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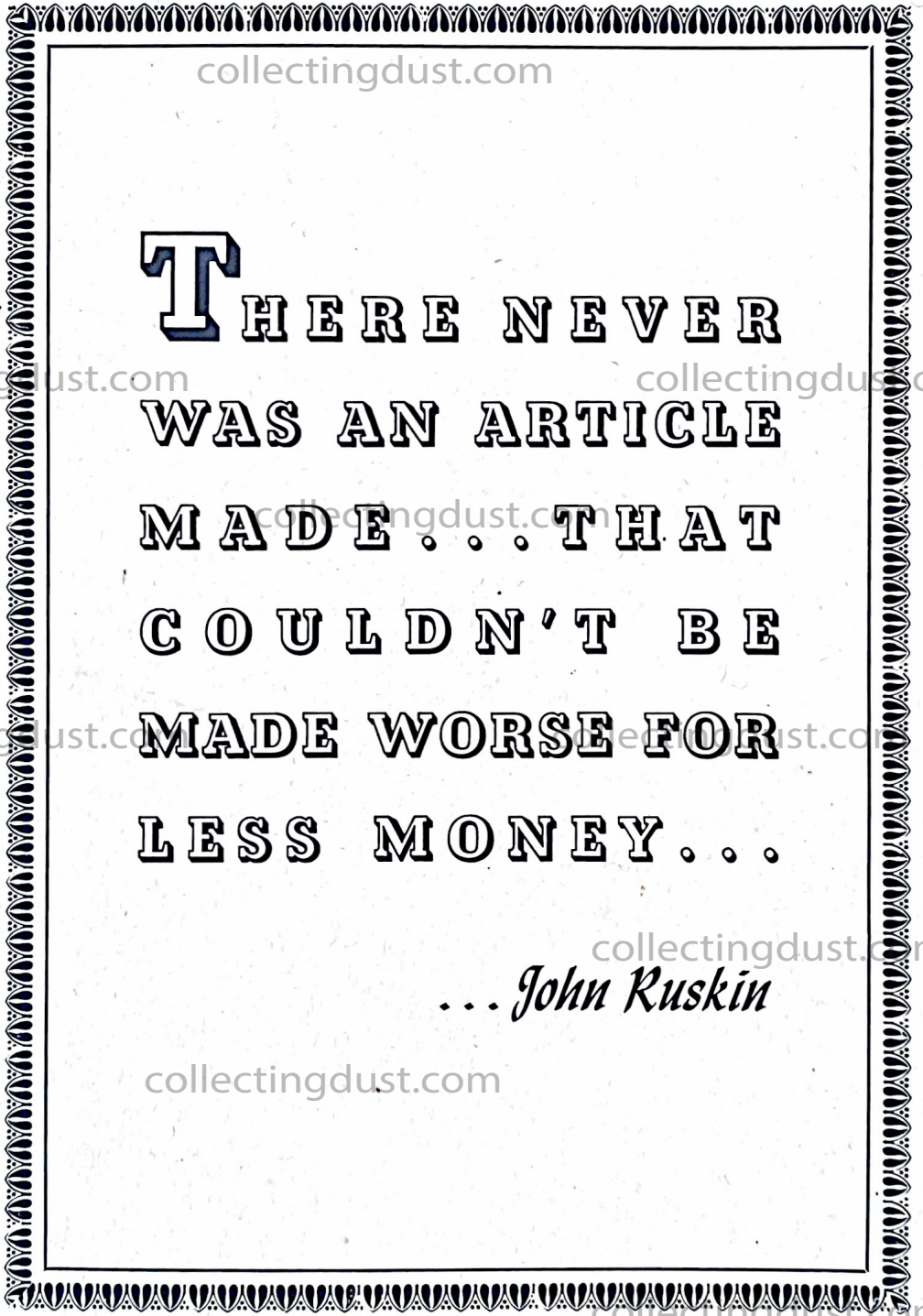
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THERE NEVER
WAS AN ARTICLE
MADE... THAT
COULDN'T BE
MADE WORSE FOR
LESS MONEY...

... *John Ruskin*

collectingdust.com A BRIEF HISTORY OF

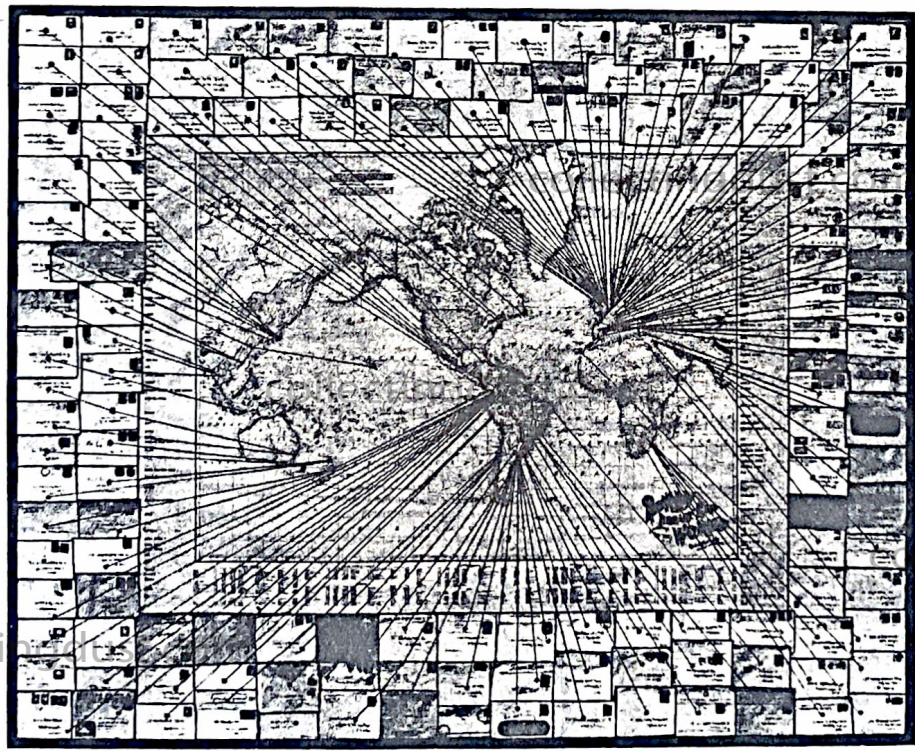
The Scott & Fetzer Company



ESTABLISHED in 1914 at Cleveland, Ohio, as a partnership between Mr. G. H. Scott and C. S. Fetzer, the Company made rapid progress and soon gained an enviable reputation in Cleveland for its high standard of quality of material and workmanship. As early as 1915 people were saying "If Scott & Fetzer makes it—it is good."

Became a corporation under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1916, at which time the first section of the present factory building was erected. Other additions were made from time to time. In 1928, the entire plant was remodeled and a modern two-story building was erected adjoining the original structure. Since World War II three major additions have been built.

In 1919 the Company brought out the world famous Vacuette non-electric cleaner, of which more than one million were sold in the U. S. A. and foreign countries. This was followed by the Vacuette Electric Cleaner, the Scott & Fetzer Sanitation System, and finally, the present sensational Kirby Sanitation System.



