

Sports Slants - continued

The Rangers - I picked them for third spot - are finally winning games and so are Detroit Red Wings, the team I picked for last place.

In the west, the first two positions were occupied by the same two clubs I picked to finish first and second as of last Tuesday - Philadelphia first and Chicago second. But Minnesota North Stars and Los Angeles Kings, my picks for third and fourth, were tied for secondlast spot with 12 points apiece, just one ahead of the cellar dwellers, California Golden Seals.

I didn't realize that Canadiens would miss Ken Dryden as much as they have. In four games between Nov. 10 and 18, Canadiens won one and lost three, allowing 20 goals. And they were lucky to win that one game - against Buffalo. The Sabres scored five goals, usually enough to win a game, but the Canadiens managed eight. Oh please, Kenny Dryden, please change your mind and go back to the Canadiens, they need you badly!

And how about that Alex Delvecchio! He's certainly put some new life in those Red Wings of Detroit. As of last Tuesday, Alex, a Thunder Bay native, was 4-1 as new coach of the Wings and was being touted as Citizen of

the Year in the Michigan metropolis.

As much as I hate to admit it, Delvecchio has rejuvenated those Red Wings -- they beat the Canadiens 6-4 1 1/2 weeks ago in Detroit - and it appears they'll be tough to keep in the NHL basement.

Now if the Canadiens can find themselves a goalie ... Then again, maybe they need a new coach too

SCHOOL BOARDS CAN CONSERVE ENERGY

Education Minister Thomas Wells has suggested to Ontario school boards a variety of ways by which boards can conserve energy.

In a memo to board officials, Mr. Wells has asked that the temperatures in schools be held at 70 degrees rather than the usual 72 to 74 degrees. He said the two-degree reduction would not cause discomfort to students or teachers but would result in a significant saving of fuel oil. The majority of Ontario's schools are oil heated.

Other suggestions included: reducing classroom lighting on bright days and turning off corridor lights where possible; reduce or eliminate decorative and display lighting;

