



**CANADIAN  
PLOWMEN  
ABROAD**  
by ALEX MCKINNEY Jr. ★ Director  
ONTARIO  
PLOWMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(Editor's Note— This is the field of icebergs, so you might call second of a series of weekly stories which Alex McKinney Jr., of Brampton, Ont., a director of the Ontario Plowmen's Association, will write about the visit of Canada's champion plowmen to the British Isles, West Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands.)

ENGLAND—Here we are in the Mother Country. Since I last wrote we've put the Atlantic Ocean behind us, we've seen quite a bit of England and the two champion plowmen, Jim Eccles and Ron Marquis, have won prizes at the Newquay plowing match. They did themselves proud.

As far as our sea voyage is concerned we didn't run down any whales or get tangled up in any

it uneventful. But I must say we found 'life on the rolling deep' aboard the Queen Mary quite pleasant. We can recommend it to all our friends.

Within fifteen minutes after the ship docked at Southampton officials of the Canadian and Ontario governments over here and a representative of Anglo-American Oil Co. came on board and welcomed us to England. It was a warm welcome—in fact everywhere we have gone since our arrival overseas we have been warmly greeted. One still sees evidence of the hardships these people have suffered and the shortages and controls under which they still live. But despite all this they are the most hospitable

people you would want to meet.

One of the highlights of our week in England was the plowing match at Newquay I mentioned earlier. There were 67 entries in plowing and 25 others in hedging and thatching. Our boys used Canadian plows and plowed the two straightest lands in the field. Jim Eccles came third in the tractor class and Ron Marquis was fifth in the horse-drawn plow class.

The boys did remarkably well when you consider they were competing against match plows equipped with wheel presses, floats and just about every other conceivable device. Another thing I noticed was that nearly all the plowmen were older men who had been competing in these matches for years. I only saw two boys who looked as if they were under 20 years of age. When the judge suggested the boys were using their brawn instead of their brains I felt like saying that one result of using stock plows in Ontario matches was that the average age of the plowmen at Burford last year was in the twenties.

Since the match we've had a good look at conditions over here. As far as the weather goes it is much as it was when we left home. It has been a very open winter

with scarcely any frost at all. The fields are still green, grass is growing and in southern England the cattle are nearly all in the fields. We've been told by the farmers we've met that the stock hasn't required as much supplementary feeding this winter as in other years.

The farm fields in Great Britain are much smaller than ours. They are irregular in shape and surrounded by hedges of various kinds. In the Midlands we noticed that some of the farmers are removing their hedges to make their fields larger and more suitable for power machinery.

I might mention here that there are more tractors per acre in Britain than in Ontario and there are very few horses in the better farming areas.

Some of the things we learned about agriculture in Great Britain made us realize that every country has its own way of doing things. For instance the average farmer in Britain keeps as much livestock but uses more labor on 100 acres than we do on a 200-acre farm in Ontario. J. M. Woodley of Newquay is a good example. He farms 105 acres of land which he leases from the King. On that farm he keeps 60 head of purebred

Devon including 15 cows milking, 60 breeding ewes; a flock of 150 hens; and last year he marketed 50 hogs.

Besides this livestock Mr. Woodley grows five acres of early potatoes which he will plant this month (February) and harvest in early June. After that he will use the same land for broccoli or Brussels sprouts. He operates the farm with the help of three men, two small tractors and two horses. He hires extra labor in harvest time.

Mr. Woodley's farm buildings are stone and one storey high, maybe 150 years old. They are grouped around his house which is older still. Farms such as this rent for four or five pounds per acre (about \$13 to \$16 at the present rate of exchange).

Restrictions and controls are the chief cause of complaint here. Colored gasoline in what seems to be sufficient quantities can be obtained for tractors, but only eight gallons a month are allowed for cars and as a result there are few on the road. Farmers are told what to grow and they are graded A, B and C by the Agricultural Committee according to their efficiency.

The prices of some every-day

things are lower here than in Canada. Meat sells from 1s. 6d to 2s (about 22-30 cents a pound)—but it is tightly rationed. Some other foods are also cheap. The difference in price is made up by subsidies which cost the taxpayer 400 million pounds sterling last year. Many other goods are expensive and heavily taxed. Cigarettes are 3s. 6d. (about 50c) for a package of 20.

I think this is enough for this letter but I must say here that we've had a very interesting visit and I'd like to come back to England in the spring or summer when all the trees and hedges are green. I'm sure it must be beautiful.

