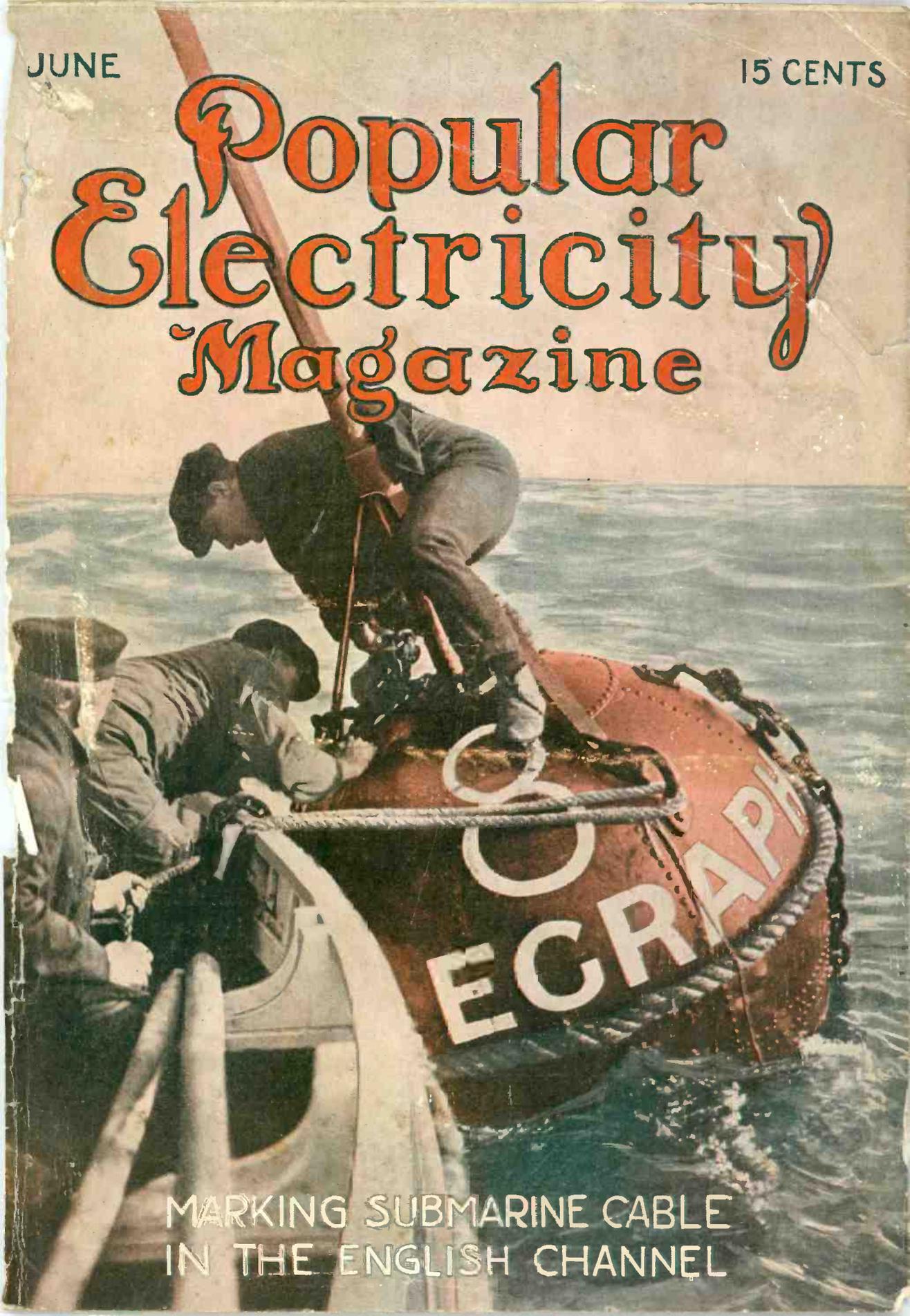


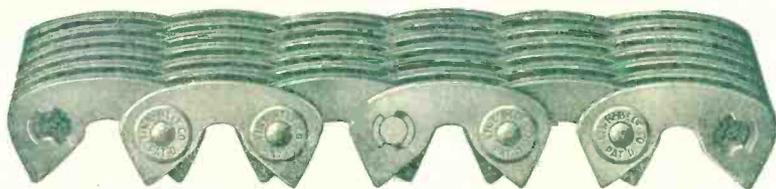
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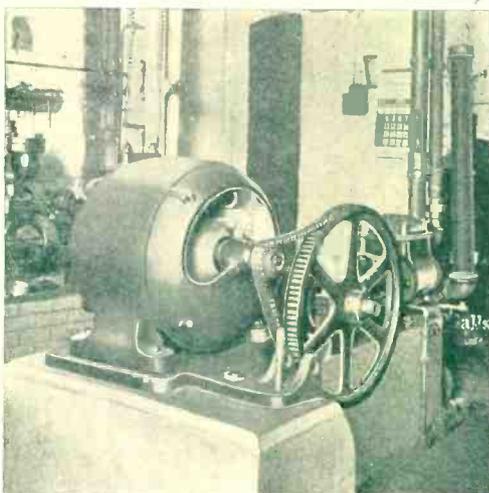


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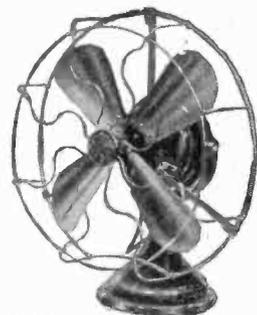
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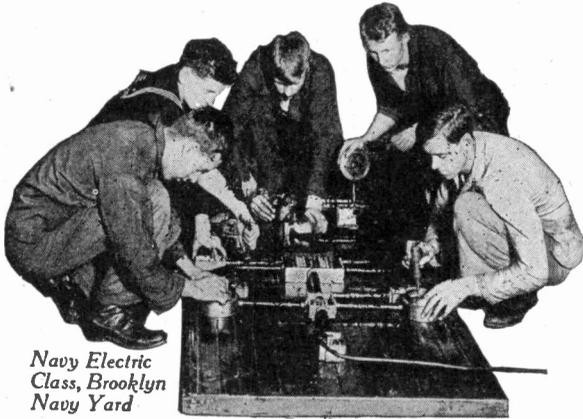
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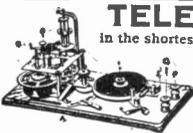
