

# MAPLE SYRUP

## DIGEST



*Warm Wishes*

Christmas is a winter wonderland, covered by a blanket of pure white snow. We send you our sentiment during this brisk season through our warmest wishes and a hearty "Thanks." Merry Christmas.

Vol. 25 No. 4

December 1985

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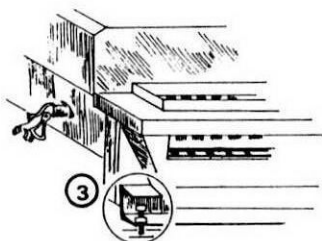
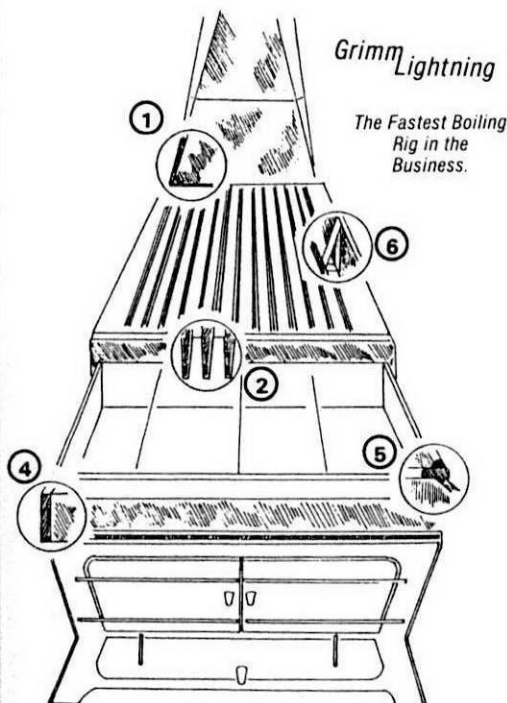
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# Season's Greetings



*Elmer & Mary Kress*

*Kress Creations, Inc.*

# MAPLE SYRUP DIGEST

Official publication of the  
NORTH AMERICAN MAPLE SYRUP COUNCIL

## Published & Edited by:

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# Editorial

I guess I got a double dose of friendship from Pennsylvania this fall. I realize this is lousy English but that's the way it is.

The Pennsylvania Maple Tour was held on October 4th and 5th centered around Wysox. I decided to go down to see a couple of old friends. When I arrived I found out there was a whole lot more friendly folks than a couple. I guess that's why most people like to go on maple tours.

Occasionally someone remarks that they don't attend tours because there isn't anything to see they are interested in. They're missing the best part of tours. I just like to talk to folks. Sometimes I keep still and learn something.

The second shot came a couple of weeks later at the North American Maple Syrup Council meeting at the Penn Wells Hotel in Wellsboro. The Pennsylvania folks came through there as elegantly as at the tour. You could feel the warmth and friendliness and it was evident that a lot of work had been put into the arrangements. A few problems arose regarding space for display and meetings but these were solved by using a nearby church and theater. In a small town like this it seems that everyone wants to make our stay as enjoyable as possible.

It certainly must have taken a lot of work by a lot of people on the Potter-Tioga Association who handled it for the Pennsylvania Maple Council. I'd like to give some of them credit but I'd surely miss a few. However, there's one person who deserves a great big thank you, Barbara Kinnan, a Cooperative Extension Agent who put everything together and at a reasonable price. She certainly had things organized.

Gordon Gowen, outgoing chairman of the Council, also deserves a round of applause. He handled the business ses-

sions as expertly as any chairman ever has and a lot was accomplished. You can read all about it in Michael Girard's Council report in this issue. This will be Girard's last report since he was elected Vice Chairman for the coming year. John Kroll, of Long Prairie, Minnesota, was elected Chairman and Lynn Reynolds, Hortonville, Wisconsin, will take over the Secretary-Treasurer duties.

Well, as I said, maple folks are friendly. In fact, I think they're the friendliest folks in farming.

## **The following resolution was submitted by the Vermont Maple Industry Council.**

We in the Vermont Maple Industry Council go on record as recognizing the fact that we have a problem with atmospheric deposition which is damaging our sugar maple stands and that we want to motivate the proper authorities to take any necessary corrective measures and actions.

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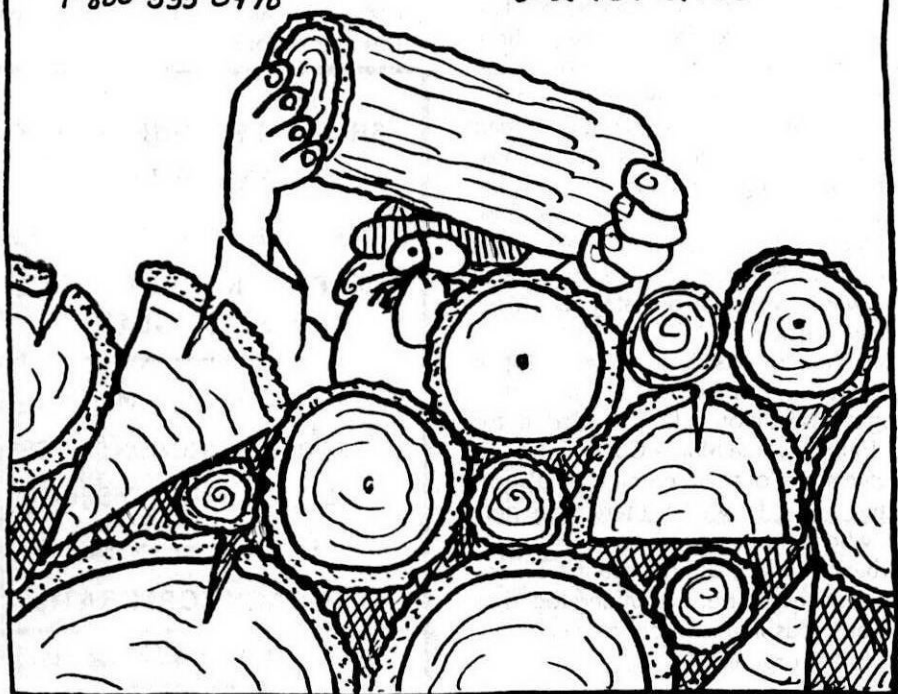
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## GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Greetings from Minnesota after returning from a good time in Wellsboro, Pa. I enjoyed seeing friends again, the scenery, the good food and entertainment. I was lucky enough to win a little sugarhouse. They are attractive and so well built.

