

Noise machine helps to eliminate pests

A Canadian company has developed a machine that has proven effective in international tests in controlling rodent populations.

The Ecology Machine by Multiple Management Group of Vancouver uses ultrasonic sound at several frequencies and combines with this constantly changing patterns producing an irritating "noise". The sound, to which rodents cannot become accustomed, is inaudible to the human ear.

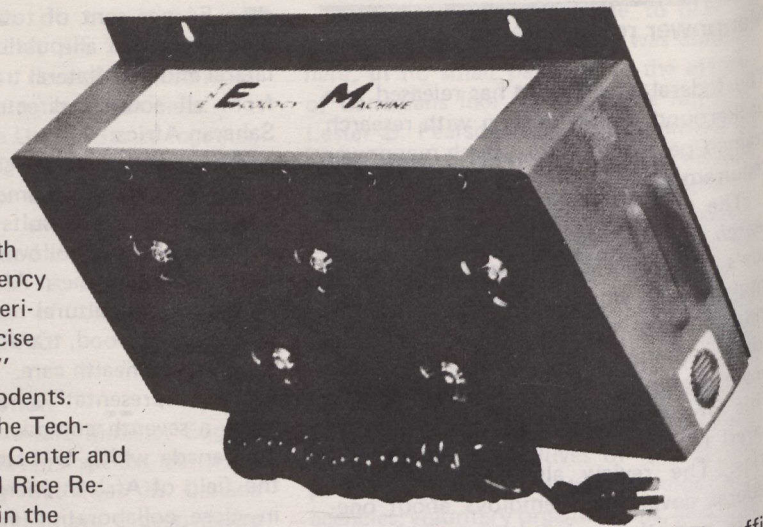
The machine is made of 16 gauge aluminum and measures 35 centimetres (14 inches) by 8 centimetres (3 inches) and weighs a mere 2.7 kilograms (6 pounds). It requires only a standard 120 volt, grounded power source and consumes power comparable to a 100 watt light bulb. For export orders the machine can be adapted to different line voltages and frequencies.

The Ecology Machine has been tested by two Canadian universities — Carleton

University in Ottawa and Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia. In both studies the efficiency of the unit was verified through precise "pre" and "post" populations of rodents.

In addition, the Technology Resource Center and the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines are interested in testing the machine.

A leading international food processing company in Bangkok, Thailand, found in testing the machine that "two Ecology Machines are effective in controlling rodents, cockroaches, flying insects and snakes". Businesses in Mexico, Trinidad and Equador have also tested



the machine and found it equally efficient.

Multiple Management Groups has ten distributors in Canada and one in each of 20 countries. The company anticipates that 75 to 80 per cent of its business will be in the export field.

(From Canada Commerce, March 1981.)

Doll hobby turns to business

A Vancouver woman has turned her passion for dolls into a lucrative cottage industry, reports the *Canadian Press*.

"They're not dolls to me, they're actual little people," said Rozalynd McKibbin, a Winnipeg artist.

Rozalynd McKibbin started collecting dolls in 1966 as a hobby and began making them three years later. She now has more than 1,000 in her collection, both antique and modern.

The oldest is a baby Jesus doll made in 1680 but some newer ones, such as her Shirley Temple and Dionne quintuplet dolls, also are rare.

For anyone who grew up with a "Chatty Cathy" doll it may come as a surprise that McKibbin has a 125-year-old French doll that still walks and talks when the brass clockwork inside is wound up.

She also collects baby carriages and other toys: "Anything pertaining to kids of long ago," she said.

No child's play

But it is not just child's play. Her hobby has grown into a cottage industry that employs 15 people including her husband John, who now devotes only a few hours weekly to his construction firm so he can manage the doll business.

Each one of her creations has its own personality, including the vain Gibson Girl walking her pampered pekinese, the heart-broken Pouty Boy clutching his brass car, the weary peasant woman crying as she peels onions and the little black boy flogging his newspapers.

All of McKibbin's creations are exact copies of those crafted by the great doll makers of the nineteenth century. She learned her art from an old Icelandic woman who worked in porcelain factories throughout Europe before emigrating to Winnipeg.

"She gave me a legacy of all these centuries-old techniques," McKibbin said. "The only thing that's different is that I use an electric kiln and they used wood-fired ones in the old days."

There are about 150 steps, including four or five kiln firings, involved in making a single doll. With studio staff working on batches of 30 at a time, each doll takes between six and eight weeks to complete.

Employees help with everything from the elaborate costumes, which are made of antique fabrics and lace whenever they are available, to the bodies, which are made of up to 11 pieces, all ball-jointed so they move realistically.

But McKibbin is the only person who ever puts a paintbrush to the faces of the 900 to 1,200 dolls they craft each year. The dolls sell for between \$150 and \$450.

CGOT gets tourism award

The Canadian Government Office of Tourism (CGOT) was recently the recipient of a marketing award presented by the Tourism Industry Association of America.

CGOT along with four U.S. industry partners, Greyhound Lines Incorporated, Trailways Incorporated, the National Tour Brokers' Association and the American Bus Association received the 1981 National Travel Marketing Award for a motorcoach awareness program jointly designed for the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) to stimulate bus travel and package tours in both the United States and Canada. CGOT, is part of the federal Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

It was the first time the American industry group had made an award to a Canadian agency.

The program consists of a 23-minute multi-media presentation, *The New, New World of U.S.A. and Canada by Motorcoach*, which examines the potentially lucrative bus travel market. It is also providing a motor coach tourism manual and a one-and-a-half day educational seminar for retail travel agents on motorcoach and travel packages. ASTA is now marketing the program nation-wide in more than 50 major U.S. cities.