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AUTHOR'S LETTER

The purpose of this book is to help everyone interested in oil burners, to an understanding and practical working knowledge of the theory, construction, installation, operation, testing, servicing and repair of all types of oil burners — domestic, and industrial; augmented with additional help consisting of electrical hook ups (wiring diagrams) of all automatic control systems.

The author still holds the same opinion that the writing of a Preface, Author's Note, alleged Foreword, Introduction, or what *not* have you, is a useless excrescence and a waste of time, ink and paper — hence the shorter, the better.

In this connection long winded orators should note that: "*Brevity is the essence of eloquence*" which suggests that they omit their "lastly" "finally" "in conclusion" and "one more word and I am done" additions so that the oration will not waste its message "on the desert air" — that is to say — on an undue multiplicity of empty seats.

Regardless of Shakespere's opinion on "proffered advice" the author believes that the advice here proffered, if it shortened oratory, will result in a flood of letters of thanks from a *long suffering public*.

We can be thankful that the custom of filling up 20 to 30 pages of high sounding *psychological nonsense* for a preface is a thing of the past.

The foregoing items are given to accentuate by contrast the author's *reverse method* which employs the least number of words in the text so as not to weary the reader before he digests what the author is trying to explain and not become confused with excess and useless wordage.

In a few cases the author has resorted to a high pressure "*pile driver*" method of hammering home some of the things more difficult to understand. He hopes this hammering will be appreciated rather than resented. However, as *Stravinsky* said about his *alleged* music: "*Take it or leave it*".

The author desires to express his thanks and appreciation:

To the various manufacturers for their co-operation in furnishing complete information covering their equipment.

To Evelyn K. Lawson for very efficient secretarial work covering correspondence, filing, make-up, proof reading, making index, checking, etc.

To Geo. W. Hood who exercised his usual *wizardry* in catching the *spirit* and *atmosphere* of the author's pencil sketches, transforming them into master line drawings so important and essential in the clarification and accentuation of the written word.

FRANK D. GRAHAM.

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