I was telling Bob McConnell, "It's a long way out here, took four days of driving." He said, "I once had a car like that---." He also told me the water from that part of Pennsylvania ends up in the Mississippi. It seems to me, since the water that runs off our maples flows into the same watershed, we can't really be far apart.

Gordon Gowen told me that the night before our meeting he had lost a heifer calf from a 33,000 lb. producing cow. (This averages over 12 U.S. gallons or 46 liters per day for 305 days.) As a dairyman myself I really felt badly about that. She is an outstanding individual with expectations to continue being one -- comparing her to the likes of a 6 tap tree, if each tap was producing a gallon of syrup and then losing the tree to decline or an infestation of insects, we can more fully comprehend the legitimate concern for our maples that was so impressed upon us throughout the well presented technical sessions.

I've selected members for two committees:

Research and Development Funding:

Ron Shaw - Chairman  
Frank Majszak  
Steve Selby

Bill Clark  
Andre LaPrade  
Non Profit Status for the NAMSC  
Michael Girard  
Russ Davenport  
Larry Myott

All were willing to serve and I appreciated it very much. Thanks.

John Kroll

## NEW YORK MAPLE PHOTO CONTEST

Sponsored by the Central New York Maple Producer's Association for the promotion of the New York State Maple industry.

### RULES:

1. Picture must show some phase of maple production.
2. Picture must be taken by person submitting entry.
3. Amateur photographs are encouraged.
4. Color picture or color slide acceptable.
5. Contest open to all residents of New York State.
6. Photo/slide becomes property of Central New York Maple Producer's Association.
7. Entries due by May 1, 1986
8. Prizes - 1st, \$35.00; 2nd, \$25.00; 3rd, \$15.00.
9. Send entries with your name, address and telephone number to William Campbell, Smyrna, NY 13464.
10. Judging will be based on originality and quality.

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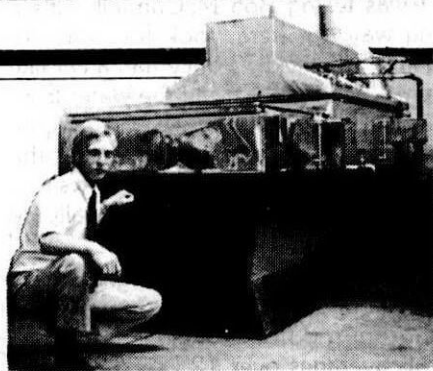
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David Buttraph, maple producer and operational manager of the Swanton Maple Syrup Equipment Service Center, in front of the 4 x 12' 19-50 LIGHTNING EVAPORATOR.

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## **Letter to the Editor**

Dear Lloyd,

I am motivated to share a few thoughts with you in the wake of the recent Council Meeting at Wellsboro. First of all, it was a real joy to renew acquaintances with the likes of you, Bob Lamb and other friends of long standing. There seems to be some sticky magical property about maple syrup that promotes enduring friendships. And the spontaneous joy evidenced by tears among grown men and women alike could only be generated in a gathering of widely scattered but closely knit clan of maple producers and related industry. As the Pittsburgh Pirates sang in years gone by -- "We Are Family".

Another thought that motivated me to pen a few words was my appreciation of the tremendous effort and organization that went into the hosting of staging of a most successful annual conference. Everything seemed to operate on a clockwork schedule. The facilities, tours and - oh yes - the meals, proved to test our satisfactions and endurance. Behind all the smooth committee work stood an Extension Agent, Barbara Kinnan who is an unsung hero of the conference -- and that's probably the way she meant it to be. But, I'm sure we all want to formally express our appreciation to a dedicated public servant.

And finally, Donna and I wish to thank the many conference participants who were so generous in their appreciation of our "whatsit" antique program. We enjoy our "togetherness" project and try to blend a little history and humor in the process. And the Councils "Service Award" extended to me was like icing on the cake, or more appropriately, syrup on the ice cream!

James A. Bochy

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Yours truly,

*Richard G. Haas*

Richard G. Haas



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# **MAPLE SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF NAMSC**

## 1. Questionnaires were returned by:

A Maple Producer	44
A Maple Research Person	6
An Interested Party	5
A Maple Syrup Buyer or Packer	1
Government, or Employee	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>

## 2. I would like to see research done in the following areas (rate your highest priorities from 1 through 5 use number 1 as your highest priority).

	<b>No 1</b>	<b>No 2</b>	<b>Total 5 No.</b>
Maple Tree Physiology	3	2	18
Maple Sap Collection and Handling	2	1	8
Maple Syrup Production	0	6	14
Maple Equipment	1	1	8
Maple Sap and Syrup Chemistry	2	1	11
None (Past and Current Research Adequate)	0	0	0
All Environmental Factors Affecting Maple Trees (In- cluding Disease, Stress, Health, and Vigor)	23	7	56
Maple Diseases, Insect, and Pathological Controls	3	8	31
Maple Forest Management	2	5	29
Maple Syrup Packaging	1	5	12
Maple Syrup Marketing	4	1	14
Maple Decline	5	7	33
Acid Rain and its Relation- ship to Maple Trees	11	17	36
Other (Energy Reduction Related)	1	0	4

## 3. Define "Maple Decline" to the best of your ability and as you see it.

General Answer: "The gradual loss of vigor, growth, and the eventual reduction in productivity of the maple tree."

Most used words and terms: "Less vigor, branches and crown dying at top of tree, insect susceptibility, disease susceptibility, lack of reproduction, environmentally affected, dieback, decline serious, critical, and pre-mature leaf dropping"

General Answer	49
No Answer or "Don't Know"	17

## 4. What do you think causes "Maple Decline"?

General Answer: "Environmental Factors"

Most used words and terms: "Pollution (in general), air pollution, acid rain, road salt, and stress"

General Answer	42
Soil Deficiencies	1
Grazing	1
Use of Pellets	1
Lack of Management (non- treatment)	1
Diseases	1
Don't Know - Not Sure	19

## 5. Do you have a "Maple Decline" problem in your geographical area?

## 6. Your State or Province?

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>DONT KNOW</b>
Connecticut	4		
Indiana		1	
Iowa	1		
Maine	2		
Massachusetts	3		
Michigan	3		
Minnesota	1	1	
New Brunswick	1		
New Hampshire	3		
New Jersey	2		
New York	9	3	
Ohio	2	2	1
Ontario	6	2	
Pennsylvania	2		
Quebec	2		
Vermont	6	1	
West Virginia			1
Wisconsin	2	2	
No Answer			3
	<b>49</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>

## 7. Do think we need research to determine possible causes of "Maple Decline"?

Yes	58
No	2
No Answer or Don't Know	6

## 8. Do you think the North American Maple Syrup Council should raise funds for contributions toward future research projects?

