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Admiral Von Holtzendorff
Says it's Impossible for Allies
Make Effective Blockade

**Says No Military Advantage Could be Gain-
 ed—England's Purpose is to Cripple Ger-
 many—Neutrals Will be the Hardest Hit.**
Says Germany is Prepared to Fight for
Years and Thinks Allies Cause is Doomed
to Failure.

BERLIN, via wireless to Sayville, Feb. 5.—An effective blockade of Germany is impossible, Admiral von Holtzendorff, chief of the German admiralty staff, declared to-day in an exclusive statement to the United Press. Britain, he said, could under no circumstances stop commerce in the Baltic between Sweden and Denmark and Germany. For weeks, he pointed out, no British submarine has had any success in the Baltic. The Russian fleet is frozen in Russian harbors.

Neutrals Alone Affected.
 The only effect of a declaration of blockade by the allies, the admiral stated, would be upon neutrals, and upon the women and children of Germany. He hinted strongly that Germany is prepared for any action by Great Britain.

"When I say a new blockade of Germany would be a bluff, don't misunderstand me," said Admiral von Holtzendorff. "Germany looks earnestly, but fearlessly, upon any enemy plans to cause her women and children to suffer. But because such a blockade is impossible, I say it is a bluff."

"Ask any Swedish merchant, ask Swedes in Britain, ask anyone knowing the Baltic situation. They will all tell you that commerce between the two countries is absolutely normal. For four weeks no British submarine has had any success in the Baltic. We intend to make it more impossible. Because an English blockade of our Baltic ports is out of the question, an attempt at an effective blockade would be a bluff. Britain already hampers German trade. If a blockade should be declared now, it would be contrary to international law. It would not only be a blockade of Germany, but of neutral countries about her."

Britain's Purpose.
 "Britain's purpose is to make difficulties for our families, thinking this will affect the men in the trenches—and it will, for when the men learn that their families are being made to suffer by the enemy opposite them, they will be more determined to fight the harder."

"Britain's purpose in this war, as her officials have repeatedly stated, is to cripple Germany and destroy her commerce. After eighteen months of war she has not been successful. Her 'effective' blockade will have absolutely no effect upon our military determination. We long ago prepared for any emergency."

Personality of Admiral.
 The admiral is a small, plump, energetic man, with thick, white whiskers. For five months he has held the important post of chief of the admiralty staff. During his direction of the admiralty staff, submarine activities have centered with great success in the Mediterranean, and the most successful air raid on London was planned.

No Military Advantage.
 "What effect would a stricter blockade have upon Germany's military plans?" he was asked.
 "Absolutely no military advantage would be gained," the admiral answered. "We have all the things necessary for war for years."

It was suggested that persons in allied countries believed that by stopping all imports Germany would be forced to sue for peace.
 "We have all we need to clothe our soldiers," said von Holtzendorff. "We have everything necessary for our campaigns. The stopping of one box of a thousand from entering Germany will not interfere one iota with our military plans. It will make food articles for non-combatants more scarce. But this, no more than the Dardanelles expedition, will bring an English victory. Neutrals and our people will bear the burdens, but a further effective blockade reported being planned, would be contrary to international law, and I am sure neutrals would so regard it."

Supplies Abundant.
 When the admiral spoke of Germany's abundant military supplies, I asked how long he thought the war would last.
 "Until we are victorious," came the immediate reply. "The allies' have said repeatedly the war will continue until Germany is defeated, her business forever ruined and her international influence destroyed. The war

will last until the allies learn they cannot accomplish their purposes. That may be a long time."

"A year or two?" was suggested.
 "A long time," he repeated.
 It was pointed out that in the House of Commons recently a member spoke about the secret construction of Germany's navy, and spoke of the danger such an increase presented to Britain.
 "The increase of our navy during the war, and that of Britain's has been about the same," said the admiral, "but Germany's navy has never been changed disproportionately to England's."

Merchant Marine Feared.
 "It is our merchant marine which Britain has feared. The fact that this fleet to-day is undestroyed and ready any moment that peace is declared to resume peaceful trading is one thing which causes the British anxiety. Britain does not fear the German navy. She fears America and the growing American navy."

"What steps will Germany take against the new blockade?" the admiral was asked.
 "Germany never tells before hand what she does," was the reply. "She waits until it has been done. We long ago made every preparation for such an emergency. We view the proposed blockade earnestly but fearlessly. We will be victorious. That is the chief thing."

I asked the admiral about Germany's submarines, asking especially if it was true that more than fifty have been lost.