The Scott & Fetzer Co. does a world wide business as this record map indicates

Active in Everyday Management



GEORGE H. SCOTT
President
The Scott & Fetzer Company



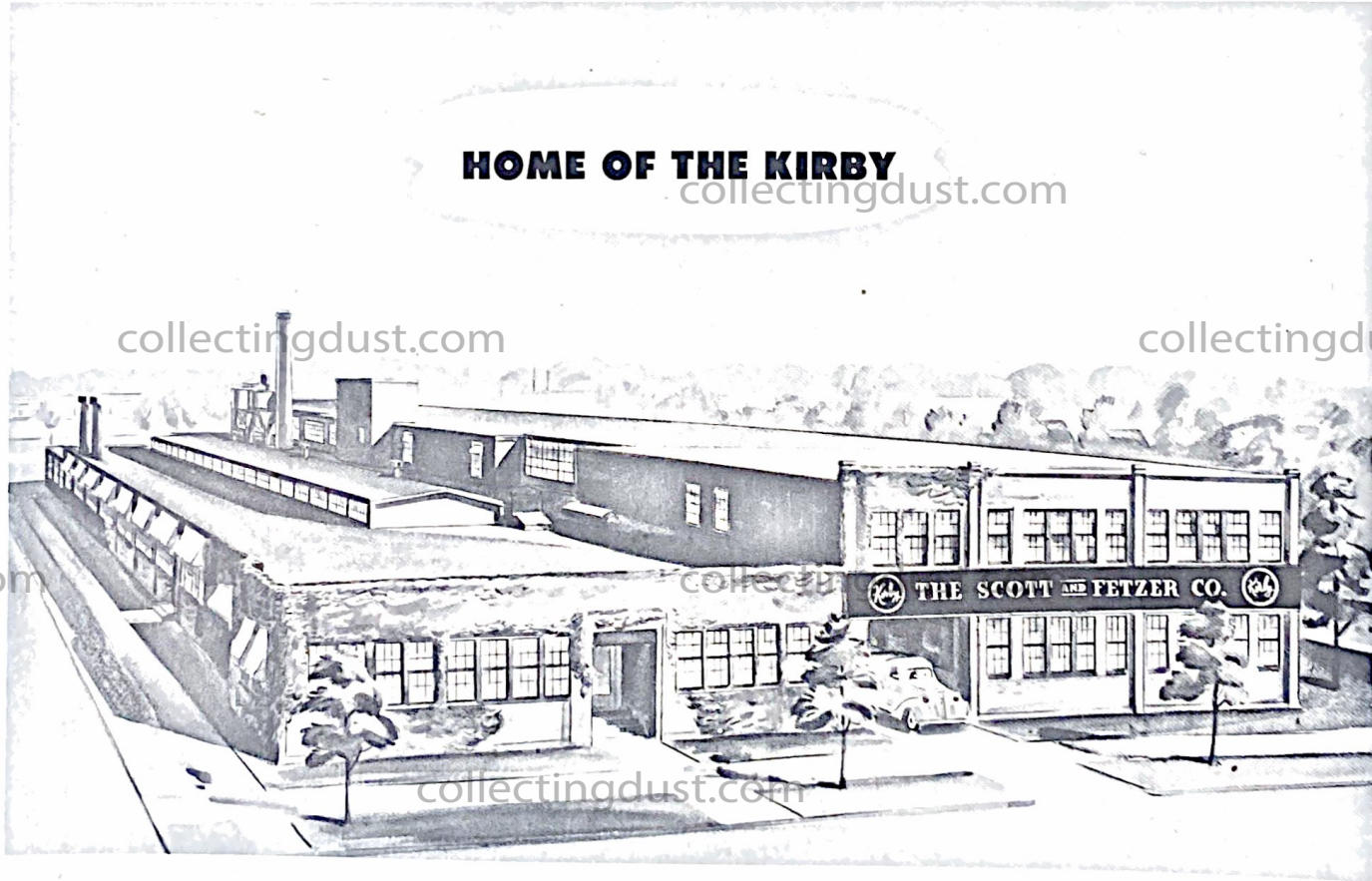
CARL S. FETZER
Vice-President
The Scott & Fetzer Company



JOHN A. KEMPER
Vice-President
The Scott & Fetzer Company



ORIGINAL FACTORY BUILDING 1918



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FINANCIAL REFERENCES

OF

The Scott & Fetzer Company

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Central National Bank of Cleveland

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Cleveland Trust Company

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Union Bank of Commerce, Cleveland, O.

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National City Bank of Cleveland

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Dun & Bradstreet, Incorporated

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JAMES B. KIRBY, *Inventor*

The centering of vacuum cleaner manufacturing in and around Cleveland, is directly or indirectly the result of Mr. Kirby's pioneering in that field of endeavor. The name "Kirby" may not be familiar to the buyer of electric appliances, but to those in the manufacturing end of the appliance industry, it is well known and recognized as a symbol of practical improvement and high-est achievement.

Over forty years of constant thought, experimentation and practical development is incorporated

in this new and most modern home cleaning appliance. Away back in 1907 Mr. Kirby invented and manufactured his first household electric cleaner. In addition to his outstanding work in vacuum cleaner invention, he is the originator of the wringerless washer for home use. The Scott and Fetzer Company control exclusive rights to Mr. Kirby's vacuum cleaner inventions and developments. He already has more than sixty patents on cleaners to his credit, more than any other individual in the world.

Earns Fortune With Vacuum Cleaners

Cleveland Inventor a Mud-Draining Lake, Washing Machine, Too

By GEORGE DAVIS

James B. Kirby, Cleveland, invented one of the first small and handy vacuum cleaners now being used in millions of houses. His dozens of vacuum-cleaner inventions have won him a fortune. But his name remains unknown to all but a few in Cleveland.

That may not be for long, now. For his latest vacuum cleaner is called The Kirby.

Celebrity or lack of it doesn't interest him much. All he desires, he says, is a chance to keep on inventing things, and make a good living out of it. His mind itches with the desire for newness.

Mr. Kirby has invented washing machines. Now he is at work on devices for air-conditioning. Some of his inventions are curious. They include an artificial lake he has patented. It is on his place at Richfield beside an old stage highway south of Cleveland.

When he built the lake by damming up a ravine he found that spring freshets washed hill-side mud down into it. His invention prevents that by running the muddy inlet water off through a drain under the lake.

His patented lake is bordered with wild plants native to the neighborhood. It is stocked with fish so tame they eat from his hand. He angles a little. But he goes to the north woods for that. Recreation house at one end



James B. Kirby . . . his mind itches.

of his lake has a dance floor built on springs. Some guests say it is the easiest floor they ever tried.

He golfs a little, says he isn't good at it. He has tried hunting big game, and has lost all desire to kill. His new idea in sports is to set a pack of beagles after a fox. The fox knows the beagles can't catch up. So the fox takes its time, and the hunters follow on foot. This is an invention in sport he hasn't tried out yet.

Jim Kirby he has been called ever since he went to Lincoln High in Cleveland.

He quit high school after three years. The superintendent wished him to study languages. He wished to take

Creatures of His Brain Are in Homes, Factories and Barber Shops

chemistry. He says he isn't sorry he quit, isn't sorry he didn't go to college as he had intended. He fancies that if he did he might now be working for some big company as chemist, and not getting very well paid for it.

Leaving high school, he went to work for a company that made electrical appliances. Soon he had a small shop of his own. His first invention was a vibrator such as is used in barber shops. He saw there would be a greater demand for a handy vacuum cleaner. That's how he came to invent one.

He is rather slender, with brown eyes and a ready smile. As he talks, he sits with one leg over the arm of an office chair.

Mr. Kirby's vacuum cleaners are used the world over. Scott & Fetzer Co. now control the new Kirby patents. First they bought rights to a hand-power cleaner he had invented. That was when hand power cleaners were being superseded by electrics. They didn't know that. They laugh about that now. They can. For the venture was profitable both to the manufacturers and the inventor.

His latest electric cleaner is the first to bear his name. It went into production only a couple of weeks ago at the Scott & Fetzer plant in Cleveland. Meanwhile the first Kirby invention, the vibrator, still is used in barber shops all over the United States.

JAMES B. KIRBY, *Modern Pioneer*



Few men in the vacuum cleaner industry have ever been accorded the honor which has come to Mr. Kirby through his outstanding accomplishments in his chosen field. The National Committee which awarded the MODERN PIONEER SCROLL OF ACHIEVEMENT to Mr. Kirby sent notification of the award in the letter shown below.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
MANUFACTURERS
14 WEST 40TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

H. W. PRENTIS JR.
President

collectingdust.com
January 20, 1940

Mr. James B. Kirby,
The Scott & Fetzer Company,
11401 Locust Ave.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Kirby:

It is a high honor for me to be privileged to notify you that a committee of distinguished scientists headed by Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has designated you to receive the Association's special award as one of this country's Modern Pioneers.

Your selection and that of your fellow Modern Pioneers is the culmination of some six months search for those men whose pioneering on the frontiers of industry has resulted in significant contributions to the American standard of living.

It is indeed fitting that this recognition of the skill and perseverance which built new industries, new jobs and innumerable comforts and conveniences for all of us should come in 1940, the 150th anniversary of the American Patent System to which inventive genius must continue to look for protection and encouragement.

So that it may not be said that America's Modern Pioneers "are not without honor save in their own country", local communities will pay tribute to their own Modern Pioneers at dinners to be held in 15 principal industrial centers. The Modern Pioneer dinner in your area and at which you will be presented formally with the National Association of Manufacturers' award will be held at Hotel Statler, Cleveland on February 7.

Details of the dinner and the attendant ceremonies will reach you from the local committee in charge, which is under the chairmanship of F. T. Holliday, President, Standard Oil Company, Cleveland.

In the meantime, may I offer my heartiest congratulations on your selection to receive this well-deserved recognition. Men like you personify the pioneering spirit which has made America great and which has given this nation its leadership in science and technology.

Of course upon receipt of invitation, you will plan to attend your local Modern Pioneer dinner so that you may personally receive the honor which American industry seeks to bestow upon you.