Yes	59
No	3
No Answer or Don't Know	4

## 9. How do you think the NAMSC should raise funds for contributions toward future research projects

Federal Government	
Appropriations	7

State or Provincial Appropriations	5
North American Council Dues	5
University or other Research Grants	7
Producer, Packer, Equipment Manufacturers, Dealer and Supplier Contributions	15
Private Contributions	3
Disqualified (No answer or more than one choice)	21
No Answer (Answered No in Question #8)	3

10. Would you consider contribution towards research if an equitable method were proposed to base such contributions on (This would have to include maple producers, packers, equipment manufacturers, equipment dealers, and suppliers).

Yes	51
No	5
No Answer	10

11. FOR MAPLE PRODUCERS AND PACKERS ONLY. If you would consider research contributions based on number of gallons of syrup produced or packed, what would you consider a fair contribution per gallon of syrup?

1¢/Gallon	3
5¢/Gallon	13
10¢/Gallon	18
20¢/Gallon	6
Other	2
No Answer	8

TOTAL 50

12. FOR MAPLE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS, DEALERS, AND SUPPLIERS ONLY.

No response to this question.

13. FOR EXTENSION, GOVERNMENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH OR INTERESTED PERSONS ONLY. If maple producers, packers, manufacturers, dealers, and suppliers were to contribute funds for maple research, to the best of your knowledge and ability, would you exert every effort and influence to obtain some form of matching funds from the government appropriations, university grants, trust funds, private contributions, etc., for contributions toward maple research as approved by the Board of Directors of the North American Maple Syrup Council?

Yes	16
No	0

How would you rate the chances of obtaining such matching funds from these sources keeping in mind the industry's possible contributions?

Excellent	1
Good	3

Fair	6
Poor	2
No Chance	0
No Answer	2

#### 14. COMMENTS:

General Comment: "Genuine concern for the longevity of the maple tree. Also concern over how to raise adequate funds for continued research for the maple industry."

Most used words and Terms: "Acid rain, environment, serious, concerned, and pollution."

#### GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

1. The significance of the survey is that 18 different states and provinces expressed their sincere concern involving research within the maple industry.

2. Areas of immediate interest and concern are the environment and the maple tree.

3. The maple producers are willing to support research contributions.

4. The survey is a valuable tool for this Research Review Committee to screen research proposals in the future.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the North American Maple Syrup Council appoint a committee to further study and implement ways to finance current and future contributions that it may wish to grant to research projects.

#### PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR 1985

1. "QUALITY OF SYRUP PRODUCED FROM SAP ASEPTICALLY COLLECTED FROM HEALTHY AND DECLINING SUGAR MAPLES"

SUBMITTED BY: Maria Franca Morselli, PH.D., Principal investigator  
M. Lynn Whalen, B.S. and  
Warren G. King, B.A.

Maple Research Laboratory, Botany Department, Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont 05405

2. "VARIATION IN WOUND RESPONSE IN SUGAR MAPLE PROVENANCE/PROGENY PLANTINGS - AND - RAY TISSUE AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL WOOD VOLUME IN SUGAR MAPLE PROGENIES"

SUBMITTED BY: Peter W. Garrett, Research Geneticist

Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Concord-Mast Road, P.O. Box 640, Durham, NH 03824

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

A bold step was taken by the North American Maple Syrup Council at the recent annual convention in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. The Council deserves congratulations and appreciation for approving contributions toward funding of two specific research projects. Thanks must especially be extended to Bob and Florence Lamb for so generously contributing funds towards these two projects. These two combined contributions have initiated a phase of the maple industry never experienced before. The North American Maple Syrup Council is now determining the scope, the kind, and the extent of research and development which the maple producers actually want and are willing to support.

A progressive committee has been appointed to determine how, and implement ways to accumulate funds to support future research proposals. This

means our industry is now determining its own destiny in the research and development spectrum. We certainly continue to require help from both Federal Governments, State and Provincial Governments, Universities, Extension Services, The International Maple Syrup Institute, Other Research Organizations, Private Contributors, and Others; however, we will henceforth be demonstrating our leadership in ascertaining which research can most affect, and is most instrumental to our own industry. We thank all of these persons, agencies, and organizations for their past help and sincerely request their continued support in both funding and educational assistance.

We cannot gloat because we have too far to go. We cannot boast because we have just begun. But, we of the Maple Industry can be very proud, and hold our heads high, as having established a milestone of contributing towards paying our own way in maple research.

Lynn H. Reynolds

## NEW YORK STATE January Maple Schools 1986

DATE	COUNTY	AGENT	LOCATION
1/16	Allegany	Lee Brumback 716/268-7644	Almond Grange, Almond-\$3.50 luncheon
1/17	Chataqua	Andy Dufresne 716/664-9502	Ross Grange, Falkoner -
1/18	Wyoming w/Erie Erie	Merv Button Wyoming Ken Brown 716/786-2251 716/652-5400	Bryncliff Country Club, Varysburg-cost luncheon
1/21	Cortland	Eileen Nelson	607/753-5077-Cortlandville Grange, Cortland
1/22	Chenango	Gerry Le Clar	607/334-5841-VFW, Norwich-cold buffet cost luncheon
1/23	Delaware	Tom Donnelly 607/865-6531	American Legion Hall, Delhi-\$4.00 pancake luncheon
1/24	Otsego	Bill Gengenbach 607/547-2536	United Methodist Church, Cooperstown-cost luncheon
1/27	Oneida	Bruce Field	Utica-315/736-3394 - Rome-315/337-2531
1/28	Lewis	Pat Beyer	315/376-6551-Deere Hill Rest., Lowville-\$6.50 luncheon
1/29	St. Lawrence	George Field	315/379-2311-Canton Free Library, Canton - BYOL
1/30	Clinton	Bill Pauling 518/561-7450	Miner Ctr., Miner Institute, west of Chazy-lunch at cafeteria or BYOL
1/31	Washington	John Thurgood 518/747-2861	Mohican Grange, Oneida Corners-\$5.00 pancake and sausage luncheon

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND/OR DIRECTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT  
THE HOST AGENT FOR THAT COUNTY

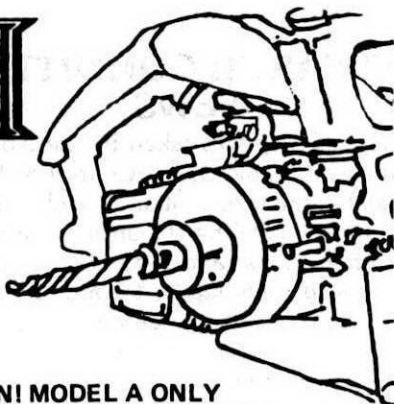
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REMEMBER-BY USING A CHAIN SAW TO TAP WITH, YOU CAN CHOOSE YOUR OWN SPEED.



