

Canada link gets the chop

BY TOM BROWNE

SHANNON AIRPORT suffered a blow this week when it was revealed that Air Canada had terminated scheduled flights through the airport.

The severing of the link by the two airlines means that Canada-bound passengers will in future have to travel via the U.S. or avail of services out of London.

The Air Canada service had been in operation for about 30 years. At one period the company employed a staff of six at Shannon and operated five return flights to Montreal and Toronto each week, linking up with London, Frankfurt, Paris and Vienna.

Now to go through New York or Boston and had to get American visas. The decision of Aer Lingus and Aer Canada was all the more regrettable as there was a high level of investment in this region from Canada.

BUT CIE CONSIDER SHANNON RAIL LINK

BY FERGAL KEANE

CIE ARE conducting a feasibility study on a projected rail link between Limerick and Shannon, Mr. Barry Kehoe, area manager, disclosed this week.

The possibility of such a link is unlikely in the immediate future, he says. It is likely to cost in the region of £13 million, but a full estimate will not be available until the feasibility study is completed.

The idea of a rail link has gained in popularity as trans-Atlantic traffic into Shannon is expected to increase rapidly in the 80's.

The commuter traffic between Limerick and Shannon alone would not justify the building of a line, according to Mr. Kehoe, who said that the main volume of traffic would come from people who were connecting by train from Shannon to Dublin.

"People landing in Shannon could travel to Dublin in two hours," said Mr. Kehoe. He said that the project would not get under way before the late 1980's and that all possibilities would be looked into.

The rail link would involve a 135-mile journey between Shannon and Dublin though the possibility of using a small plane feeder service between Shannon and Dublin has also been suggested as an alternative.

Large capacity double-decker buses are also being looked at as an economical method of transporting the trans-Atlantic travellers to Dublin.

"We are presently looking at files and all possibilities are being examined," said Mr. Kehoe.



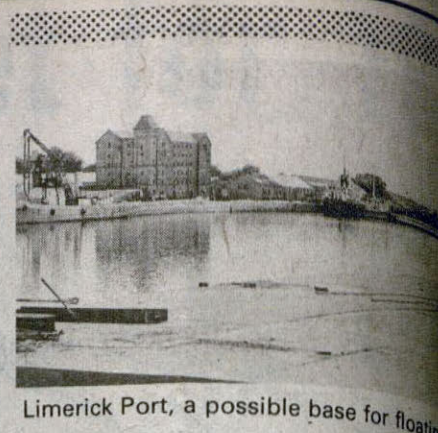
Mr. Kehoe: examining all possibilities.

Still under consideration

The present position with the Kilmeehy sewerage scheme is that contract documents in August 1977 are still under consideration in the Department of the Environment. This was stated by Mr. Sylvester Barrett, Minister for the Environment in a letter to the Minister for Justice, Mr. Gerry Collins. Mr. Barrett added that it was not possible to say at this stage when approval might issue to the scheme having regard to the many demands on the capital available for water and sewerage schemes.

Limerick County Council has a substantial programme of water and sewerage schemes in construction at the present time, including, Murroe (£240,000), Mountcollins (£126,000), Ballingarry (£213,000), Kiltcealy (£120,000). In addition to these, work is in progress on Limerick city water supply improvement scheme (£1.8m), Newcastle West (£1m) and Shannon Estuary (£6.6m).

Foynes harbour, another possible location for an Aughinish liner.



Limerick Port, a possible base for floating

Ocean liner may house Aughinish work force

BY JIMMY WOULEFE

AN OCEAN liner may be berthed in the Shannon Estuary to provide living accommodation for the avalanche of new workers who will join the Aughinish pay-roll during the next six months.

It is expected that the present work-force of 1,000 will be more than doubled by next July and an accommodation crisis is facing Alumina Contractors Ltd.

A number of options which include the use of a luxury liner are being considered. If a liner is used it will be berthed at either Foynes or Limerick harbour. Talks have taken place between both harbour authorities and Alumina Contractors Ltd.

