventors.

Mothers Invited To Group Meeting

The members of the Hornby Nifty Needlers' Club held their eighth meeting on January 31, at the home of Betty and Marilyn May.

The meeting opened with the "Institute Ode." The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting. The roll call was "Something I have learned from this unit."

To this meeting mothers were invited to see the work the girls had done. The leader, Mrs. L. May gave a contest. The achievement day exhibit was practiced. The meeting closed with the National Anthem and a lunch was served by the hostess.

Know and obey your traffic laws—for life.

M. Bridgman B.A. At Plant Opening

Melvin H. Bridgman, B.A., a graduate chemist of the Coca Cola Co. at Montreal, was one of the staff to attend the opening of the new plant of the Coca Cola Co. at Bellville from Monday, January 23 until Wednesday night, January 26. He also was a guest at his brother Harold's home at the Trenton R.C.A.F. air base, while in the Bellville area.

Mr. Bridgman was a former Rockwood boy, a student of Guelph Collegiate and a graduate of McMaster University in chemistry. He has been with the Coca Cola Co. for the past 12 years.

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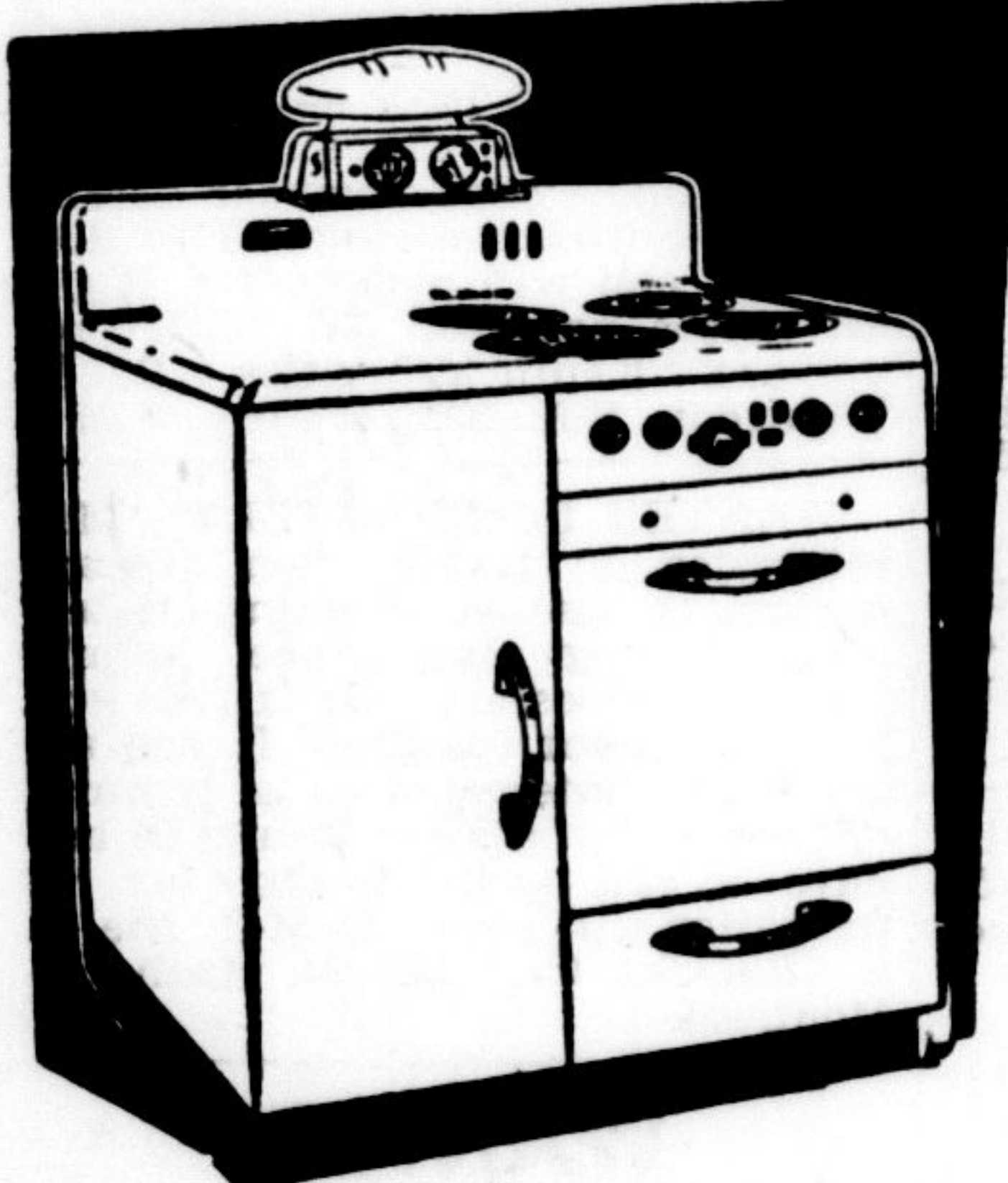
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