## CAUTION! MODEL A ONLY

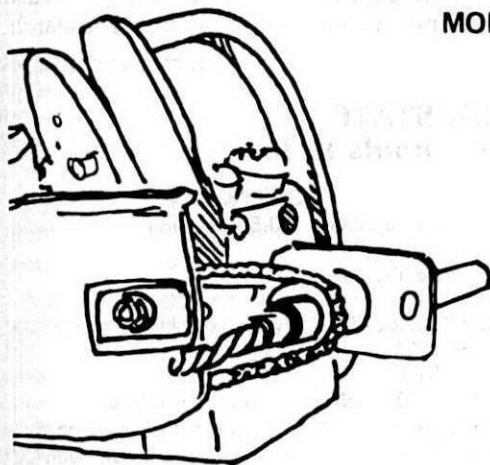
Do NOT run either model with excessive speed. Run your saw at a fast idle. Stop the taper from turning with your gloved left hand. Then place against the tree and let go. Rev the motor just enough to cut the hole. Hold with the gloved hand and remove.

## IMPORTANT!

Make sure we have make, model and chain pitch. PLEASE!

## MODEL B

This model fits most chain saws. Runs with a short piece of saw chain. Has a short fork in place of a saw bar with another sprocket out front. \$85 plus \$2 for shipping cost. Extra bradpoint bits, \$10 each. Comes with 7/16 left hand bradpoint bit. With the unit on the saw and the chain guard in place, hold the taper and pull the chain tight, then tighten the bar nuts.



1/4" 99 100 101

USE THESE SAMPLES TO CHECK CHAIN PITCH.



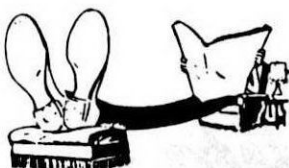
.325"



3/8"



## LAMB'S CORNER



### DRIVING SPOUTS

We travel around in the sugar bushes. It's fun and we learn a lot. Sometimes it's good and sometimes it's real, real bad.

When we look over the old tap holes they tell us quite a story. All too often the bark is split above and below the hole, sometimes 6 to 8 inches, particularly on young, vigorous, fast growing trees that "had" a great future. This does the tree more harm than the income from the tap hole for years to come. **DON'T SPLIT THE BARK!**

Old timers say you shouldn't need a wrench, hammer, crowbar or pick axe to remove the spout. If you can't remove it by twisting it out by hand, you've driven it in too tight. Maybe there should be an effective law -- and I never heard of an effective law -- against

selling powerful spout removers. That would be a good thing.

Splitting the tree into firewood with a spout is almost impossible. If you want to use it for wood, cut it down first and then split it.

Unfortunately, driving spouts too often has to be done by inexperienced help; it isn't possible for the owner to oversee everything. For years we have experimented with various sizes of hammers and mallets and have come to the conclusion that when a 4 ounce mallet is used, it's almost impossible for anyone to drive the spout too tight. We've had others try out samples we've found available but we haven't come up with exactly the right unit yet. All we've accomplished so far is to have found out that 4 ounces is right.

So I reckon this is just another item that aint none of my damn business.

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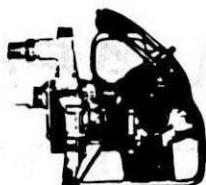
*Bob Lamb*

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## QUARTER CENTURY PROGRESS

The Maple Syrup Industry  
Back in nineteen fifty-nine  
Describing would be difficult  
Difficult to define  
A challenge to our memory  
The beginning of this story  
Went even farther back  
To the Philadelphia laboratory  
We would credit Dr. Willets  
Who sparked the inspiration  
And helped to lay the guide-lines  
For a Maple organization  
Our laboratory meetings  
Divided by three year spans  
Gradually showed the needs  
And gradually developed plans  
Then in the fall of fifty nine  
The actual die was cast  
Sincere but apprehensive  
Could this really last?  
Could syrup makers agree  
And all wondering whether  
They would unveil their problems  
And all states work together  
The meets became an annual  
Rotating from state to state

Host states viing turns  
And of course some had to wait  
National Maple Council  
By which it was known  
Started with few states  
But since then it has grown  
The count is now thirteen  
With a province from the North  
Forging thoughts together  
New ideas stemming forth  
Commanding research talent  
Equipment folks alerted  
Much progress has resulted  
So errors could be averted  
As membership keeps on growing  
And standing these thirteen strong  
Our name too had to change  
As Canadians now belong  
North American Maple Council  
The name we now are known  
We even have a magazine  
Maple Digest we call our own  
Now in twenty five years  
With fine leaders along the way  
We invite your views of progress  
As we stand here proud today.

Adin Reynolds

## ANNOUNCING

### THE MAJESTIC MAPLE TREE U.S.A. CONTEST

American Maple Products wants to locate the **largest** and most **photogenic** Sugar Maple Tree (*Acer saccharum*) in the U.S.A. and is offering \$250 for the winning entry plus runnerup prizes.