Senior executives have also travelled to Scandanavia where this system of accommodation has been successfully employed on major off-shore developments.

A leading shipping agent has also been asked to keep a look-out for a suitable vessel. Other options are also being investigated and these include: USING Mungret College as an accommodation site. USING a number of several hundred accommodation units to mobile homes. At present, contractors have been willing to provide accommodation, but the centre will be a "fall-back base" as permanent accommodation is being sought. Alumina Contractors have carried out surveys to assess the bed space available in a 30-mile radius of the site. However, the disappointed owners of places offered to the city and this fell far short of projected figures. This has been need for at least accommodation for a number of years. It is estimated that a liner would house as many as 1,000 workers. The new workers engaged for the mechanical contract have been awarded by William Press of England. A. O'Neil of Dublin.



Mrs. E. Harnett, Lower Pur, Abbeyfeale, won a Bush colour television with matching stand in the national guaranteed Irish competition operated by Spar. She is pictured (second left) being presented with her prize at her local Spar shop. Also in the photograph (from left): Mrs. Vera Broderick, proprietor, Mr. D. Culhane, Spar retail adviser, and Mr. P. W. McLoughlin, Spar development manager.

BRIDGE NORTH MUNSTER REGION

The regional team of four, which is being sponsored by G. McKee & Co. Ltd. (Computer Consultants, Limerick, Dublin and Galway) will be held on this Sunday.

The first four teams in order of merit qualifying for Keltourne Cup play-off, and also the inter-provincial play-off. The team of four for inter-provincials will be held in the Galtee Hotel, Cahir, on Monday, March 17th.

The regional intermediate A pairs will be held on Sunday, Feb. 24th, in the Monument Club, 67 O'Connell Street to regional hon. sec. before Wed., Feb. 20th.

Regional pairs, Old Ground Hotel Trophy: 1. W. Dowling and J. Barry (Cashel); 2. Mr. and Mrs. H. Lynch (Limerick); 3. B. O'Keefe and Mrs. J. Hayes (Nenagh); 4. J. Coman and M. Butler (Tipperary); best 1st session; 5. W. A. McMahon and P. Liston (Limerick); 6. Mrs. G. O'Donnell and Mrs. M. Knowles (Clonmel); 7. W. Cashin and K. Cashin (Thurles); 8. Mrs. H. Scully and Mrs. H. Magner (Ennis); 9. Mr. and Mrs. J. Kneeshaw (Clonmel); best 2nd session; 10. F. Pierce and W. Horgan (Listowel); Intermediate B pairs: 1. Mr. B. Whelan, Mrs. O'Connor; 2. Mr. and Mrs. F. O'Connor; 3. Mr. and Mrs. M. O'Connor.

The first two pairs qualifying for the pairs final to be held on 29th/30th March in the Hotel Victor, Dun Laoghaire.

1979 BRIDGE CLUB Pairs championship-1. Mr. and Mrs. M. Lynch; 2. Mr. and Mrs. A. Elmes; 3. W. A. McMahon, P. Liston; 4. E. Chambers, Mrs. M. Cooper; 5. J. G. Julian, Miss M. Keane; 6. P. A. Keane, Mrs. E. M. Ryan.

1st session winners, E. Motherway, A. Cleary. 2nd session winners, E. Chambers, Mrs. M. Cooper.

LIMERICK BRIDGE CLUB Pairs championship-1. Mr. and Mrs. W. Hickey; 2. Mrs. K. M. Byrne, Mrs. A. Walsh; 3. Mrs. M. Quinn, Mrs. M. Kavanagh; 4. W. A. McMahon, Mrs. A. Smith; 5. Mrs. E. M. Ryan, Mrs. M. Heffernan; 6. Mrs. P. Elmes, Mrs. M. O'Brien.