We are all excited now about our visit to the continent, and are looking forward to the trip. I'll tell you about some of our European experiences in my next letter.

**Agnes MacPhail  
Visits New Ontario**

Dear People of York East:

When the session opens on the 16th of February, we will have returned from this trip through Northern Ontario which we are now on. Reaching the head of the lakes, the next sight was the Steep Rock Mining of iron ore, on the railroad the stop is called Atikokan, but the importance of the iron deposit far outweighs the name of the station so to most people the area is known as Steep Rock. The mining operation is called pit mining, that is there is no shaft, but a scooped out basin over an area of fifty acres, which is at its deepest two hundred and fifty feet getting shallower toward the brim.

The most remarkable thing is that this deposit used to lie under a lake and the whole lake had to be drained with the river feeding it diverting into a new channel. The water of the lake was actually pumped out providing access to the iron deposits.

The ore is broken up by putting dynamite in holes ten or twelve feet apart, covering quite an area and blasting all at the same time. The terrific concussion smashes the ore body into small fragments after which it is scooped up by a shovel with a four ton bucket and trucked to, railway cars and then shipped by boat from Port Arthur and sold to United States for processing for which we get \$6.00 per ton. As a Canadian it is humiliating to find the processing is almost all done on the other side of the line, and a great deal of the money to develop Steep Rock came from United States. I cannot see why Canada could not have taken care of the development. I agree that it was too much for the province but if we really wanted to do it that way, surely the Dominion Treasury could help the province develop Canadian resources.

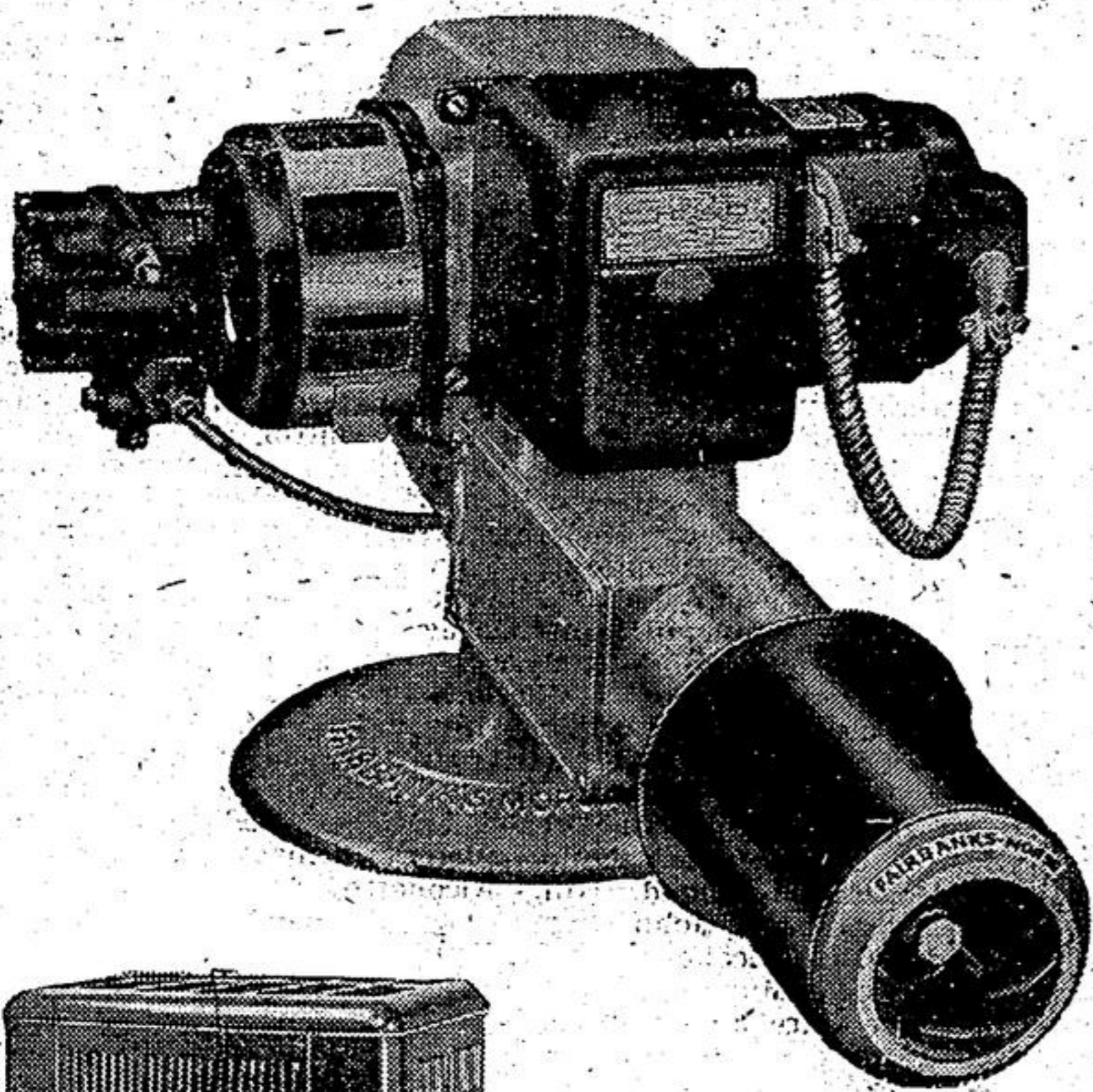
After the train journey from Steep Rock, we had breakfast in Port Frances, and what a breakfast! Ham and eggs followed by the most delicious fish caught in local waters. I just had a glimmer of sense left, and didn't eat the ham and eggs and greatly enjoyed the fish. We travelled by buses to Sioux Narrows and detoured to see a lumberman's lodge, which was indeed beautiful with acres of clipped lawns and a blaze of beautiful flowers. The house itself was a dream of a place, but from there to The Narrows we never saw another lawn worthy of the name, nor a really comfortable residence. I thought how much better it would be if each little farm had some beauty, and the lumber magnet not so much. (Don't mind me, I'm just queer). The Hon. Harold Scott was very delightful and tried to have every member of the party share in the various ways of travel. At Sioux Narrows he asked me if I would like to fly to Kenora. I thought I would, but I had never been up before in a small plane, which was only about as big as my new Austin. I took the precaution of sitting next the pilot, but that didn't give me a feeling of security as we bobbed along over the forty thousand islands in the Lake of the Woods. There must have been wings on the plane but they were certainly behind me so that I had a non-obstructed view of the lake very, very much lower. I have always enjoyed flying before but in all other cases the plane was a large one. On this occasion the smooth landing was a great relief, and taxiing into Kenora like arriving home after a long absence.