For Contest Rules, please contact

**AMERICAN MAPLE PRODUCTS**  
NEWPORT, VERMONT 05855  
TEL. 802-334-6516

# **American Maple's MAJESTIC MAPLE TREE U.S.A.**

## **Contest**

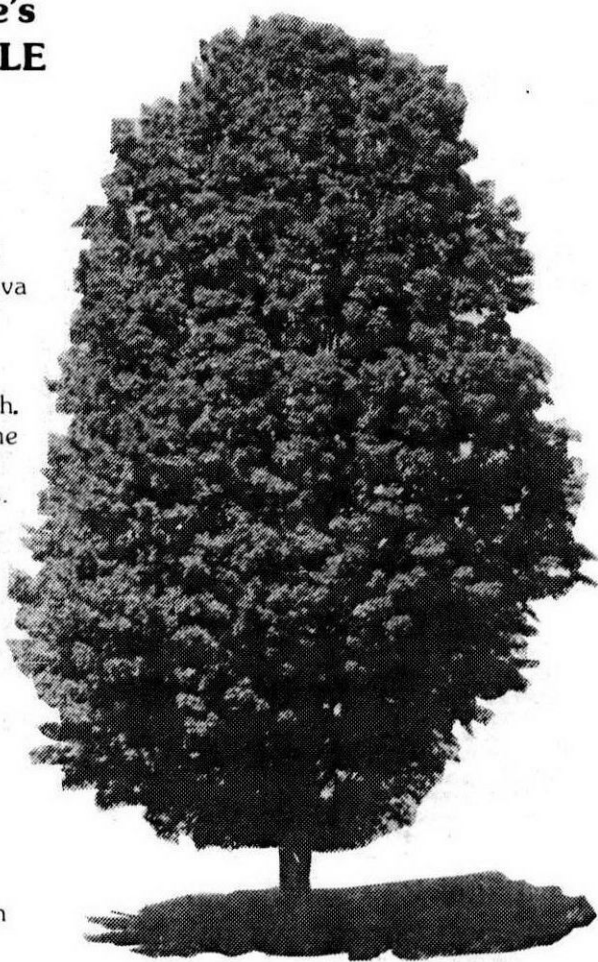
"The miraculous sugar maple tree is an apt name for this versatile woody plant that is found only in North America from Nova Scotia in the east to Minnesota in the west and from the lower St. Lawrence River valley in the north to Virginia in the south. It developed at an indefinite time after the great ice age and has survived for thousands of years. Its range approximates the spread of the great ice sheet.

It is the most valuable and useful of all the maple species, not only for its sweet sap from which we derive maple syrup, but also for its wood as a source of lumber and fuel, its leafy canopy which provides shade on hot summer days, its may-hued red and yellow leaves that draw thousands of leaf-peepers in the fall of the year, and when raked and stockpiled, provide a valuable mulch for the garden.

These beautiful trees have survived the many generations of foreigners who invaded their habitat only a few time-years ago, the ravages of summer heat and winter cold, and in many cases, inhospitable soil conditions.

Have you ever stopped to wonder where in the maple belt this tree reaches its maximum size perhaps due to optimum conditions of soil, water, climate and altitude that effect its growth and health?

American Maple would like to know and then make this information available to anyone who is interested in the survival of the miraculous maple tree. That's why our company is sponsoring the MAJESTIC MAPLE TREE U.S.A. Contest. Cash prizes will be awarded for the winning entries. Please write for contest rules to: American Maple Products, P.O. Box 685, Newport, VT 05855.





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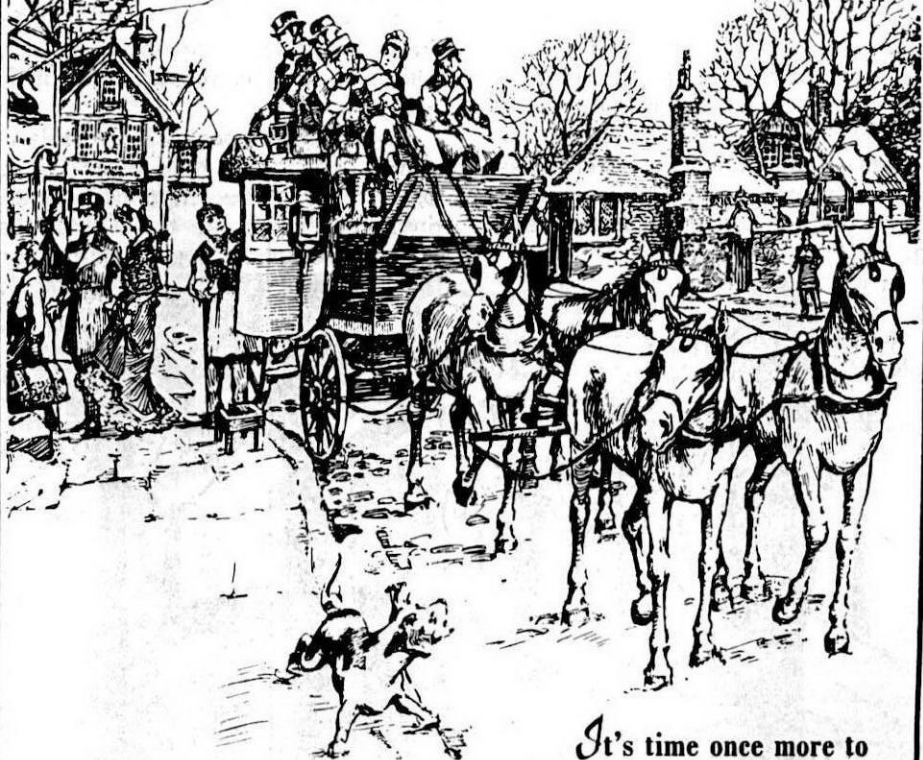
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# Merry Christmas



It's time once more to turn aside from the routine of day-to-day business and greet our fine patrons and neighbors with hearty wishes for a merry, old-fashioned Yule. May your holiday be filled with the happy sounds of laughter as you rejoice in the company of family and friends. Sincere thanks for your loyal trust and support.

*Lloyd & Mary Lou Apple*



# **NORTH AMERICAN MAPLE SYRUP COUNCIL**

## **26 Annual Meeting**

By Michael A. Girard  
Secretary NAMSC

Pennsylvania hosted the 26th annual meeting of the North American Maple Syrup Council on October 21st and 22nd. The location was the Penn Wells Hotel in the rural town of Wellsboro.

The Council Business Meeting opened on Monday morning with a welcome by Chairman Gordon Gowen.

Twelve of the thirteen member States and Provinces were present with Nova Scotia unable to attend this year's meeting.

Mixed reports on syrup production as well as updates on local association activities were given by each member State and Province. Most reported a 5% to 30% drop in syrup production last season, although some reports indicated an average to above average crop. Many noted very low sugar content in sap and less lighter grade syrup produced than normal. In all cases, the syrup market was very good and prices seemed to be slightly higher than '84. All grades of bulk syrup are in short supply with little or no carry over of syrup in many States.