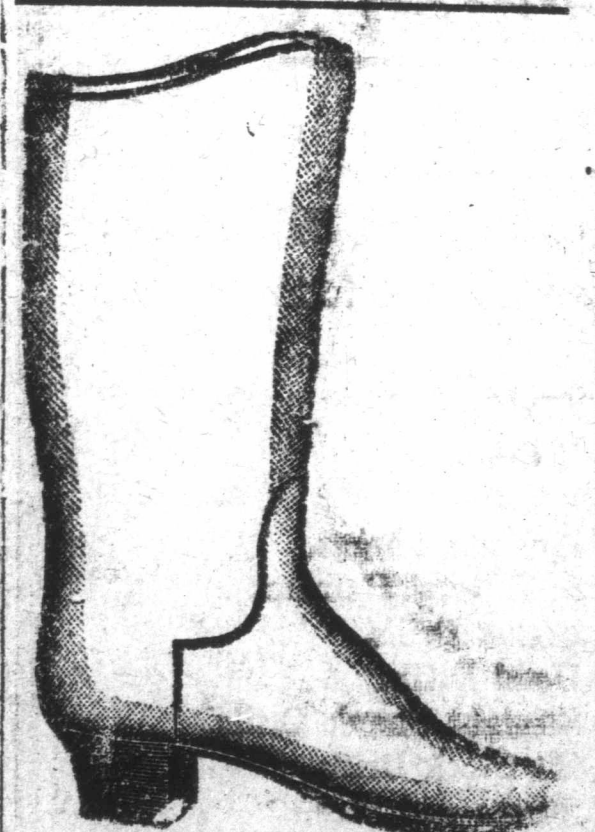
"Not half that many—not near one-third," was Admiral von Holtzendorff's quick response. "The British think because they laid nets and mines that our submarines were being trapped. Nothing could be more untrue. More than one submarine has gone through these nets undamaged. The fact that in less than a year more than 1,300,000 tons of enemy merchant ships have been destroyed by them is evidence enough of what our submarines have done to British and allied commerce."

"There are many reports that a big naval battle may be expected?" he was asked. "What can your excellency say to that?"
 "Only that the decision does not always rest with us," replied the admiral. "We are always prepared."

122 TEACHERS GO ON STRIKE IN OTTAWA

OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 6.—Seventeen Ottawa bi-lingual schools were closed at one o'clock this afternoon, leaving 4,000 children in the streets, when 122 French teachers went on strike because they have not been paid their salaries since September, 1914.

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Man Eaters Still Found in German New Guinea

Australians Are Rounding Up Chiefs of Cannibal Tribes and are Taking up the "White Man's Burden."

SYDNEY, Australia, Dec. 22.—Cannibals are causing the Australian military administration of former German New Guinea some trouble, according to advices received here lately. Occasionally punitive expeditions are necessary, and most of those thus far conducted have been under the leadership of Captain H. Balfour Ogilvy, officer in charge of native affairs at Rabaul, in New Britain (the German New Pomerania), which town was the seat of the government of most of the Kaiser's Pacific colonies, and is now the centre of the Australian "war" government.
 Generally the raids have to be made at places about fifteen miles from the coast. A party is landed by the Australians some distance from the path from the seacoast to a village. The march is made at night, and a steamer is kept moving just off the coast. The native policemen and guides, having dipped the ends of sticks into phosphorescent matter can thus be seen moving ahead thru the jungle.

Papuan villages are usually built on knolls for defensive purposes, and it is the practice of the punitive forces to rush an offending village at dawn and capture as many men as possible by hand. A recent expedition led by Captain Ogilvy brought back to Rabaul two cannibal chiefs, who were old and feeble, but had great power over the tribesmen. These chiefs can see nothing wrong in eating human flesh, but the young men and women among the natives, either from dislike of the taste or from fear of the consequences if they indulge, are not anthropophagous, or profess not to be.

One expedition was led by a "boy" who had run away from a tribe because he had learned that he was next on the bill of fare; and in another case while a village was being rushed by Captain Ogilvy and his men a child of two or three years jumped into his arms and cried so bitterly whenever he was put down that the gallant Captain carried him in his arms all through the fight.