Very truly yours,

President.

HWP/Prva

Original letter notifying
Mr. Kirby of the award

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JAMES B. KIRBY

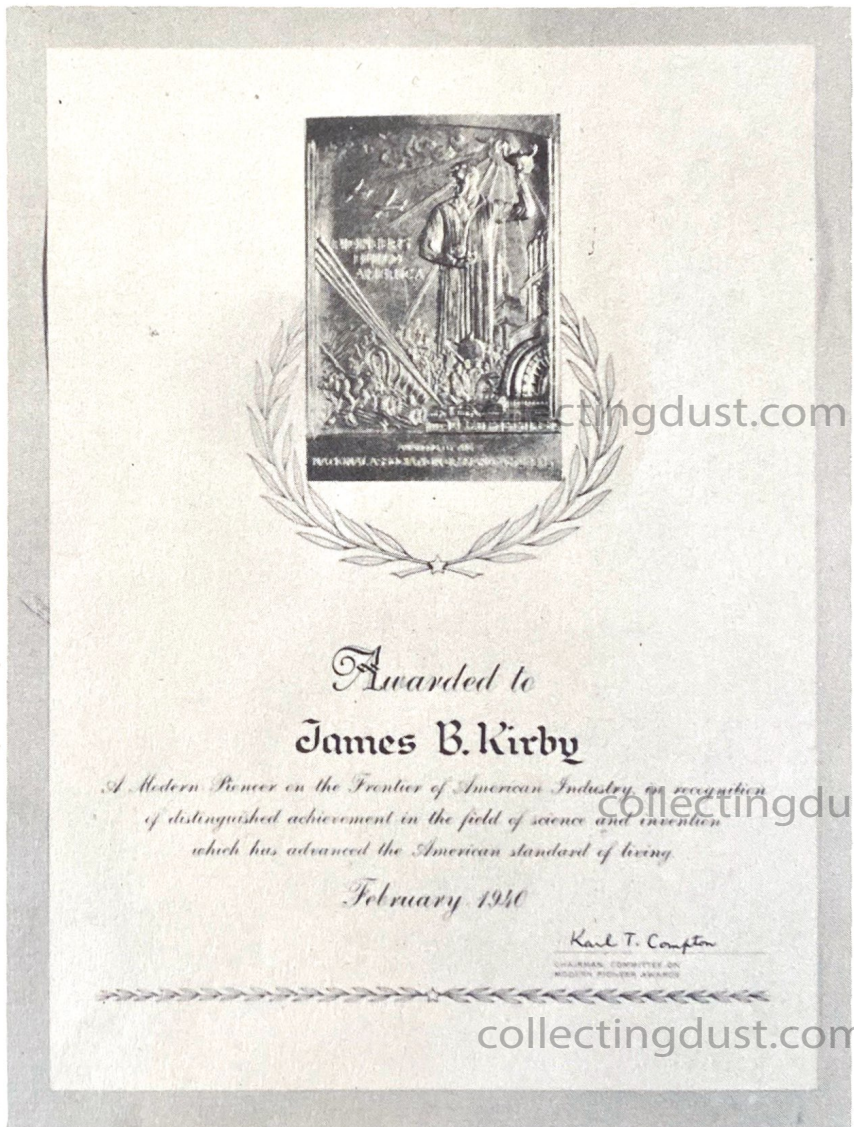
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MODERN PIONEER

• • • • •
This high honor and national recognition in the field of industrial research and invention places Mr. Kirby in a select group of men so honored for having made life better for everybody by creating new industries, new jobs—steady progress for America!

Mr. Kirby's pioneering in vacuum cleaner and home appliance development has won for him this merited recognition. His work is chiefly responsible for the centering of the vacuum cleaner industry in and around Cleveland, his native city.

For the past twenty-two years The Scott & Fetzer Company of Cleveland has held sole rights to manufacture and market Mr. Kirby's vacuum cleaner patents and designs.

James B. Kirby receiving the award from W. C. Holliday, Chairman of the Cleveland Modern Pioneers Committee



• • • • •
*Modern Pioneer
Scroll of Achievement*



44 YEARS OF Kirby and The Scott & Fetzer Co. Development

The above display features *nine* different Kirby-designed cleaners all of which were manufactured and sold as commercial products. They date from the first Kirby cleaner of 1906, through the Model 2C Kirby of 1939. From left to right they are described as shown below:

1906 A replica of Mr. Kirby's first vacuum cleaner operated by hand power (a later model was motor driven). Separated dust by drawing dust-laden air through water. Approximately 100 were built and sold.

1907 Electric powered-Centrifugal dust separation through a conical enclosed cloth bag. Built and sold by Domestic Vacuum Cleaner Company. This machine was in actual service up to 1936.

1910 Mr. Kirby's first cleaner to dispense with the hose for rug cleaning. This model was one of the first light-weight portable cleaners to use aluminum in its construction and was the first cleaner to be manufactured in Cleveland in large quantities.

1914 A hand-powered oddity nicknamed "The Grass-hopper". Fore-runner of the famous Vacuette non-electric suction sweeper. Bellows generated suction by pressing downward and forward on the handle.

1919 Mr. Kirby's first fan-operated non-electric. Worm

and gear drive. First ones built and sold by The Scott & Fetzer Company in 1919. Total production over one million.

1925 The first electric cleaner of Mr. Kirby's design to be built by The Scott & Fetzer Company. First electric cleaner to have a separable long handle convertible for hand portable use.

1928 Kirby-designed Scott & Fetzer Sanitation System. A home sanitation unit convertible for any type of home vacuum cleaning. Gear-driven floor brush.

1935 The first electric vacuum cleaner designed by Mr. Kirby to be named after him. Introduced the "toe-touched nozzle adjustment" feature, and the "triple-cushioned vibration" principle of cleaning. All Kirby models are "kind to your rugs."

1939 (*Center of picture*) The Model 2C Kirby introduced the electric floodlight streamlined nozzle and the large Sani Em-tor.

CONTINUED PROGRESS SINCE WORLD WAR II

Over nineteen major improvements have been made in the Kirby since the war!

1945 Re-establishment of production after VJ day at The Scott & Fetzer Company required a large increase in the manufacturing facilities to meet the increased demand.

1946 Inauguration of the exclusive Belt Lifter feature makes it possible to change from rug cleaning to above-the-floor cleaning without touching the belt.

1947 Introduction of the separate nozzle floor polisher with its own belt lifter which enables this unit to be easily attached and widely used.

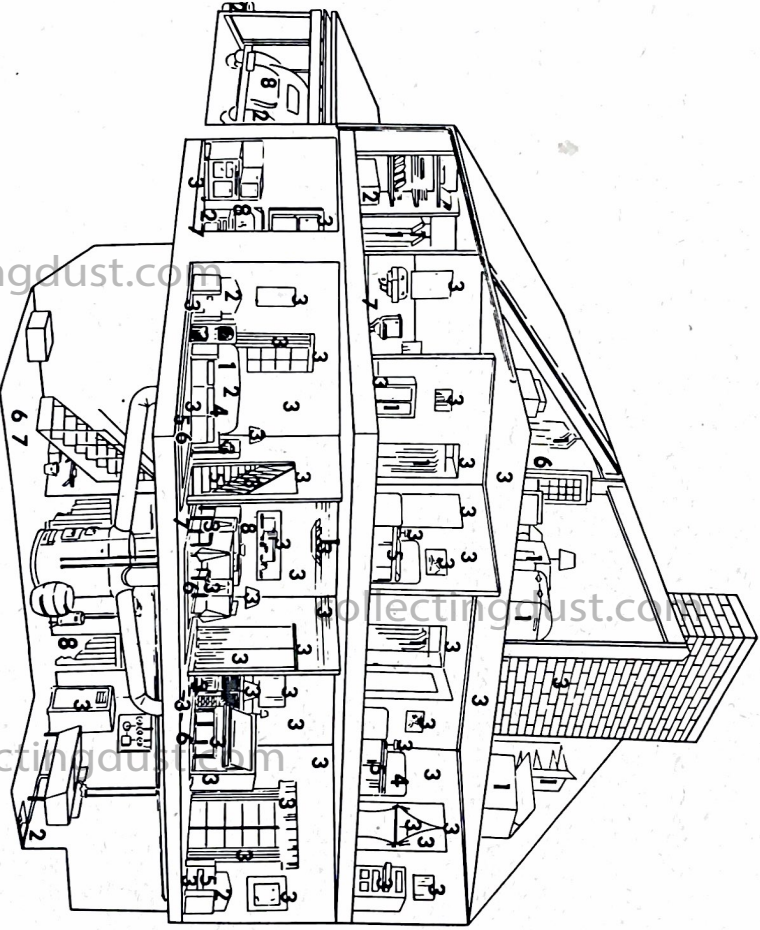
1948 The Model 508, with integrated color, in a modern package, with a separate attachment kit enters production.