Lloyd Sipple reported a favorable financial status for the Maple Syrup Digest this year. Subscriptions were less during '85 compared to '84, but the average contribution per subscription



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was more than double the previous year. Much of this was due to updating of mailing lists and discontinuing many "free" subscriptions. Lloyd encouraged subscription participation through State and Province Associations rather than promoting individual subscriptions. Many Associations incorporate the subscription cost of the Digest into their annual membership dues and mailing lists are periodically updated to the Digest through the Associations. The Editorial Advisory Board formed last year, resulted in improved communication between the Digest and the State Associations.

A presentation by the Research Review Committee was made by Lynn Reynolds, Wisconsin. The Maple Survey, which was sent through the Digest

last February was discussed in detail. Research priorities, questions regarding Maple Decline, and fund raising methods for research were summarized from responses to the survey.

There seems to be a genuine concern for the longevity of the Maple tree and concern over how to raise adequate funds for continued research in the Maple industry.

The Research Review Committee submitted proposals to the Council, recommending contributions towards two research projects. Proposal #1, submitted by the U.S. Forest Service - "Variation in Wound Response in Sugar Maple Provenance/Progeny Plantings and Ray Tissue as a percent of total Wood Volume in Sugar Maple Progenies". Proposal #2, submitted to the Research Review Committee by the University of Vermont - "Quality of Syrup Produced from Sap Aseptically collected from Healthy and Declining Sugar Maples".

After some discussion, the Council voted and approved a contribution of \$800.00 to each project with the restriction that the funds be released only if and when assurance can be given to the Council that matching and/or total project funds can be obtained to complete the research proposed. Bob and Florence Lamb generously contributed an additional \$1,000.00 toward the funding of these research projects.

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Another recommendation of the Committee was that the N.A.M.S.C. appoint a committee to further study and implement ways to finance current and future contributions that it may wish to grant to research projects.

Bill Clark, Vermont, presented a resolution from the Vermont Maple Industry Council as follows: "We in the Vermont Maple Industry Council go on record as recognizing the fact that we have a problem with atmospheric deposition which is damaging our sugar maple stands and that we want to motivate the proper authorities to take any necessary corrective measures and actions". Bill read another Resolution from the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association and also supporting the I.M.S.I. resolution as follows: "The Board of Directors of the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers' Association, Inc., on October 16, 1985, went on record endorsing the IMSI resolution concerning air pollution and strongly request that the North American Maple Syrup Council adopt this resolution, also, (The Board of Directors of the IMSI resolved 9/22/85 to petition government policymakers in the U.S. and Canada to take immediate steps to reduce the sources causing atmospheric pollution and deposition which are closely linked to forest decline and mortality. Specifically, we believe it is unwise and unwarranted to delay air-pollution clean-up efforts pending further research, although we agree that on going research is urgent. The future of the North American Maple industry may be

irreversibly jeopardized.)" It was voted and approved that the N.A.M.S.C. support these resolutions.


### **Research and Study Presentations**

Lew Staats, Regional Extension Specialist, Cornell University, was Moderator for a series of presentations.

Lew Staats introduced Steve Dorsey, of the Modern Evaporator Co., Westport, N.Y., who gave a presentation on updated research and development of the Vapor Compression Evaporator. Mr. Dorsey highlighted the benefits of the use of the VCE in Maple Syrup production. The slide presentation illustrated the development, modification and test results of a prototype used over the last two seasons at Cornell University.

The next presentation was made by Dr. Douglas C. Allen, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, SUNY, Syracuse, N.Y. The topic was

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"Insects - Sugar Maple and Maple Decline". Dr. Allen presented a series of slides describing the major insect pests of the Sugar Maple and the damaging effects these insects have on the trees. The various aspects of Sugar Maple Decline including symptoms and the many reasons for Maple Decline were presented. Dr. Allen stressed good forest management to minimize these problems in the sugarbush.

Lew Staats closed this Technical Session with an overview of Maple Research presently underway at Cornell University.

On Monday afternoon, participants of this year's meeting visited the Pennsylvania's lumbermans' Museum and

the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon. The tour was followed by the Annual Banquet on Monday evening.

Bob Lamb presented awards of appreciation for service to the Maple industry to James Bochy, Pa., Everett Willard, Vt., and Joe Szymujko, New Hampshire. Outgoing Chairman, Gordon Gowen, New Hampshire, received a plaque of appreciation for his fine service to the Council as Chairman for the past two years. Bob also presented Lloyd Sipple with a plaque thanking him for 25 years of dedication and service to the Maple Syrup Digest.

The NAMSC Business Meeting reconvened on Tuesday morning and began with a report on the activities of the International Maple Syrup Institute by David Marvin, President of I.M.S.I. David reported that Paul La Montague

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has been appointed the new Executive Manager of the I.M.S.I. Their Annual Meeting was held recently in Magog, Quebec, Canada. Approximately 300 people attended the one day affair. The topic of Tree Health and Acid Precipitation was the theme for this year's meeting.

N.A.M.S.C. elections were held and elected officers for the coming year are as follows: Chairman, John Kroll, Minnesota; Vice Chairman, Michael Girard, Connecticut; Secretary/Treasurer, Lynn Reynolds, Wisconsin.

Newly elected Life Members are; Fred Laing, Vermont; Paul Sendak, Vermont; and Lloyd Sipple, New York.

Research and Study presentations continued, moderated by James Finley, Extension Forestry Specialist, Penn State University.

Mr. Finley introduced Fred Laing, retired, Botany Department, University of Vermont, Burlington. Mr. Laing's presentation included slides on Maple De-

cline in Vermont, the variations and signs of Decline as well as evaluating Maple Decline.

Dr. MariaFranca Morselli of the Maple Research Laboratory, University of Vermont, Burlington, spoke on Maple Decline; Salt Stressed Trees and Tubing Studies.

A Recognition Luncheon for Bob and Florence Lamb was given Tuesday noon. A fine meal was followed by introductory remarks by Bob McConnell honoring the Lambs for their many contributions to Maple.

After lunch, Walter Shortle, USFS, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station in Durham, N.H., gave a presentation on "Maple Vigor and Tapping" concluding this year's meeting.

Many thanks to Pennsylvania for hosting this year's Council Meeting.

Looking to the future, the Council will meet in Vermont in 1986 and in Minnesota in 1987.