The "white man's burden" is being taken up quite as assiduously by the Australians under Colonel S. A. Pethebridge, as Americans took it up in the Philippines. Like the Spaniards in the Philippines, the Germans stuck to the seacoast in Kaiser Wilhelm's Land, New Pomerania, and the rest of the Bismarck Archipelago, and their share of the Solomons, and left the interior largely to shift for itself. But what the Germans did do materially is highly to their credit, and it is unfair to compare them with the Spaniards in the Philippines in this particular respect. Rabaul is well laid out, and was, in German hands, a well-conducted town, and, moreover, the Germans circled the islands with excellent roads so as to connect the plantations with the seacoast and facilitate recruiting black labor. But the Australians are gradually penetrating the savage and unknown hinterland with roads and pacifying the country far from the ocean; they are encouraging native courts, presided over by chiefs, and they are suppressing by firmness and kindness, cannibalism.

Shot Through Heart and Lives To Tell the Tale

OTTAWA, Feb. 6.—Josh Zivian, the "miracle man of St. Julien," who was shot through the heart and lives to tell it, is in the city, having been discharged from the convalescent home at Kingston.

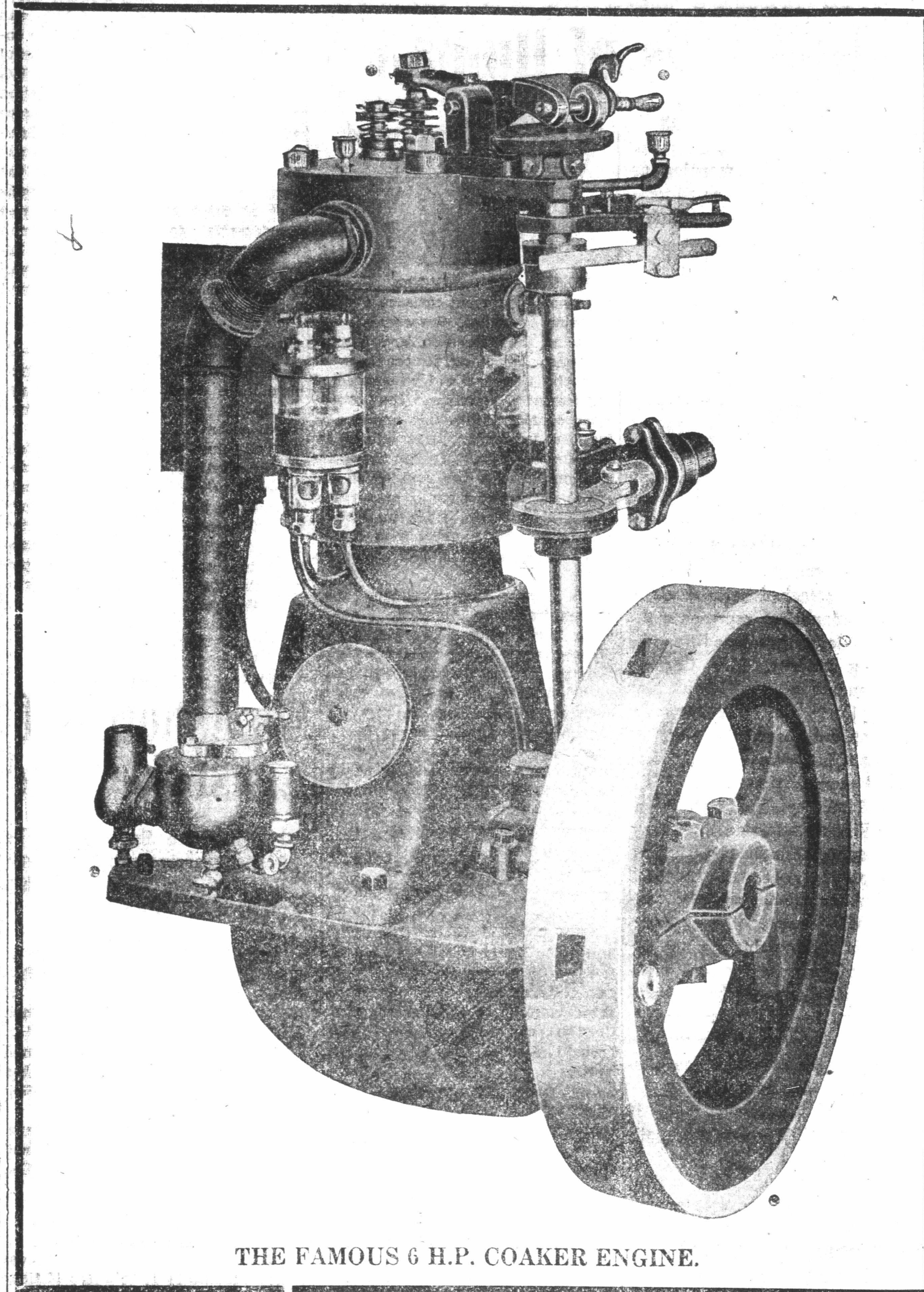
Pte. Zivian was a signaller in the 3rd Battery. He had been 22 hours on duty at St. Julien and lay down behind a disabled gun for a rest when a shrapnel bullet hit him, going clean through his body. He lay unconscious for four days.
 "Yes, the doctors said the bullet went through my heart," said Pte. Zivian, "but I don't know." When I was in the hospital in England, famous doctors from all over came to have a look at me. Sure, I was some curiosity. However, I'm afraid I can't go back, because the doctors say shock might cause the heart to stop business after it has done so well for me."