The Hon. Harold Scott had intended that the party would be housed in the lodge formerly owned by the late Peter Heenan, but two days before our arrival the lodge burned down which made a bit of bother about housing us. After the hotel was filled, private homes were opened. The legislative party were entertained most royally at every stop, and at Keewatin our host was the Ontario & Minnesota Pulp & Paper Company, and we were received by an American, who is, I am sure, a fine person, but again I felt humiliated that it was not a native of our own country, but the entertainment was lavish, if a little too liquid, and the friendship warm. The amusement provided in Kenora was a beautiful boat ride on the Lake of the Woods.

**Now AVAILABLE . . .  
To Serve You Better . . .  
THE COMPLETE LINE OF  
FAIRBANKS-MORSE HOME  
and FARM EQUIPMENT**

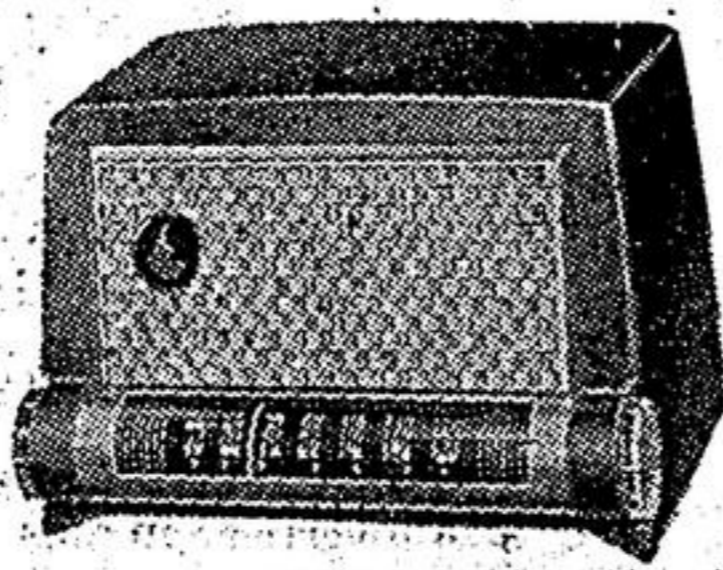
MADE IN CANADA

Budget Terms Arranged - 24 Months To Pay



**FAIRBANKS-MORSE  
AUTOMATIC OIL BURNER**  
For year-round, Trouble Free Operation. No banking of fires at night, no rush to a cold dusty cellar at an early hour to stoke up the fire, no ashes, no dangerous coal gas. Your home will be at the same even temperature at all times with a Fairbanks-Morse Automatic Oil Burner.

