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FAMOUS DOG FANCIER TALKS ABOUT RABIES

(Continued from Page 54)

reach it, suck it out thoroughly, then wash it in hot water. Dry it and paint it thickly with iodine. Then forget all about it. It will heal. If you are afraid the dog may have been sick or rabid use carbolic acid instead of iodine. Wrap a bit of cotton on the head of a match or sliver of wood. Dip it into carbolic acid and swab out the wound with it. This will hurt

most annoyingly and the burn will last for some days. But it will kill any chance of infection if it be done soon enough.

Warns Against Worry

"I said, 'Then forget all about it.' This is not the least important part of the cure. You can worry yourself into a right delirious state of fright if you are foolish enough, and you can attribute every headache and twinge of rheumatism for weeks thereafter to incipient rabies. Treat the hurt, mentally and physically, as if it had been made by a nail point or by the teeth of a comb.

"This long-winded dissertation on dog bites may have been dull reading to you, but it may save you from wakeful nights of worry if ever you or anyone close to you should chance to be bitten. That is psychology too—human this time, not canine.

"It might be a sane idea for city councils to pause in their sporadic attempts to prevent rabies by muzzle and leash and special policing, long enough to pass an ordinance providing low and shallow drinking dishes to be placed here and there in shady spots and to be kept full of cool drinking water for stray dogs that are tortured by thirst.

"A dog does all his perspiring through his tongue. Unless a muzzle be of sensible type and strapped on in such a way as to allow him to pant, it is a torment and a menace.

"Also, his lolling tongue and dry throat demand frequent draughts of cool water. Of old, when a dog would not try to drink, it was supposed to be a sign he had hydrophobia. As a matter of truth, when a dog will not try to drink, it is a sign of nothing except that he does not happen to be thirsty.

"Speaking of dogs and city councils, as a rule a large dog should not be

kept in a large city. He is as bad for the city as the city is bad for him. I have refused, always, to sell a Sunnybank collie pup, at any price, to a buyer who lived in a metropolis. If other dog breeders would do the same, a growing wholesale nuisance and cruelty would be abated. A big dog in a city flat is as much out of place as a hawk in a canary cage. A five-minute romp in the country or suburbs is better for his health than is a five-mile miserable promenade on flagstones at the end of a leash. That is not only good psychology but good humanity.

"No fewer than forty people have written, asking me to indorse or to condemn the bills in various legislatures for the compulsory inoculation of all dogs against rabies. These letters go unanswered. I have no practical knowledge and no opinion on the subject. The serum may be effective, or it may be injurious, so far as I know. It is a theme on which I am profoundly ignorant.

"If your dog is moping or off his feed, here is a remedy which, three times out of five, will bring him back to health: Give him a tablespoonful of castor oil. Two tablespoonfuls, or even more, will do him no harm if he be fairly large. It is loathsome stuff, and he will detest taking it. But, whatever is amiss, the castor oil cannot harm him. More times than not, it will cure him.

"If he does not get well quickly after such a dose, remember it is idiotic economy to try to save a two-dollar veterinary fee by giving continuous home treatment to a two-hundred-dollar dog. Send at once for the best vet within call. In the long run you will save money and heartache thereby. Remember also that the odds are more than a thousand to one against his having rabies."