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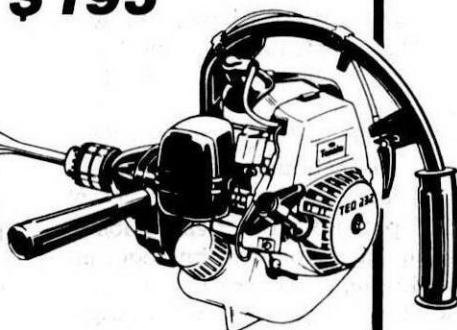
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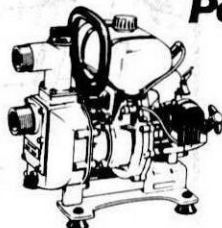
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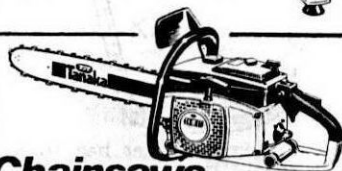
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## 1985 VERMONT MAPLERAMA A SUCCESS

Over 350 people attended the 1985 Vermont Maplerama hosted by the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association and The Extension Service. The attendance, 100 more than expected, taxed facilities to limit.

The theme of the Maplerama was "Maple Magic". Headquarters for it was at Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center.

On Friday buses proceeded to Kent Ancliffe's sugar house in Corinth. At Ancliffe's sugar makers had a choice of how to put up and clean tubing; discussing sugar house technology, including boiling, sap storage, vacuum pumps, UV lights, reverse osmosis, "wood saver" grates and blowers, and preheaters; or of taking part in a marketing and quality-control discussion. All sugar makers could take part in the three different sessions. Ancliffe's operation was on 250 acres, with 3,200 taps. He had a retail business entitled, "Goose Green Maple Syrup Company."

Upon return to Randolph Center the program continued with a social hour and banquet at Morey Hall, Vt. Technical College. Entertainment was by 4-H "Cloggers" from Braintree. The Ray Foulds Award was presented to the most outstanding young sugar maker in the host county: Perry Armstrong of

Randolph Center. Master of Ceremonies was William Paine, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture. Speaker was Philip Moore of Rutland, who demonstrated "Maple Magic" as a magician. Orange County Forester Paul Harwood gave out door prizes. Dancing was enjoyed to music by a bluegrass band led by Bill Moulton and called, "Cold Country."

On Saturday morning a pancake breakfast was enjoyed at Morey Hall. At 8:30 a.m. buses left for the Kevin Hall sugar bush in Braintree, also the Jeff Vinton sugar bush in Braintree. Kevin Hall had 1,600 taps on a pipeline, with a potential for 3,500. The sap tended to be sweet, and he usually made a gallon of syrup for every 3 taps.

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Jeff Vinton's trees were widely spaced, and reproduction was held back by the growth of ferns. Pipeline was hung from wire. The soil had a very low pH (3.75). There is a need to improve the soil - it may need trace elements. He plans a program of fertilizing, also some liming.

At the Kevin Hall stop a special feature was a talk on insects and their control by Ronal Kelley of the Northern District, Vt. Dept. of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. He described problems caused by the Forest Tent Caterpillar, the maple leaf cutter, the saddled prominent, and the Gypsy Moth. Of special concern this year is the pear thrips, which causes damage to maple twigs and leaves that resembles frost damage. Thrips, a small black fly, causes chlorosis in leaves.

At the Jeff Vinton stop Malcolm Franz, State Lands Forester gave an illustrated talk on using vacuum, including the effect of gravity, use of electricity, effect of tree pressure, and effi-

iciency of fuel.

A sugar maker from New Brunswick pointed out a way to filter syrup with the use of milk. The milk and niter float to the top and can be skimmed off.

On Saturday afternoon video-tapes were viewed on the subjects, "Proud Tradition" (produced by the Vt. Maple Promotion Board) and "Frost and Fire" (produced by the I. M. S. I.). At the Perry and Lynn Armstrong sugar house in Randolph Center, an evaporator fired by wood chips was demonstrated; a Valby wood chipper sold by Enerchip, Inc., White River Junction, Vt. and by Northeast Implement Corp., Spencer, N. Y.

The memorial booklet put out for the Maplerama was dedicated to two sugar-making families: Louise and Paul Sillo-way of Randolph Center; and Florence and Rudolph Danforth of Tunbridge.

Raymond T. Foulds, Jr.  
Vermont Correspondent

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ONTARIO ANNUAL MEETING

By John Butler

The 19th Annual Meeting and Convention of the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers' Association was held October 4th and 5th in the Village of Haliburton.

Research Committee Chairman, Charles Tyler, reported on projects requiring further research, including:

- updating cost of production figures to include the use of new technologies
- determining best operating and cleaning methods for reverse osmosis machines
- determining best solution concentrations and methods for cleaning and sterilizing tubing systems
- controlling rodent damage to tubing systems
- improving methods of filtering maple syrup

Promotion and Marketing Committee Chairman, Ross Steed, reported on the projects of the Committee, including:

- a new maple syrup brochure for 1986
- the possibility of a new poster using the colour photo from the brochure
- a brochure listing sugar camps open to visitors
- new maple syrup scene post cards
- foodland Ontario bags for producers
- maple syrup price cards and stickers
- grading posters
- price comparison posters

Many of these projects are being done on a cost shared basis with the Ministry of Agriculture.

Bob Jakeman encouraged producers to consider drumming more syrup for bulk sales. After considering the costs of containers, the labour of packing and the cost of marketing, it may be more profitable for some producers to sell some or all of their syrup in drums at today's bulk prices.

Alex Denys of the Ministry of Natural Resources presented an update on the gypsy moth infestation in Ontario. In 1981, the area suffering moderate to severe defoliation was 3582 acres. By 1984 the infested area increased to 299,141 acres. The 1985 survey showed 608,456 acres suffering moderate to severe defoliation. To date most of the defoliation has occurred on oak and poplar, but gypsy moth is known to attack most species of trees and could become a problem to sugarbushes, especially if there are oak trees in the bush nearby. A discussion on control methods and costs followed.

Professor Arch Jones of MacDonald College in Quebec talked about the maple decline situation in Quebec. While no one cause can be blamed for the decline, a number of factors appear to be involved, including insect defoliation, drought, site limitations, pollution, over maturity, and poor management.

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Professor Jones encouraged producers to manage their sugarbushes to keep the trees as healthy and vigorous as possible. A healthy vigorous tree should be best able to withstand many of the stresses.

Pat and John Weber presented a slide show about the Ontario Maple Syrup Museum.

The Museum is now well established and attracting many visitors. Anyone visiting the area is encouraged to tour the Ontario Maple Syrup Museum in the Village of St. Jacobs.