1st session winners, Mrs. P. Elmes, Mrs. M. O'Brien. 2nd session winners, Mrs. E. M. Ryan, Mrs. M. Heffernan.

Airline tickets are cheaper, but the extras add up, and up, and up AIR TAXI from SHANNON EXECUTIVE AVIATION makes economic sense

SCOUT NOTES

NOVENA FOR THE SICK There was a fine turnout of Cub Scouts representing the various units in the diocese at the Novena for the Sick on last Monday night, at the Francis Church.

SCOUT SHOP All units who intend holding investigations before St. Patrick's Day, should contact the Manager of the Scout Shop immediately, in order to give him sufficient notice, in the event of it being necessary to order any part of the uniform.

I would suggest that each unit should bring along their boys to visit the Scout Shop, and they will thereby see for themselves the comprehensive range of scouting equipment and books which are available. There are numerous books on Scout Craft/Skills, Cubbing and Venturing which would be of great benefit to the leaders and boys. It would also help to broaden and advance their scouting knowledge together with giving them new ideas on programming, etc. I hope that my suggestion will be taken up seriously and by doing so, it should be of tremendous benefit to all.

ST. JOSEPH'S UNIT There is still a limited number of tickets available for our annual social, which takes place on Saturday, 16th February, at the Savoy Banqueting Suite. Those who are interested in attending should contact Mr. Thomas Deegan immediately, in order to secure their tickets.

DUNDEALGAN, ST. JOSEPH'S We held our cooking project on last Saturday, and it proved very successful. Most of the boys cooked a fry. However, two of the boys were very adventurous. They made meat pancakes. They even made the batter in the hall. A/C/S/L. Deegan tossed the pancakes in the air and luckily, they landed back in the pan. Overall there was a very good effort by all the boys and each cub got great satisfaction out of what he cooked. The cooking and hygiene was excellent. The following boys passed their merit badge tests: Alex Lynch, hobbies; Patrick Moore, home help; Brian Meade, book reader; Philip Flannery, home help; Ciaran Keogh, home help/hobbies; Niall O'Sullivan, hobbies; Colin Deegan, hobbies/entertainer; James Barry, hobbies; Raymond Jordan, home help/hobbies.

All cubs are to be present in full uniform on this Saturday at 11 a.m.

23rd LIMERICK, CHRIST THE KING, CAHERDAVIN Cub Pack "Redgate". The past few weeks have been extremely busy ones for us. Last week we were hosts to the Parteen Pack and enjoyed a very full programme with our Co. Clare friends. Later that evening we had an indoor campfire in the midst of which we were visited by P. J. Killackey, Director of Cubs, NHO, also members of the National Training Team and members of our own commissioner staff, including our Area Commissioner, W. O'Loughlin. The pack and leaders would like to thank the people who contributed to making this a memorable evening, in particular W. Duggan, C.S.L. (Parteen) and Ollie McLoughlin (Caherdavin). The Tuesday Cub pack, Caherdavin, acted as co-hosts to the Redgate Pack.

On Sunday last the pack had an enjoyable soccer match with the Clonmacken Pack. Despite mud and very unpredictable conditions it was most promising.

Cub Pack "Clonmacken": The pack had a most enjoyable game with their Redgate counterparts on Sunday last at the Greenhills. Overall, it was a good day for the Clonmacken pack, who turned a 3-0 advantage into a final 6-2 victory. Congratulations to all those who participated in this fine game, and we congratulate the Redgate pack who gave a fine sporting performance. Man of the match was John McGovern, who found the Redgate net three times. Others to sparkle were Barry Guidera, Gordon Ryan, Paul Kennedy, Michael O'Halloran and Kieran Sweeney.

The pack are at present preparing for their visitors who will be coming to Limerick in the next few days. A very interesting and enjoyable programme is prepared.

All those who wish to go swimming on this Friday, February 8th, please meet at the Cub Den at 6.30 p.m. with togs and caps. We appeal to the parents to help us with transport.