1949 The Model 509, with Suds-O-Gun shampoo device and the Handi-Butler for sharpening, cleaning and polishing is introduced.

1950 The Air Refresher was added . . . used to clean up objectionable odors while cleaning the home . . . Model 510.

8 Complete Units...

A Multitude of Uses for the **Kitty** SANITATION SYSTEM in the Home!



1. Crystallator or Demolter

Removes all oil, grease, varnish, lacquer, paint, wax, asphalt, cement, concrete, stone, brick, mortar, plaster, putty, cement, etc. Also removes all dirt, grime, and stains from all surfaces. Cleans and brightens all surfaces. Cleans and brightens all surfaces. Cleans and brightens all surfaces.

2. SPRAY and SUDS-O-GUN

Lacquers, paints, insecticides, floor wax, asphalt, cement, concrete, stone, brick, mortar, plaster, putty, cement, etc. Also removes all dirt, grime, and stains from all surfaces. Cleans and brightens all surfaces.

3. PORTABLE

Unit on the floor: Walls, baseboards, tapestries, lamp shades, venetian blinds, radiators, brick fireplaces, window shades, etc. Ceiling: Ceiling, moldings, lighting fixtures, windows and doors. Shoulder Strap added: Attic, basement and automobile.

4. MATTRESS CLEANER

Mattresses, heavy thick curtains, upholstered furniture, and carpeted bedrooms.

5. RUG CLEANER

Carpets and rugs. Special: Sanitary method of emptying the dirt!

6. ELECTRIC FLOOR DUSTER

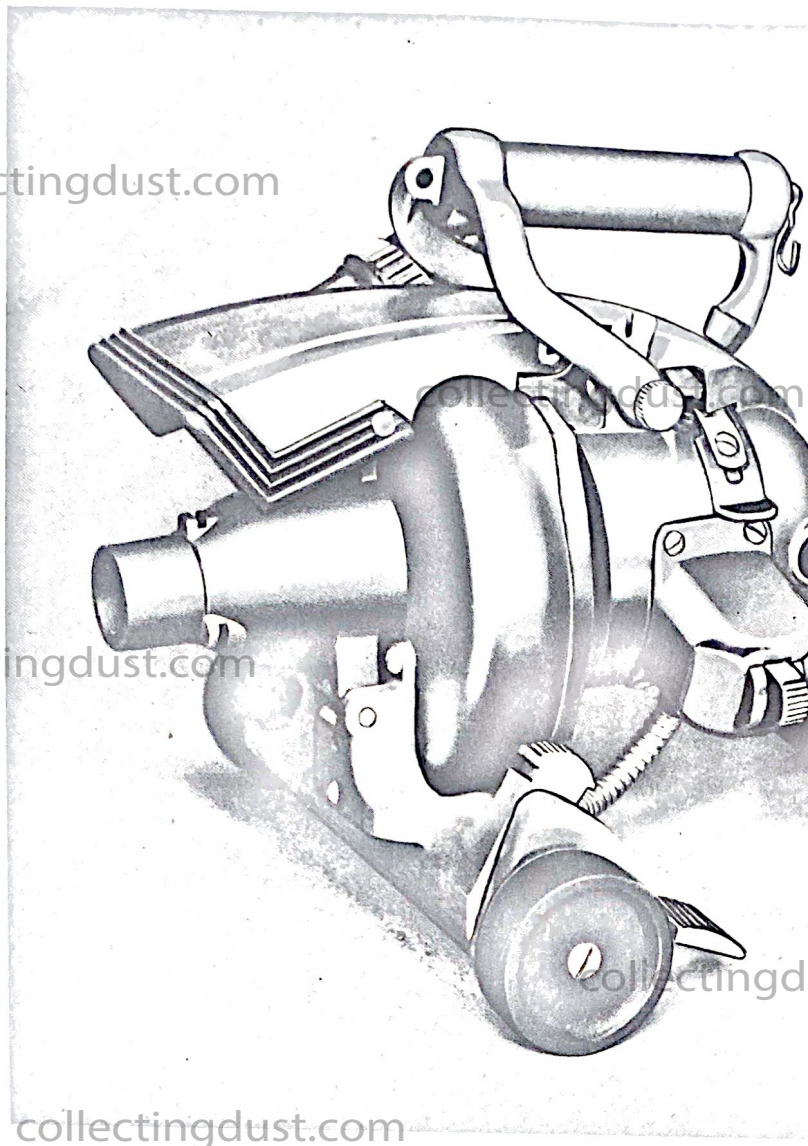
Linoleum, cement or tile, or hardwood floors.

7. POWER POLISHER

(Optional Equipment)
Linoleum, cement, tile, or hardwood floors, linoleum covered walls, sink or table tops.

8. HAND-BUTTER

(Optional Equipment)
Specially built for polishing sports equipment, brass, chrome, nickel, steel, etc. Cleans and brightens all surfaces. Cleans and brightens all surfaces. Cleans and brightens all surfaces.



PURPOSE

The motor unit or power plant supplies the power to operate all of the Kirby Units at required speed and force.

GENERAL INFORMATION

It has a series wound type universal motor . . . grease packed ballbearings . . . a dependable start-stop switch . . . molded rubber connections on rubber covered extension cord . . . no oiling or greasing is necessary . . . a flexible method of placing it in its operational positions (parts are slipped into place without any nuts or screws).

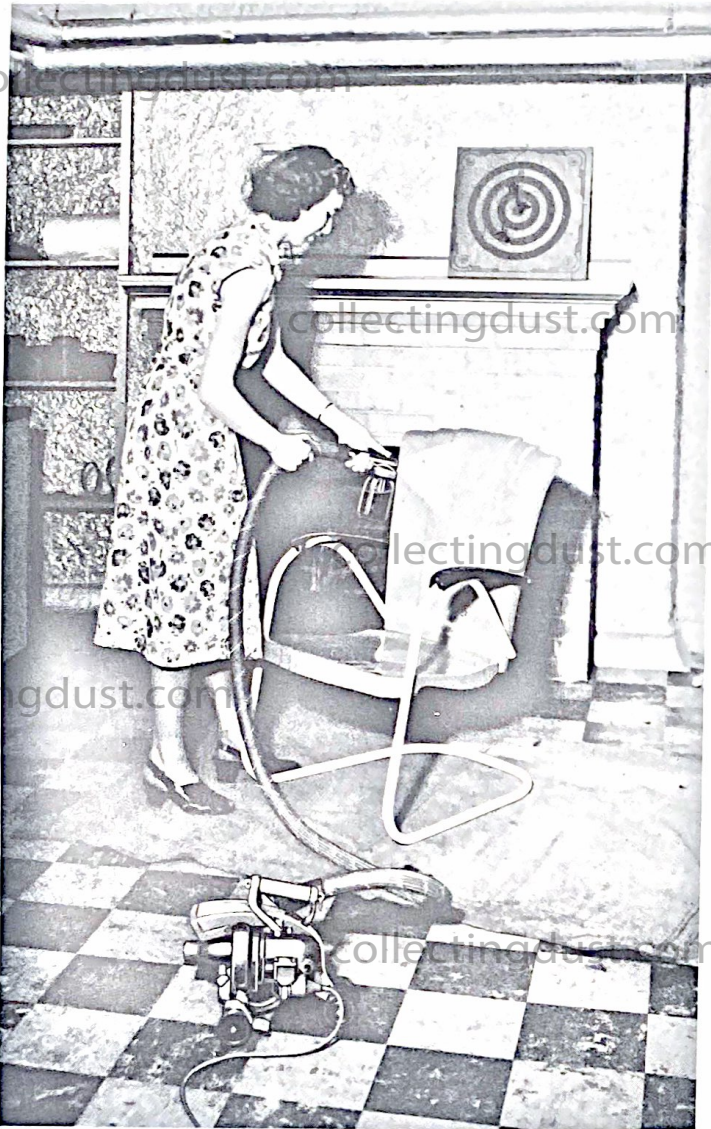


MOTOR UNIT



UNIT No. 1 . . . The Crystalator is an adjustable device for dispensing Paradi-chlorobenzene Crystals in a gaseous, powdered or crystal form, used in the prevention and extermination of moth life (all stages), insects and vermin . . . used in clothes closets to protect woolen and fur apparel placed therein, such as furs, suits, overcoats, sweaters, caps, gowns, bathing suits, mufflers, pillows, blankets, comforters and quilts. The gasses and powders can be forced into usually inaccessible places such as under rugs, baseboards, kitchen sinks and into garbage cans, drain pipes, chests, drawers, bookcases, trunks, cupboards, pianos and upholstered furniture.