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CHRISTMAS IS A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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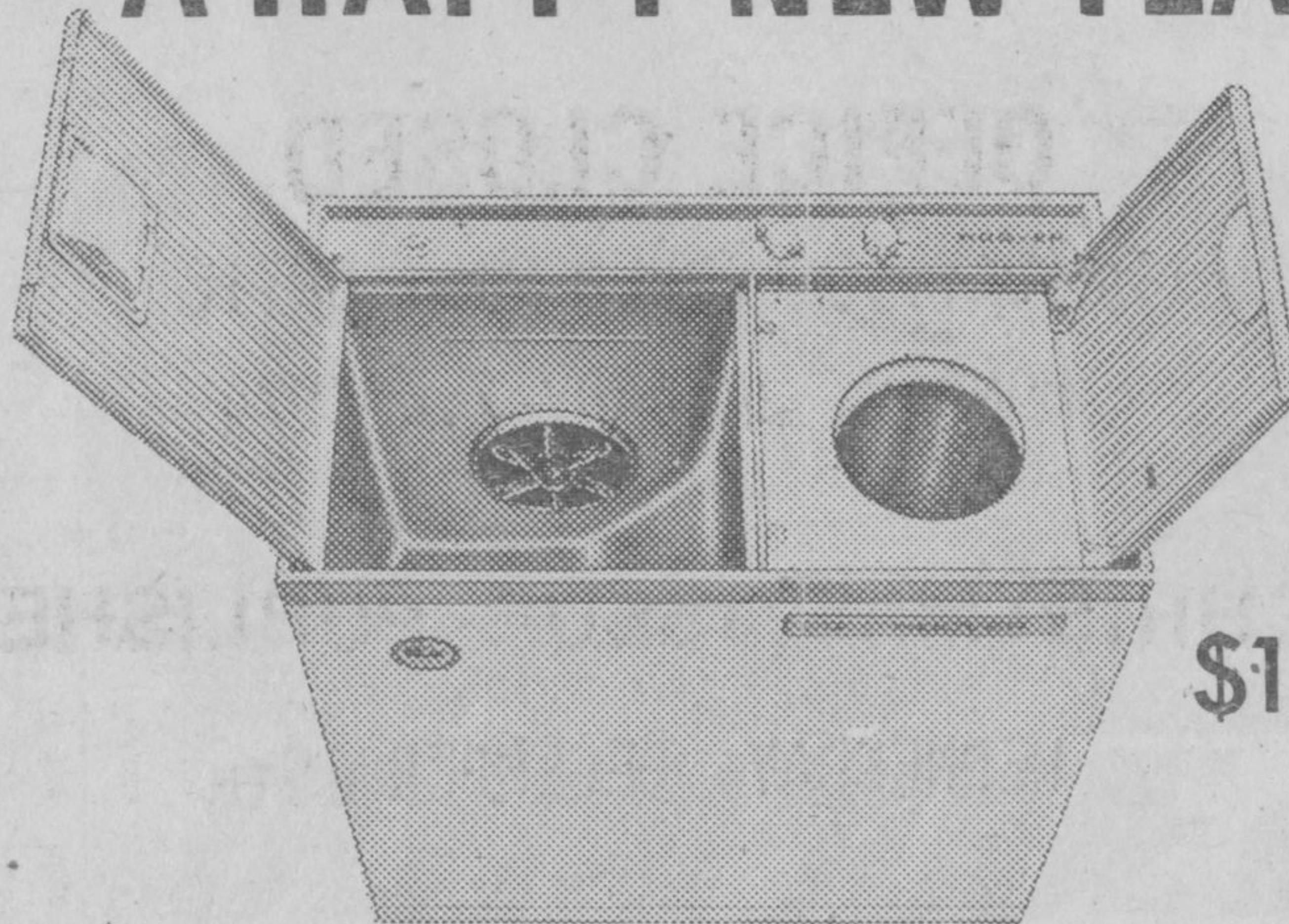
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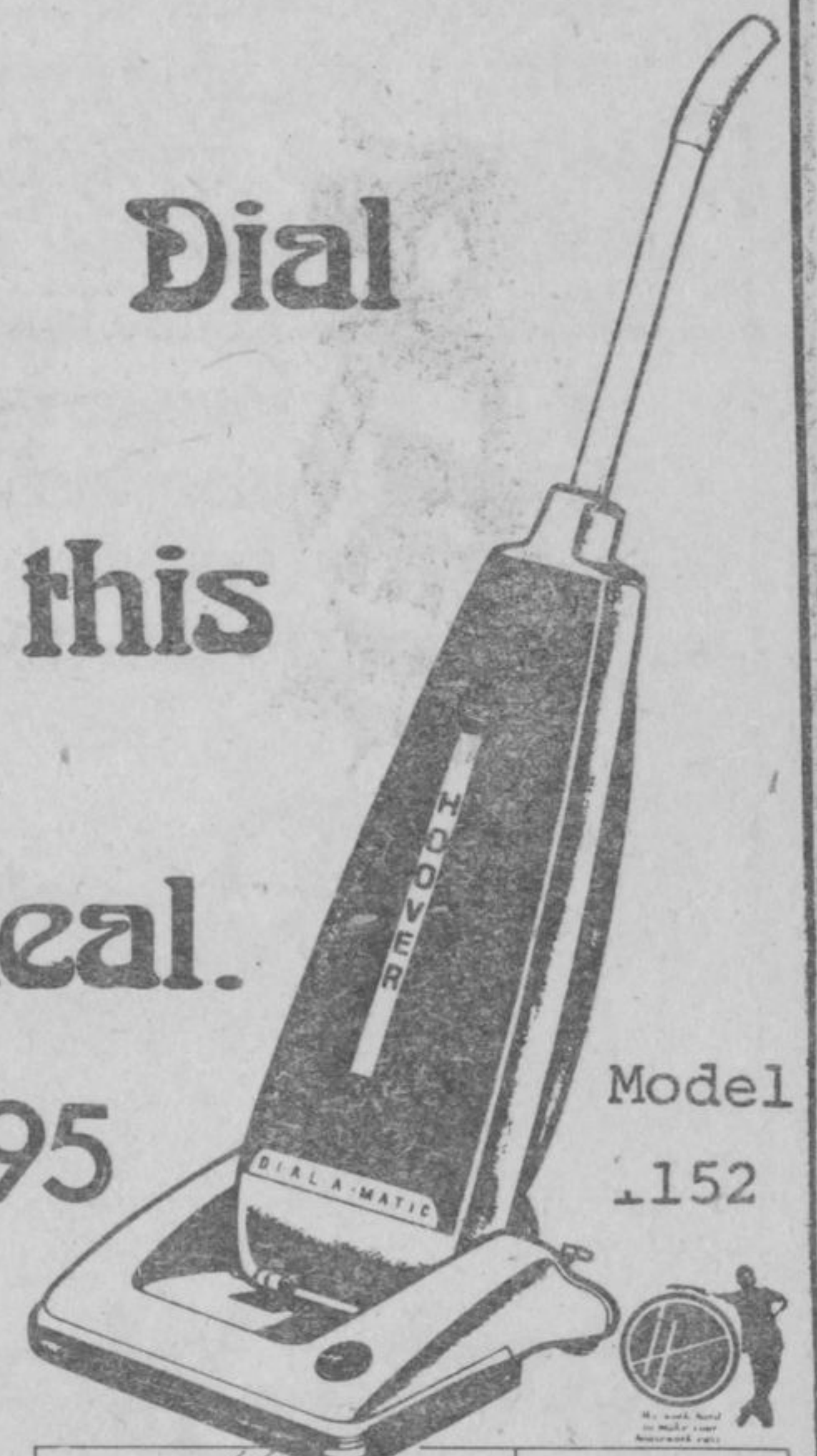
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