O'Riordan's latest The O'Riordan family of Carrigparson, Ballysimon, whose home was burnt in a blaze last week, have been re-housed in Patrickswell by Limerick County Council.

JUDGE ON LIMERICK 'BEASTS OF PREY'

BY LEADER REPORTER

"IT IS my duty to protect the citizens of Limerick against beasts of prey on the streets and to try to make the streets safer. I am not going to tolerate bully boys, who will go to jail."

This was stated by Judge John Gleeson at Limerick Circuit Court when he jailed two men for assault. Peter Barrett (54) of 4 Smith Pettit Avenue, Kilsilly, was jailed for six months for common assault on John King at Thomas Street on the night of June 6th last. The judge said that Barrett had played a minor role in the assault.

Michael Fitzgerald (30), of 20 Hennessy Avenue, Kilsilly, was jailed for 12 months for assaulting King, thereby occasioning him actual bodily harm. Fitzgerald was given a concurrent sentence of six months for common assault.

Fitzgerald pleaded guilty at the same court to breaking into the Stella Broom, between 10.15 p.m. and 9 a.m. on September 11th last and to stealing a total of £2,100 from slot machines and with causing malicious damage to the amount of £700.

Commenting on this case, Judge Gleeson said that he took a serious view of this crime because at that time Fitzgerald had been on bail in relation to the assault charges. He sentenced him to two years in jail for breaking into the Stella and stealing, and a twelve months concurrent sentence was imposed for the malicious damage charge.

Foot patrol Giving evidence in the assault charge, Garda Patrick Walsh told the court that he was on foot patrol in the Thomas Street area on the night of June 5th last.

At around 12.45 a.m. he noticed a row on the street. He immediately went to the scene. He saw John Fitzgerald kick John King several times, both on the chest and face. King was on the ground and was bleeding from the face. Witness said that he also saw Peter Barrett at the scene. He saw him throwing an accusation at King, which he threw at King, who was shouting. He did not see Michael Fitzgerald having King on the ground or touching him. Fitzgerald broke up the row in about two minutes and nobody hit Fitzgerald.

Michael Hayes (67), told the court that he was caretaker of flats at Anne Street where Teresa Doyle was one of the lodgers. John King had come there on one occasion and punched - iness. On the night in June 1st last he was in Tom Mullan's Bar and had three pints. When going home he got a clout in the back of the head from King near Fitzbox, an ice shop. Since then he had been attending a doctor and was due to visit a specialist on February 25th.

In reply to Mr. Michael Murray, B.L., who prosecuted, he denied that he was drunk on the occasion. Mr. Michael Rynne, B.L., instructed by Mr. John Hayes, solicitor, appeared for Barrett, and Mr. Brendan Nix, B.L., appeared for Fitzgerald.

'Unfriendly' As they approached Jack Bourke's he noticed a number of people. One or two of them stood out in front of him. They did not know them and never saw them before.

'Approached' Fitzgerald and Barrett approached King and told him to get out of town. They knocked King to the ground and started kicking him. More men arrived and joined in.

Judge commends Limerick detective

BY LEADER REPORTER

HOW A married couple spent £20,000 damages money was recalled at Limerick Circuit Court when Mary Anne McDonald of Marian Terrace, Ballymahon, Co. Longford, admitted obtaining £632 by fraud from the Limerick Savings Bank.

Imposing a suspended sentence, Judge John Gleeson told the accused: "Put this thing behind you and have more sense." The judge commended Detective Garda Noel Gore for the "proper and compassionate" manner in which he dealt with the investigation.

Detective Garda Gore told the court that in 1976 the accused got a taxi at Thomas Street. He saw a fight outside Jack Bourke's. There were at least four people in the fight and Miss Doyle was a spectator. He went out into the middle of the road where they were digging the head off one another and told them to stop.

He denied that he had kicked King and also denied that he had laid a hand on anyone. He denied a suggestion that he went to Thomas Street to "get" King rather than a taxi.