CRYSTALATOR...De-mothing Unit



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UNIT No. 2 . . . SPRAY AND SUDS-O-GUN . . . Paints, insecticides and floor wax can be sprayed with the Spray Gun and extra-dry suds produced through the Suds-O-Gun. This is a portable unit which can be 'taken to the job'. There is an adjustment for coarseness or fineness of the spray. This unit will save much time, and enable you to do jobs not easily done by other methods. Spray paint your fireplace, wicker furniture or recreation room walls, and shampoo your living room rug and overstuffed furniture . . . become a convert to this better way.

SPRAY and SUDS-O-GUN



UNIT No. 3 . . . The Portable Unit is used to clean everything above the floor . . . draperies, venetian blinds, lamp shades, moldings, walls, and lighting fixtures. It is designed to be pulled on wheels over the floor, lifted up stairs or into an automobile with the Lifter Grip handle and carried using the shoulder strap. The brushes and other tools, the extension tubes, and the tool cabinet which can be carried to the job, make this a very complete unit.

PORTABLE — Floor — Shoulder



UNIT No. 4 . . . Mattress cleaner or Hand Portable provides a hand cleaner with maximum power. This is the full-sized power unit with the revolving brush which is used in the cleaning of mattresses, heavy thick cushions, upholstered furniture, and carpeted stairways. It may be operated with or without rotation of the revolving brush . . . just swing the Belt Lifter Lever.

MATTRESS CLEANER

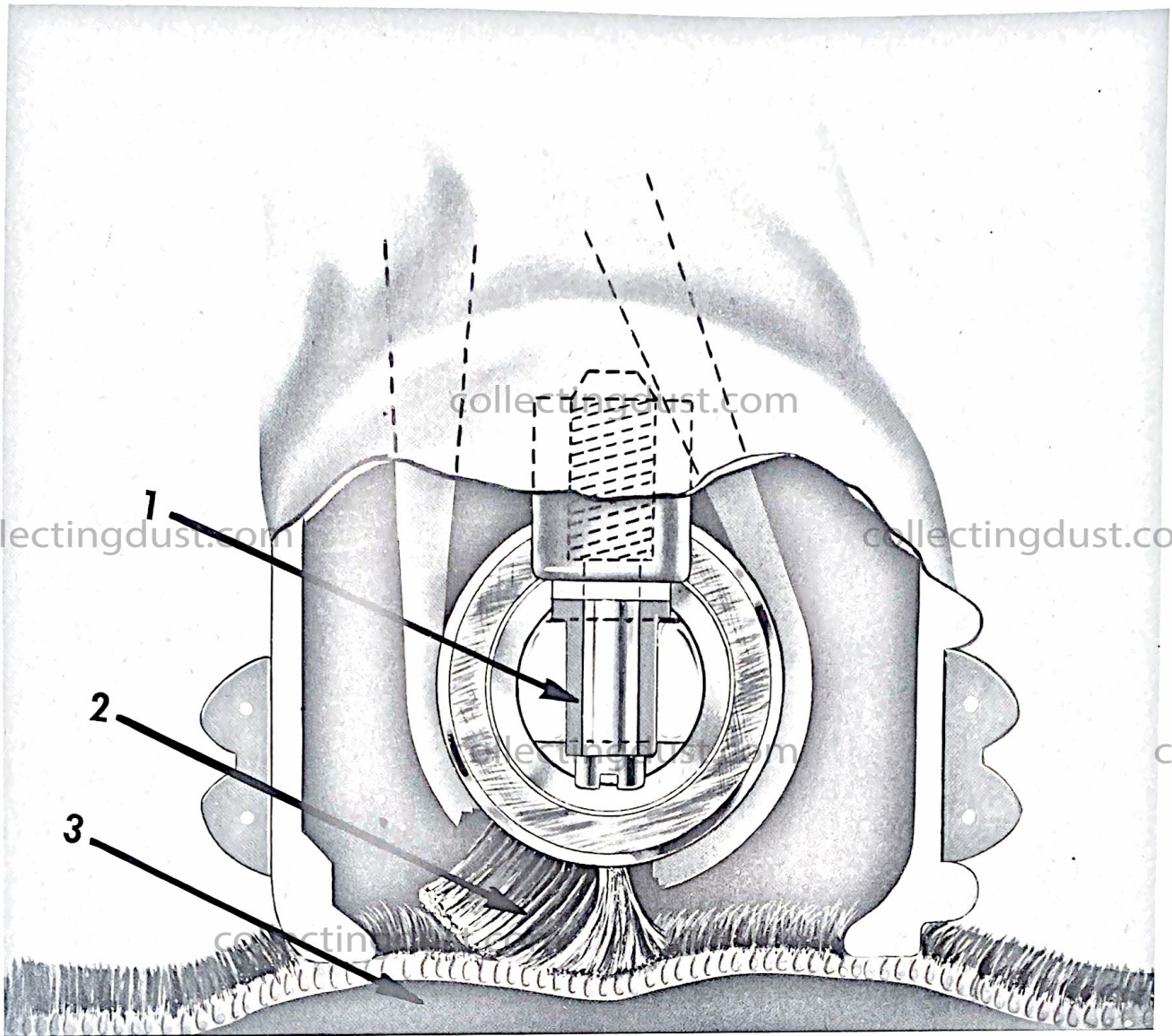


UNIT No. 5 . . . This is the unit used to clean rugs and carpets of all kinds.

There are various new twist and sculptured rugs which pose difficulties for many machines, but not the Kirby, because of the Toe-Touch control with which the best cleaning height of the floor nozzle can readily be secured. The Triple-cushioned-vibration-cleaning action can quickly and positively shake loose the deep-down dirt and whisk it away into the filter bag. Of course this must be emptied of the dirt collected at reasonable intervals so that the important powerful flow of air is maintained at all times. This is the important function of the Sani Em-tor. It makes easy this task of *emptying the bag* which is so necessary for effective cleaning. The Kirby bag is unusually large, therefore it does not require emptying as often as smaller bags.



RUG CLEANER



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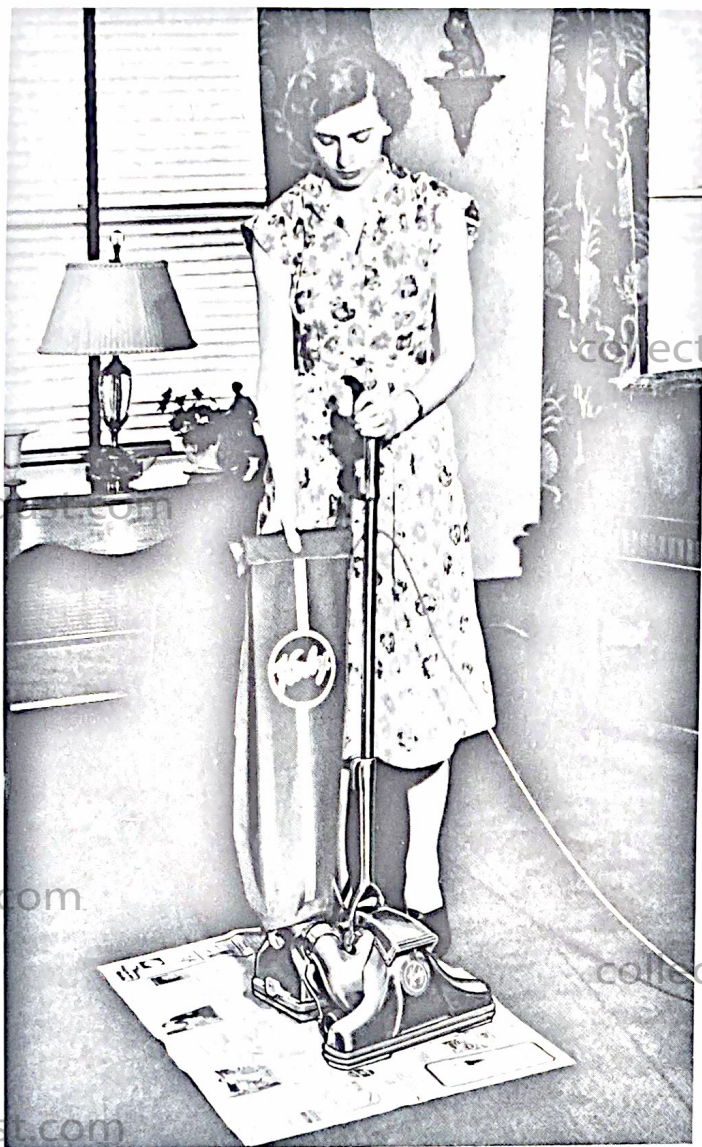


This is a positive, yet gentle, way of shaking loose the embedded dirt in a rug, sweeping and carrying the dirt away. Triple-cushioned refers to:

1. A rubber sleeve or cushion upon which is held the rotary brush.
2. Long, resilient bristles in the rotating vibrating brush, which bend and cushion their sweeping action.
3. The rug is lifted from the floor to the face of the nozzle and so is vibrated and swept while supported by a cushion of air.