As guest speaker at the evening banquet, Professor Arch Jones chaired a discussion on the future of the maple syrup industry. A number of producers, representing a great variety of types of operations, each gave a brief opinion of where the maple syrup business is going. Judging by the optimistic outlook of these producers, the future of the Ontario maple syrup industry is very

bright indeed.

Saturday morning was spent touring two local sugarbushes. Iron Kettle Maple Products is a long established family operation of 8000 taps on tubing and vacuum. The sugarhouse equipment includes most labour saving devices, including oil fired evaporator, preheater and reverse osmosis machine. The candy kitchen produces a full range of maple products.

Maple Sands Resort has a 1000 tap sugarbush operated as part of a delightful summer resort. The operation includes tubing and vacuum with the pumps and wood fired evaporator housed in a spacious but rustic building handy to the main lodge. Syrup produced at Maple Sands is readily marketed to the guests at the resort.

Special thanks are extended to Charles and Beulah Tyler who made most of the arrangements for a very successful meeting.



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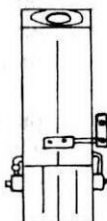
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My wife, whe sez, "Honest Archie, sometimes she calls me Truthful Archie, why don't you tell that nice Mr. Editor man about our experience with dehydrated Maple syrup?"

Well, it wuz like this. Them big jets has got about 6 bathrooms. Now my wife's brother, Ferd, works for the airlines cleaning them. In each bathroom is a 600 gallon water tank. I figured to fill those tanks with sap. When that airplane got up to 60,000 feet on it's way to Texas the sap would freeze. The dry air over Texas would evaporate the ice and have dehydrated maple syrup, Texas style, when it landed.

Now the first trip was a huge success as far as we wuz concerned. My uncle Louie met the airplane in Texas and drained off that syrup as nice as you please, all extra fancy.

The big drawback wuz the people riding the plane. Ferd had to lock the bathrooms and when they complained to the company, an investigation was started and the Aeronautical Board from Washington sent a team to find out why the riders couldn't use the bathrooms. Ferd wuz fired from his job.

We sure made good syrup that first trip.

Your truthful friend



Archie

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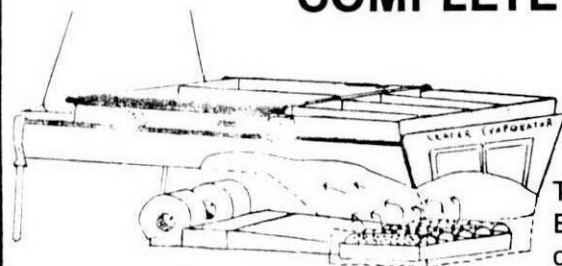
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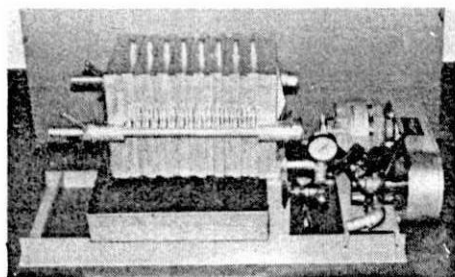
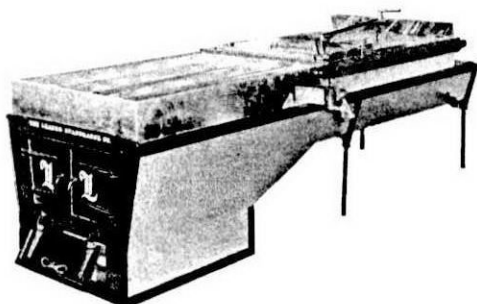
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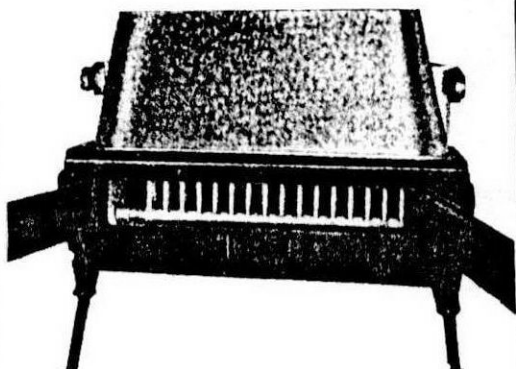
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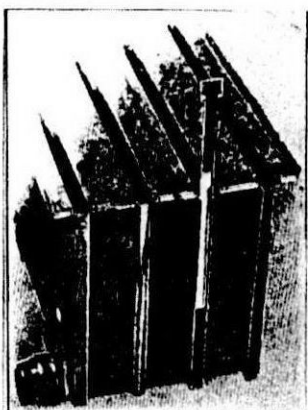
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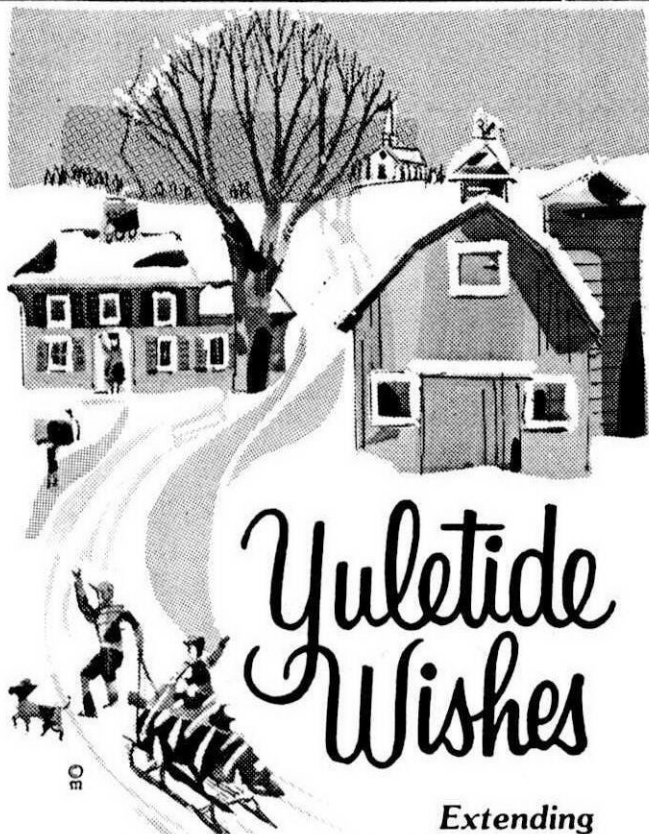
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