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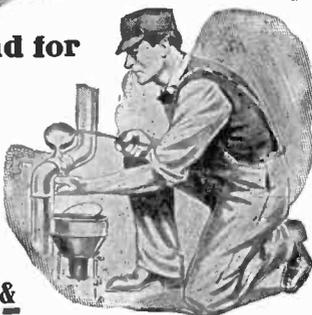
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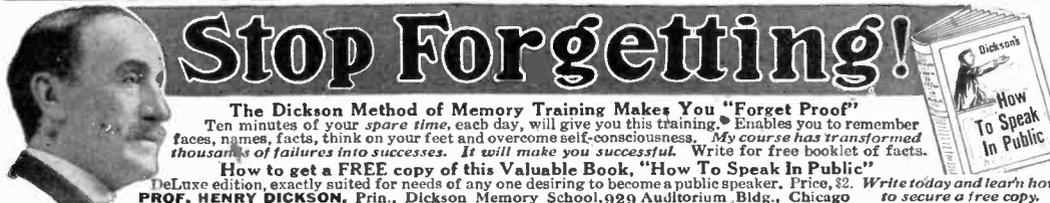
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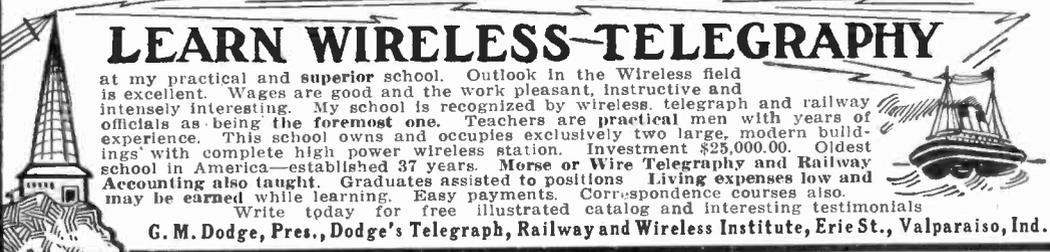
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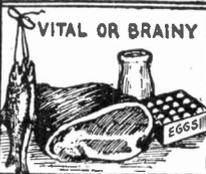
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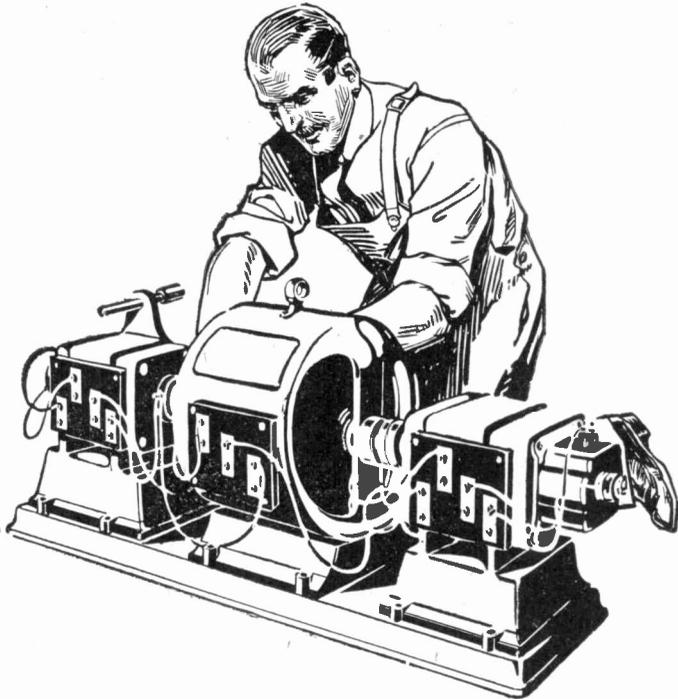