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TRIPLE CUSHIONED VIBRATION RUG CLEANING ACTION



SANI EM-TOR, a patented feature exclusive with the Kirby, provides a clean and quick way of emptying the dirt collected. Dirt must be emptied to assure efficient operation. No paper bags or filter cones, just an old newspaper, is needed in the use of the Sani Em-tor in this method.

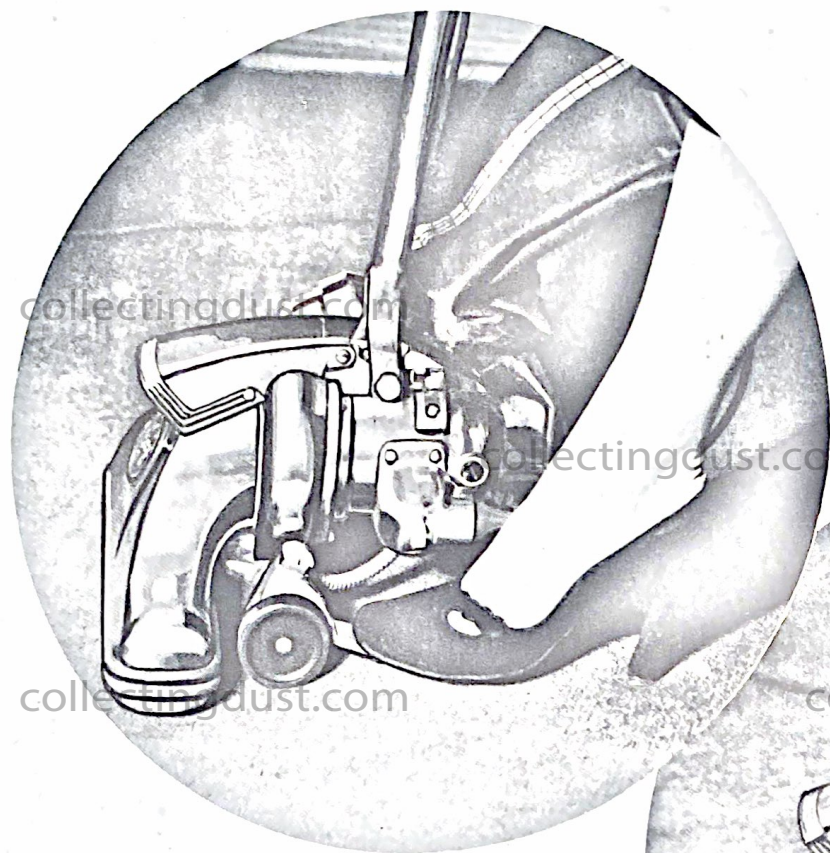
Spread several thicknesses of old newspaper on the floor, shake the dirt down in the bag, open the trap-door in the bottom of the Sani Em-tor. The dirt drops onto the newspaper which can be rolled around the pile of dirt and disposed of. It is the quickest, easiest and most sanitary way of emptying the bag!



The 'no dust,
no fuss, no muss'
way to empty
the bag!