RETAIL AND WHOLESALE



**EMERSON  
PERSONAL RADIO**  
Emerson Radios offer you top value in every way . . . beautifully styled, outstanding reception and tone and prices that make it possible for everyone to enjoy quality radio performance. Emerson models offer a choice in radios to fit into any room in the house.

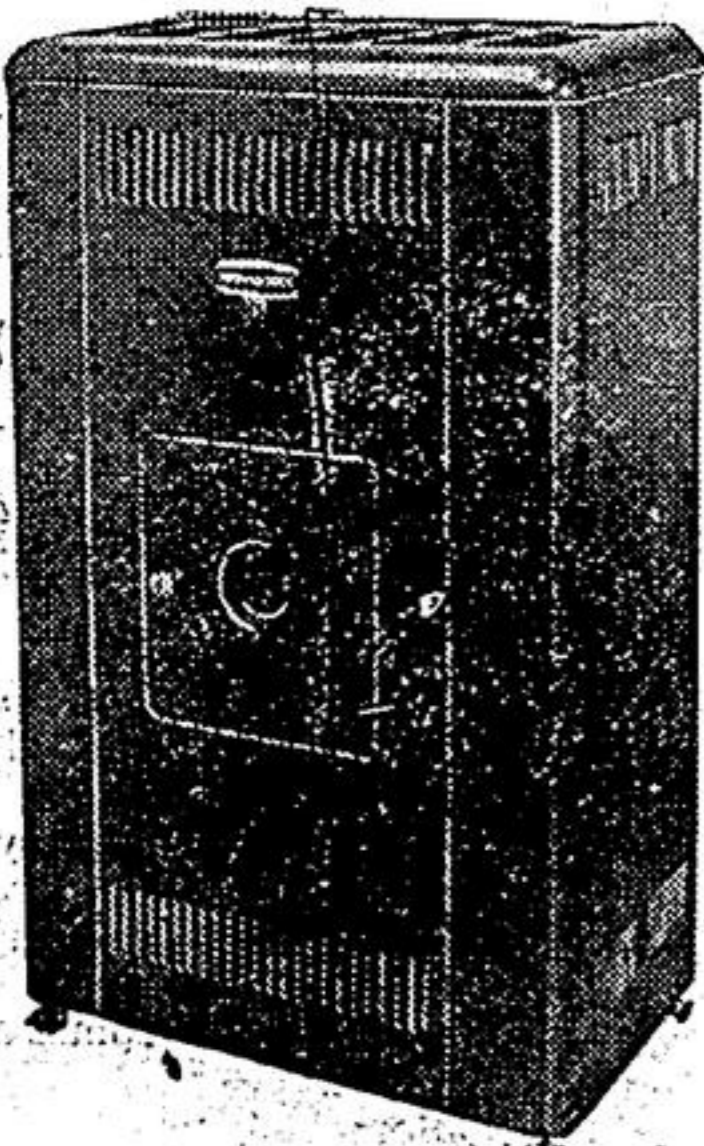
RETAIL ONLY



**FAIRBANKS-MORSE SHALLOW  
AND DEEP WELL  
WATER SYSTEMS**

This compact shallow well water system represents the best in water systems in engineering. The unit is completely assembled and ready to install. Featuring Double-acting, self-oiling, self-priming Pump, Air Volume control, Relief Valve, Single Phase Motor with V-Belt Drive.