Peter Barrett said that on the night in question, Fitzgerald called to his home shortly after 8 p.m. and they walked to Frost's Bar where they stayed until closing time. He said that he had eight or nine pints of Guinness and Fitzgerald had six or seven pints. They walked down to get a taxi but could not get one. There was an argument near Fitzbox's egg shop. John King, Teresa Doyle and another man were arguing. King had a hold of an old man. Michael Fitzgerald went across the road and separated them. They then went down towards the taxi rank in Thomas Street. There was another row at Thomas Street where the same people and three or four more were involved. He did not see any blows being struck.

'A wave' Barrett went on to state that Fitzgerald broke up the row "with a wave of his hands". He said that Teresa Doyle threw a melon at him and he threw it back at her by sort of handing it off. He saw the old man on the ground and King had a hold of him on the ground.

He had his hand twisted behind his back and the old man was shouting. He did not see Michael Fitzgerald having King on the ground or touching him. Fitzgerald broke up the row in about two minutes and nobody hit Fitzgerald.

International Summer School The Oslo International Summer School has offered two scholarships to Irish students in connection with the Summer School which will be held at the University of Oslo from June 28 to August 8, 1980. The value of the scholarship is approximately £445.

The School covers general courses in Norwegian Art, Arts and Crafts, Norwegian Language, History, Music and Literature of Norway, Norwegian Economics, Politics and Society, Norway and Scandinavia in International Relations. There are also special Graduate Courses in Peace Research, Physical Education in Scandinavia, Educational System of Norway, etc. All lectures are in English.

Fees for the course, including accommodation, will be the region of £445.

Application forms are available from the Department of Education, Headquarters Section (2), Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, and completed forms must be returned to the Department by 26 February, 1980.

JAW WAS BROKEN IN FOOTBALL INCIDENT

BY LEADER REPORTER

AN ASSAULT on a Limerickman after he went to retrieve his son's football from a group of men resulted in his jaw being broken, Limerick Circuit Court heard.

Michael Kelly (23), 9 Lilaic Court, Keyes Park, Limerick, was sentenced to two years imprisonment and Clement Hayes (18) Donoughmore Crescent, Carew Park, Limerick, was ordered to be detained in St. Patrick's Institution for 12 months.

Both admitted wounding Patrick J. Keenihan on June 20 last. Mr. Michael Murray, B.L., prosecuting, said that the injured party was at home in Keyes Park when his son came in and complained that his ball had been taken. When Keenihan went to get the ball back he was abused and then attacked in a severe way.



Miss Jackie Walpole, Rockspring Gardens, Clancy Strand, Limerick, at the Manchester United Supporters Club dinner at The Two Mile Inn.

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LIMERICK'S DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

BY LEADER REPORTER

THIS YEAR'S Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from June 20-25. As usual, the Bishop, Most Rev. Jeremiah Newman, will lead the Pilgrimage.

It is expected that 700 people from all parts of the diocese will travel.

Of these about 100 people will be sick, including 20 handicapped children. They will be accommodated in the Asile Hospital in Lourdes and will be in the care of the Pilgrimage's experienced medical and nursing staff. A special plane will be provided by Aer Lingus to take the sick to Lourdes on the morning of June 20.

The sick have a very special place in Lourdes. Their care and well-being is one of the main concerns of the Pilgrimage organisers. All the exercises of the Pilgrimage are arranged so that the sick can participate to the full. To help them to do so, men and women members of the Limerick branch of the Hospitable of Our Lady of Lourdes are willing to travel with the pilgrims at their own expense.

With the medical and nursing staff, they will be at the service of the sick for the five days in Lourdes.

It has always been the policy of the Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes to take sick whether or not they can afford the fare. This

has been possible, thanks to the very many generous supporters of the Lourdes Invalid Fund. Indeed in 1979, 60 sick travelled to Lourdes with the pilgrimage through the generosity of these people.