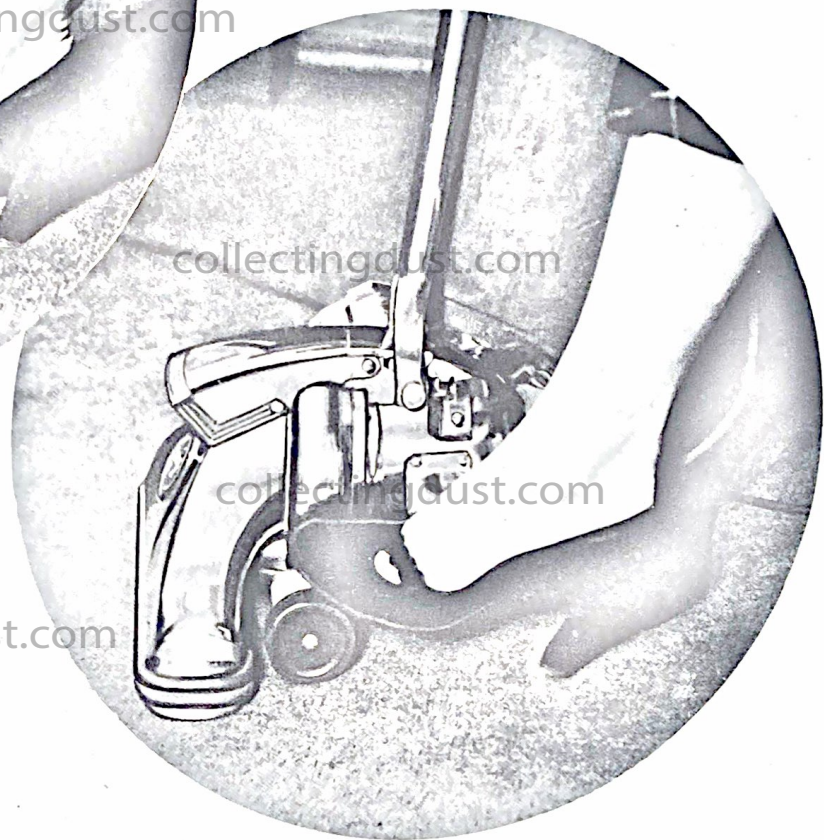


SANI EM-TOR



← TO RAISE

TO LOWER ↘

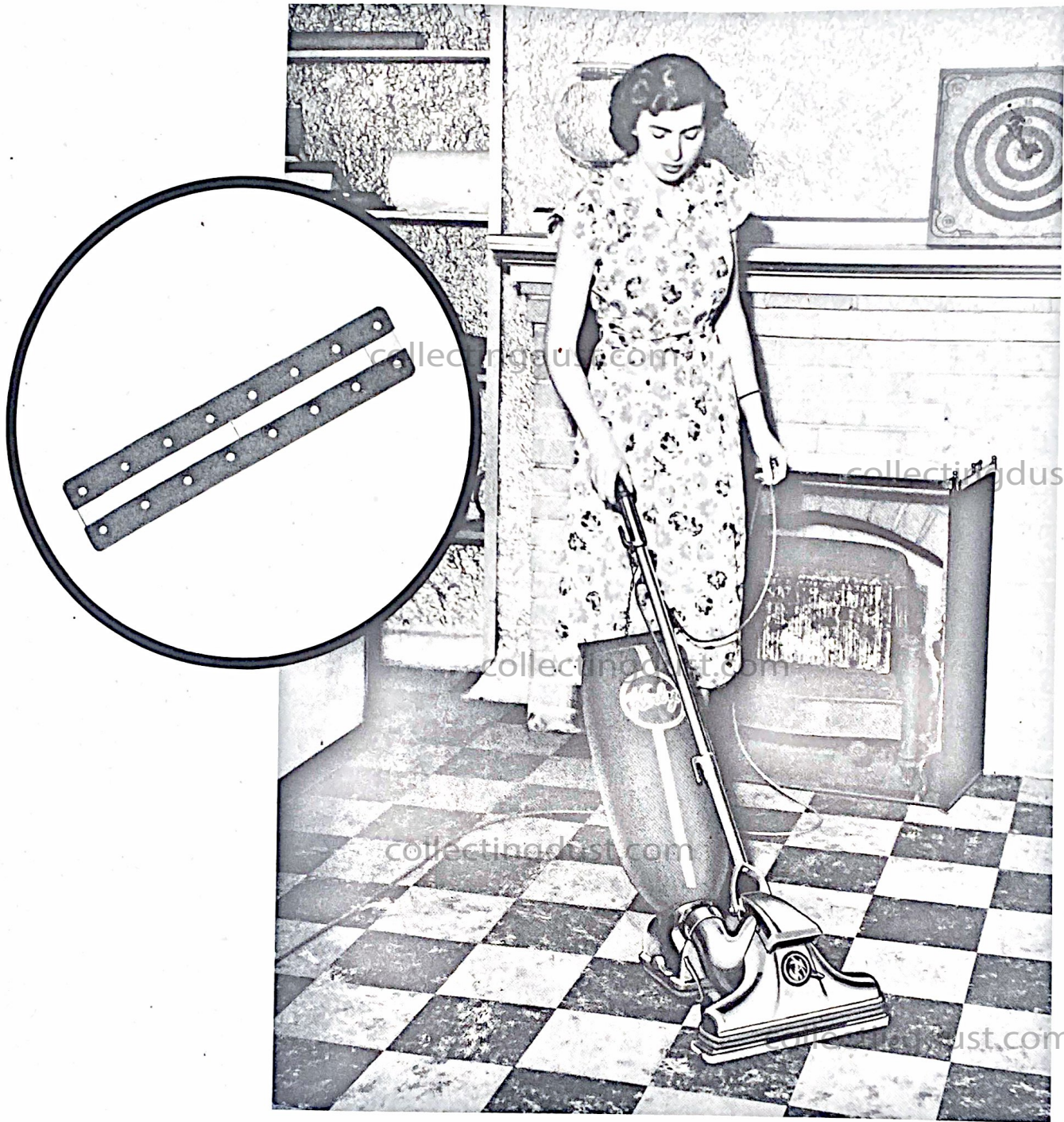


TO ADJUST NOZZLE HEIGHT FOR EFFICIENT RUG CLEANING

The many new kinds of rugs in use today make the proper adjustment of the nozzle height more important than ever before. If the nozzle is too far off the rug's surface, it won't clean at all, and if it is too close, pushing down and resting on the rug, it won't clean efficiently and might be hard to push. Therefore, a device is provided with which the nozzle can be adjusted to the proper cleaning height. The Toe-Touch Control is the semi-automatic way of raising and lowering the nozzle. Button A is used for raising the nozzle and Button B is used for lowering the nozzle a notch at a time. These adjustments are made by pressing the buttons with the toe of your shoe. This is a comparatively easy and quick way of accomplishing this important adjustment.

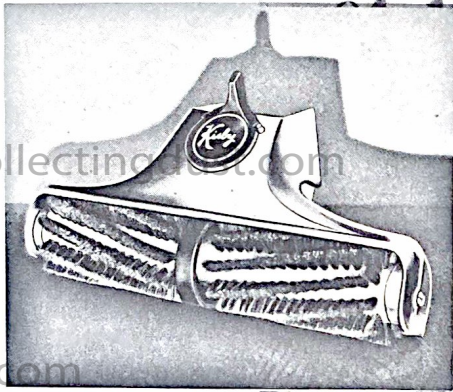


TOE-TOUCH CONTROL



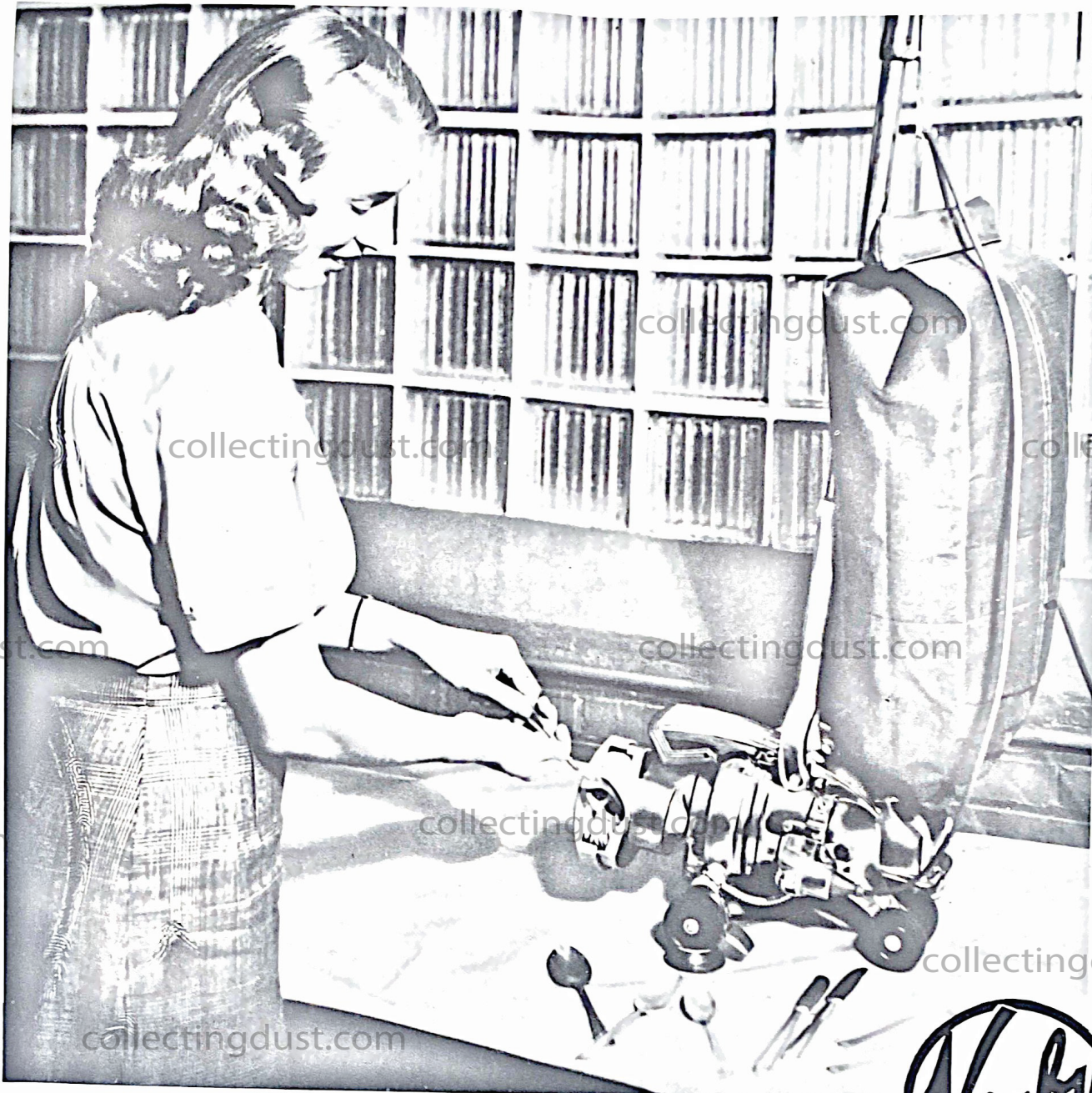
UNIT No. 6 . . . is used for the dusting of hardwood, linoleum, cement or other hard-surfaced floors. Tilt the nozzle of the machine up and snap the felt pad into place with the metal clips provided for this purpose. The rubbing of this felt pad loosens the dirt and surface film for the air stream to carry away. The suction will also clean the dirt from the cracks and crevices in the floor.

ELECTRIC FLOOR DUSTER



UNIT No. 7 . . . is the unit to be used for the polishing of hard-surfaced floors after they have been waxed. Linoleum, hardwood and asphalt tile floors can be polished quickly and easily. With the removal of the long handle and the attachment of the Lifter Grip, the Power Polisher Unit can be used for the polishing of table and sink tops, linoleum covered walls, or other similar surfaces.