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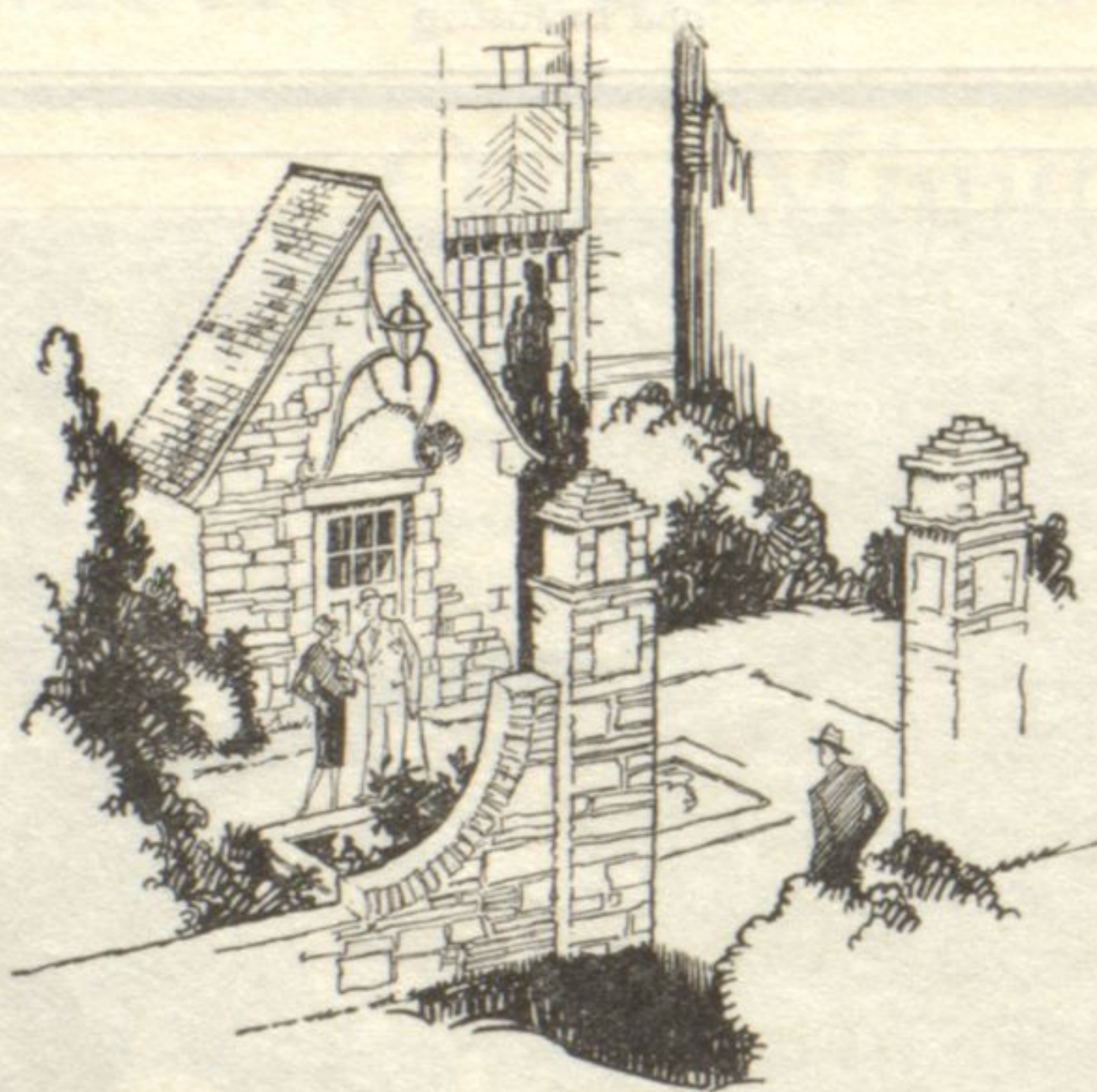
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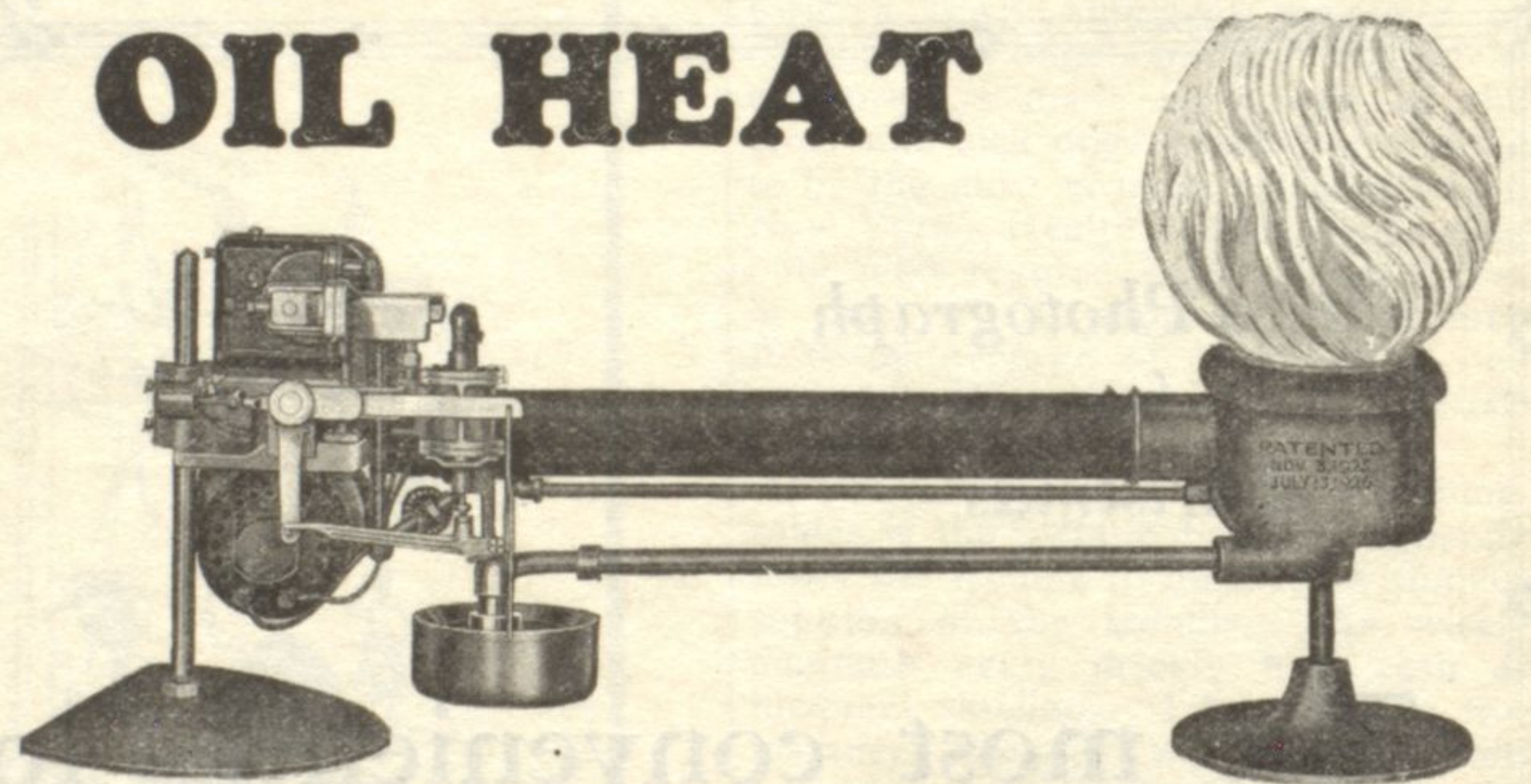
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