The organisers would like to thank all the people who are so generous in supporting the fund raising activities that are held throughout the diocese during the year.

This year, the invalid fare is £115. Firms and individuals might like to sponsor an invalid or make a direct contribution towards an invalid's fare. If interested, please contact the Spiritual Director, Lourdes Pilgrimage, Diocesan Offices, 66 O'Connell Street, Limerick. Tel. 45856.

Looking for houses

At a time when everybody is talking of the shortage of money, especially in the property market, a different story emerges. John O'Doherty of O'Doherty & Co., Auctioneers, says that in fact their agency is short of in-city and suburban medium-priced houses, particularly the £16,000-£26,000 range. Their offices sold a half dozen houses in this category in January and have an adequate number of clients with funds listed to purchase as many more. In his opinion there will be no depression in this end of the market for the first half of 1980.

Having just returned from a property sales promotional visit to the U.S.A., Mr. O'Doherty believes that a considerable amount of Irish emigrants wish to return to this region where employment opportunity is available. His offices are now taking listings to be forwarded to these potential purchasers.

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Blaze wrecks the O'Riordan's house

BY FERGAL KEANE

A FIRE which gutted the upstairs of a house in Ballysimon has left a family of nine sleeping in a tiny damp alcove at the rear of the building.

At 11.15 a.m. last Friday Brendan O'Riordan, aged 16, was washing his hands when he saw smoke coming from an upstairs room at his home in Carrigparson.

He rushed upstairs and tried to quench the fire in his sister's bedroom. "I looked into the room and there was nothing but black smoke," he said. "I saw some flames and I rushed out and got some water but the roof had caught fire and so had the carpet."

Brendan then alerted the fire brigade. Units from Limerick and Cappamore brought the blaze under control after a two and a half hour struggle.

Gutted

The whole upper section of the house was gutted by the fire and a large part of the downstairs living area was damaged. Mr. Terence O'Riordan, Brendan's father, was attending a doctor in Castleconnell at the time the fire broke out and he did not learn of the blaze until he was returning home and saw the flames rising from the roof of the house.

Rain leaks through the roof of the tiny room in which the family of nine now sleep. Mr. O'Riordan has not worked for ten years as a result of an acci-



The tiny room in which the family sleep. Left to right: Dolores, aged 8; Brendan, aged 16; Mr. Terence O'Riordan, Donal, aged 15; P. J., aged 9.

dent and depends on Social Welfare assistance for his living which he supplements by keeping hens and goats on a nearby plot of land.

His wife, Eileen, does part-time babysitting.

All of the seven O'Riordan children - Terence, 18; Brendan, 16; Donal, 15; Joseph, 11; Angela, 13; P. J., 9; and Dolores, 8 - are attending school.

"I got an awful shock but thank God no child was hurt", said Mr. O'Riordan, who added that Limerick County Council had offered him a

choice of two houses - one in Castleconnell and the other in Patrickswell.

'Too far'

He said that he would not accept either because they were too far away from the plot of land which provides additional income.

The O'Riordan home in Carrigparson was not insured. A county council cottage, the family rented it for 15 years before buying it last month.

The family depend on a small gas cooker for cooking and they are without electricity. Most of the

children's clothes were burnt in the fire.

The county council has offered a mobile home to the O'Riordan's. It was due to arrive this week.

Mr. O'Riordan said that his neighbours had been "extremely kind and helpful" to his family.

Unbitted

At Kilmallock, Timothy Kiley of Charleville, Joan Raleigh, Crawford Street, Bruff, Richard Tobin, Glenbrohane, Ballylanders, and Martin Kirby, Colemanswell, Charleville, were each fined £3 for not wearing seat belts.



A weary looking Mr. O'Riordan at his gutted home in Carrigparson.