POWER POLISHER



UNIT No. 8 . . . THE HANDI-BUTLER



BUFFING



SHARPENING



WAXING



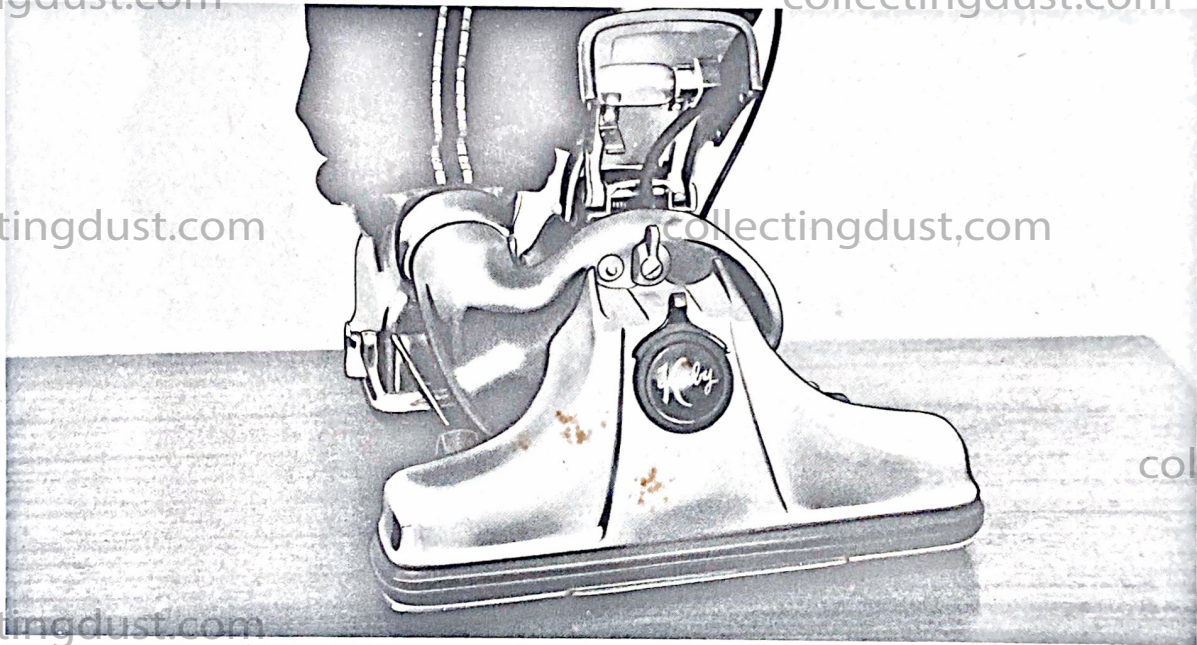
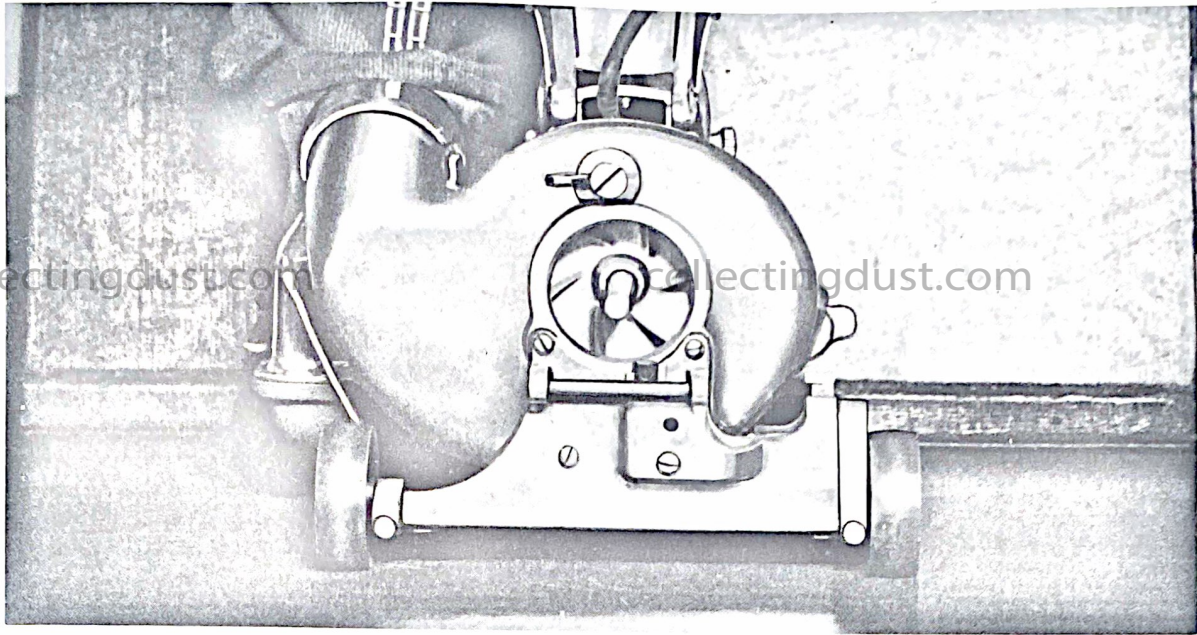
POLISHING



CLEANING

A complete kit of power-operated household tools!

HANDI-BUTLER

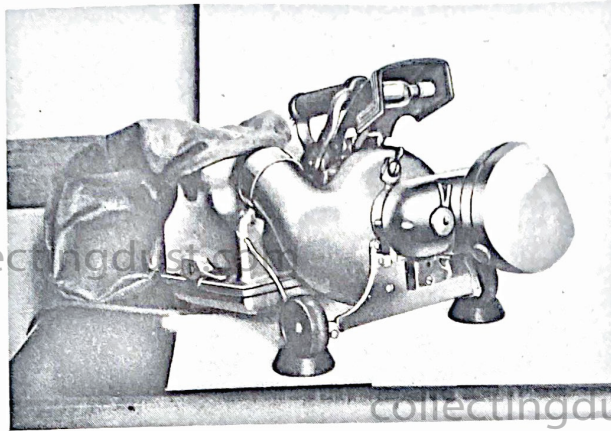


YOUR SAFETY IS ASSURED by this automatic patented safety switch. Its purpose is to eliminate the danger of injury to the hands and fingers from the high-speed fan. This cannot happen with the Kirby because, if the fan is exposed to view, the motor cannot run. Due to an ingenious cut-out switch, either the Rug Cleaner Nozzle, Power Polisher, Suction Coupler or Handi-Butler must be in place, covering the fan blades, in order to complete the electric circuit which runs the motor. It is another exclusive feature of the Kirby!

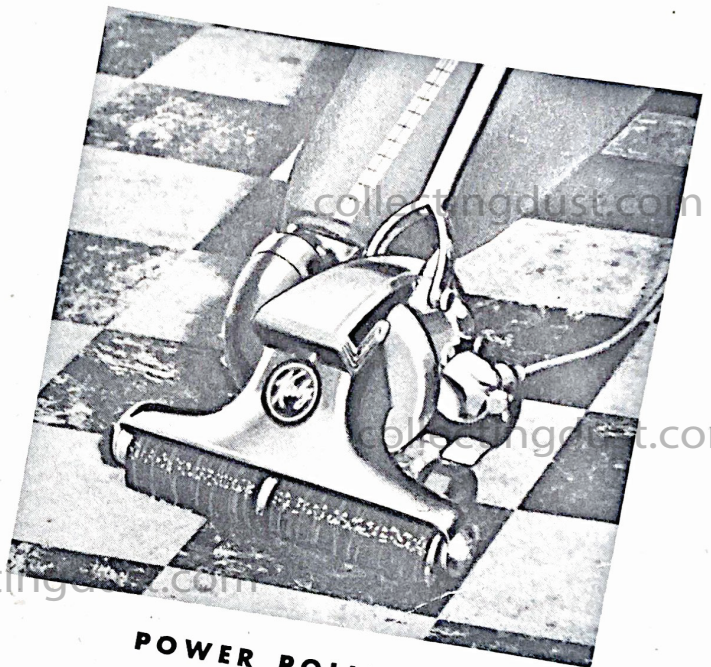


SAFETY SWITCH

HANDI-BUTLER



RUG CLEANER



POWER POLISHER



The patented Belt Lifter makes it unnecessary for any Kirby owner to strain, soil or cut fingers when placing the drive belt on the motor shaft. The Handi-Butler, Power Polisher, and the Rug Cleaner Nozzle each has a belt to drive it, and each has its own Belt Lifter. No more do you have to remove the cap and strain your fingers to place the belt on the drive shaft . . . just turn the Belt Lifter Lever!

BELT LIFTER

FULLY GUARANTEED



GENERAL COVERAGE GUARANTEE

THIS CERTIFIES that this Kirby Cleaner has passed a thorough inspection and test, has met all requirements and, the established list price having been paid by the purchaser, is guaranteed by the manufacturer as follows:

During one year from date of purchase, the Company after due examination will replace or repair any part the Company judges defective in material or workmanship. Delivery of such part, or the Cleaner itself, must be made prepaid to the factory or authorized Distributor during the period of the guarantee. Under any other circumstances a service charge will be made for sending a service representative to call for or deliver any cleaner or part.

Replacement of belts will not be made gratis, as the amount of use and the care given the brush assembly determines their length of life. We cannot guarantee the life of light bulbs.

If you cannot locate a nearby Distributor for required service, write The Scott & Fetzer Company, Cleveland 2, Ohio, for instructions.

Read the Instruction Book thoroughly, as failure to follow instructions may injure the cleaner and cause trouble for which the Company will not be responsible. The Company will in no case be responsible for damage or breakage caused by accident, misuse, abuse or damage resulting from owner's tampering or repairs attempted by unauthorized service men.

No verbal or written agreement on the part of the salesman or Distributor other than contained herein is valid or binding on the manufacturer and should not be accepted by the purchaser.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. A. Scott", written in a cursive style.

President

THE SCOTT & FETZER CO. — Manufacturers

Cleveland 2, Ohio, U.S.A.