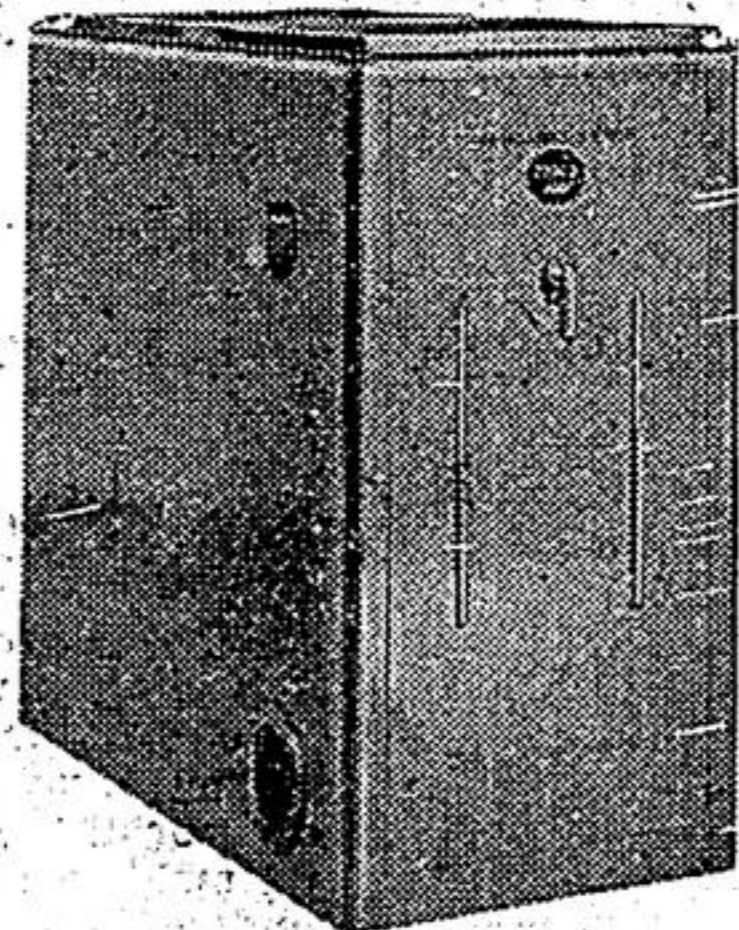
RETAIL ONLY



**FAIRBANKS-MORSE  
OIL HEATERS**

Give you ECONOMY with COMFORT and CONVENIENCE. The new patented burner provides a steady flow of heat that reaches into every corner.

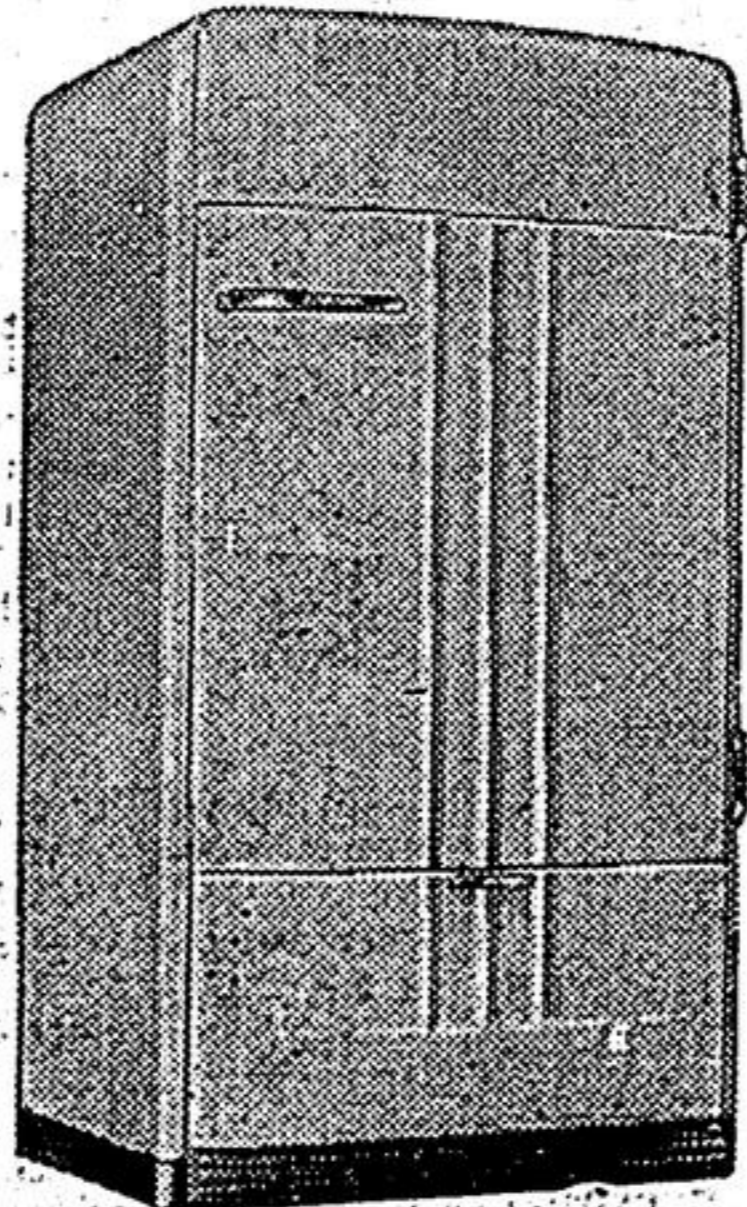
RETAIL & WHOLESALE



**FAIRBANKS-MORSE  
Air Conditioning  
Unit.**

FOR COAL OR OIL  
Modern and attractive in appearance yet durably built, these units are very efficient and economical to operate.