Donal, 15, left, and Brendan, 16, clear slates from the burnt-out roof of their home. Pictures: DERMOT LYNCH

Miss Hon Bolger, R

One of the victims of an accident in Terenure, Dublin, Miss Hon Bolger, who was a member of the teaching staff of the teaching Laure Hill Convent for 25 years. She made a valuable contribution to the education of generations of Limerick girls, remembered by their unfailing dedication to their work.

As a tribute to her, Mass will be celebrated at the convent Chapel at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 13th February, and past pupils are cordially invited to attend.

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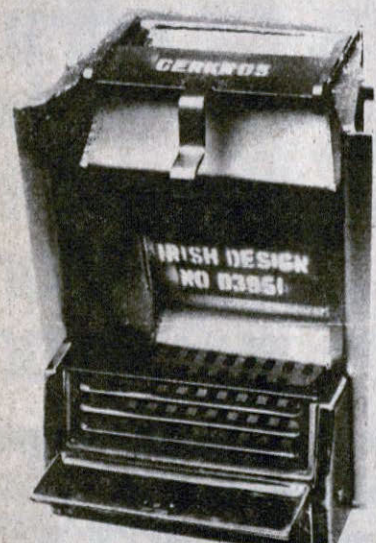
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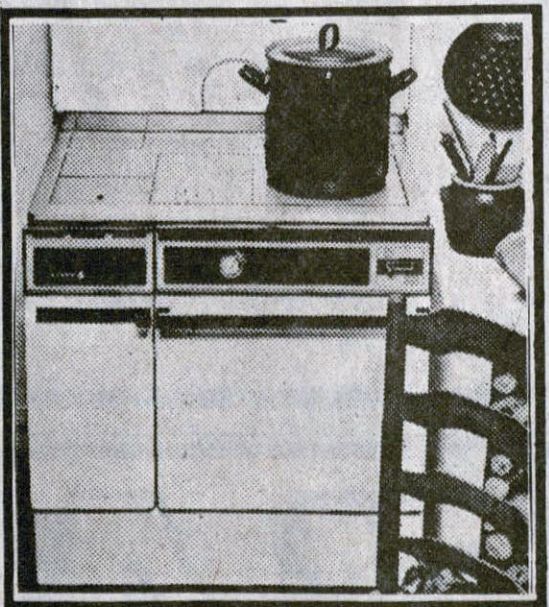
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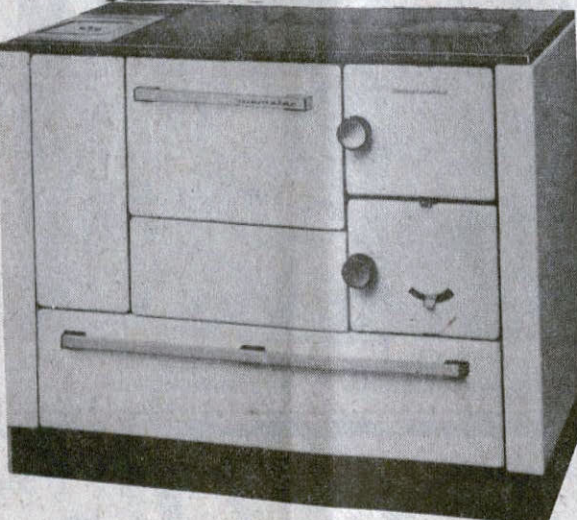
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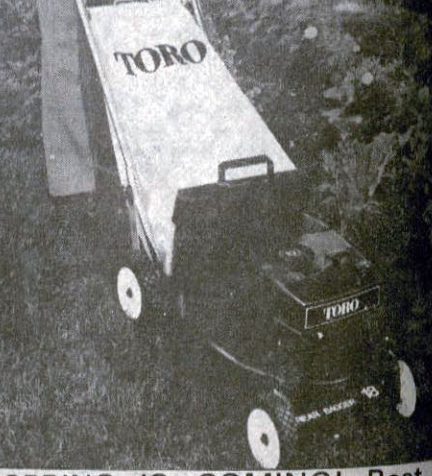
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