Pte. Zivian's home is in Gasconouge. He was for a while reported on The Free Press.
 For every fault we find in our neighbor we overlook a dozen or more in ourselves.

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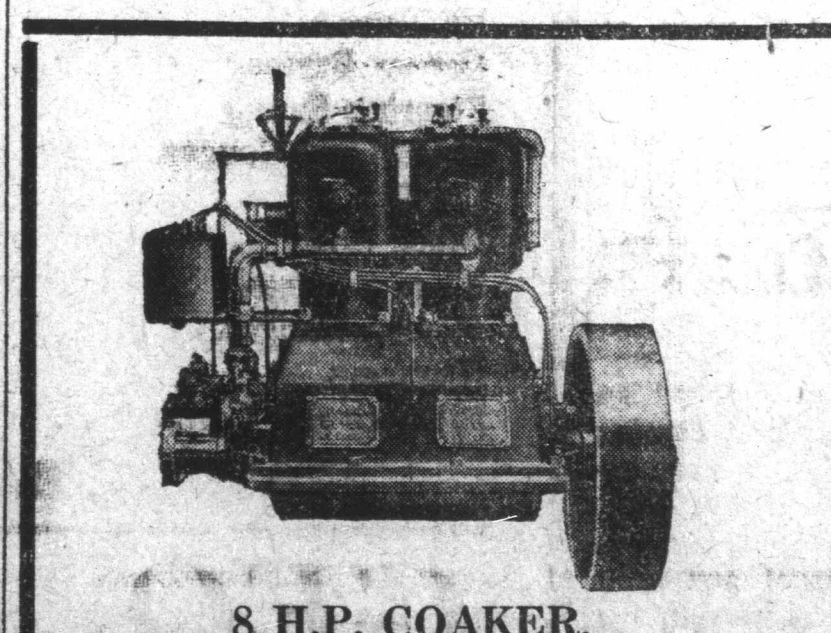
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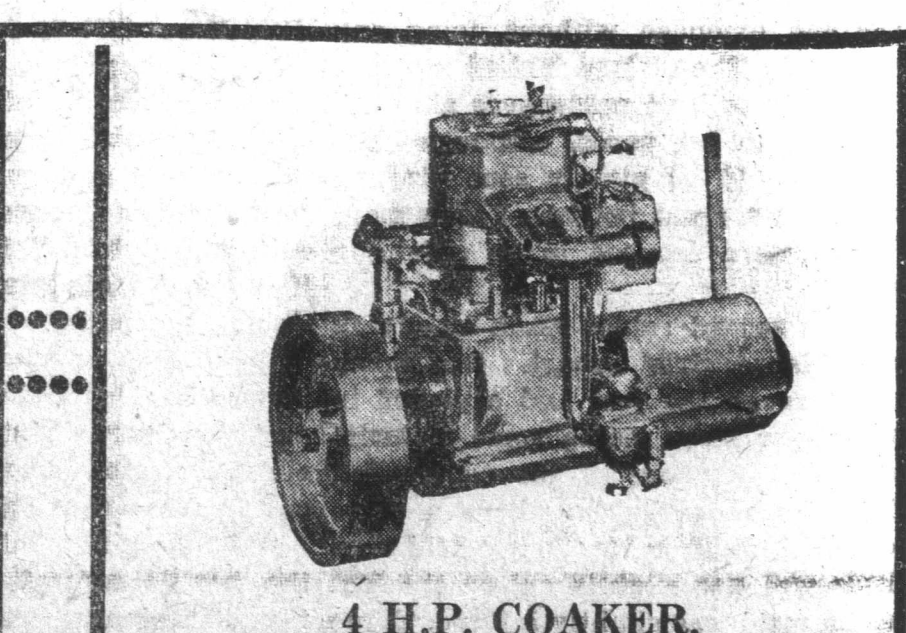
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