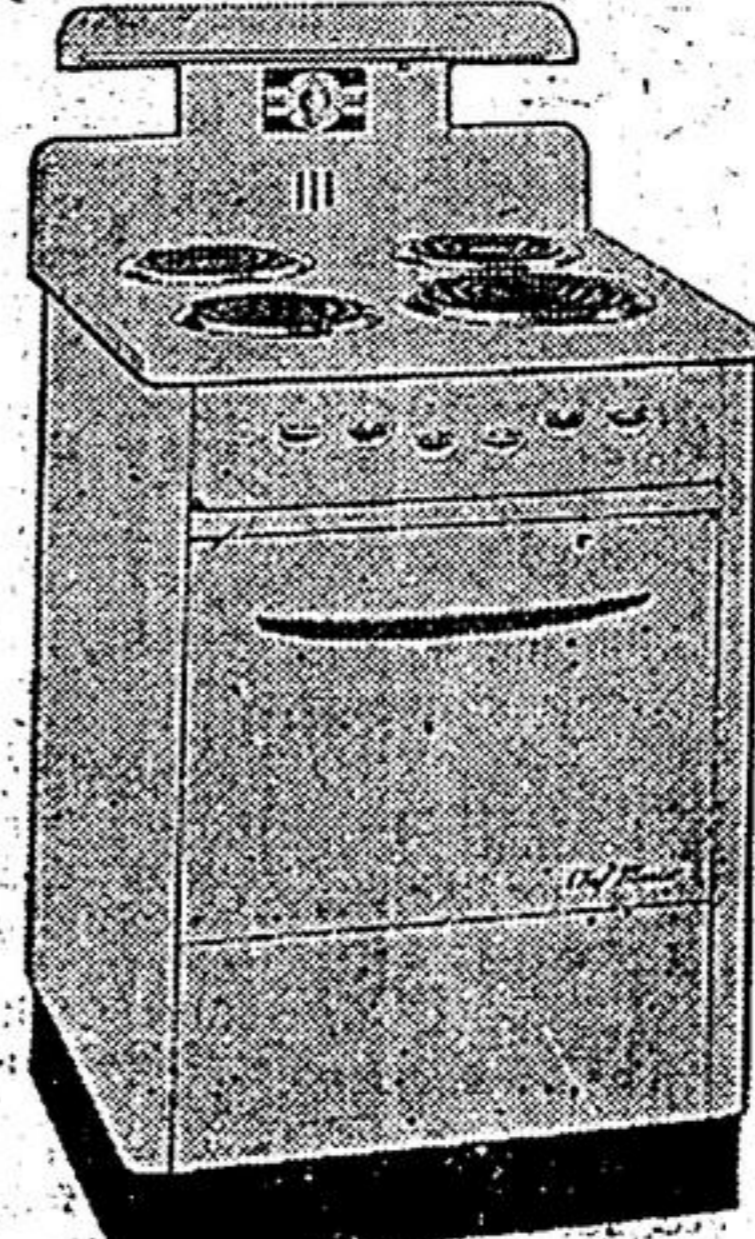
RETAIL & WHOLESALE



**GIBSON  
REFRIGERATOR**

You will want your new refrigerator to serve you faithfully for a long time to come. The 'Gibson' will do just that.

RETAIL ONLY



**FAIRBANKS-MORSE  
CHEF-MASTER  
ELECTRIC RANGES**

Combine cooking ability along with Gleaming Beauty. Compact, with all big range features. Shown above Model F-M C-4.

RETAIL ONLY

GET FULL DETAILS OF THESE POPULAR APPLIANCES NOW!!

FROM

**R. C. BLEWETT**

Corner Kennedy Rd. and Main St.  
**AGINCOURT**

Phones: Agin. 320-W - GOver 6993

BACKED BY 117 YEARS OF MANUFACTURING EXPERIENCE