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DON'T ACCEPT AN AGENCY UNTIL YOU get my samples and particulars. Money makers. Address SAYMAN, 706 Sayman Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

AGENTS CAN MAKE 1,000 PER CENT profit selling our new gold letters for window signs. Easily applied. Samples free. Thomas Letter Co., 2533 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago.

ALUMINUM SOLDERING FLUX—USE ORDINARY solder, 2-ounce can, 25c. Guaranteed to solder. Agents wanted. L. L. Bain Co., Villa Heights, Norfolk, Va.

SIGN PAINTING AGENTS—1,000 PER CENT profit. Best and cheapest window letters made. Mounted sample free. Success positively guaranteed. Goodwin Letter Co., 2468 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago.

AGENTS, PORTRAITS 35c, FRAMES 15c. Sheet Pictures 1c. Stereoscopes 25c. Views 1c. 30 days' credit. Samples and catalogue free. Consolidated Portrait Co., Dept. 1406, 1027 W. Adams St., Chicago.

AGENTS AND MAIL ORDER MEN; INTRODUCE our aluminum antiseptic telephone mouthpiece; 667 per cent profit; exclusive territory; send 18 cents for sample; Niagara Stamping and Aluminum Company, Buffalo, N. Y.

SOLICITORS—SECURE TERRITORY FOR most beautiful pictorial monthly ever published. You can earn \$10 every day. "International Fair Illustrated," 1915, 441 Pacific Bldg., San Francisco.

AGENTS MAKE BIG MONEY SELLING our new window letters for office and store windows, glass signs, etc. Write today for free samples and particulars. Reliable Letter Co., 2598 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago.

A BIG POWERFUL "MOGUL" CHEMICAL fire extinguisher (mounted on wheels) gives absolute fire protection. Hustling agents make \$30 to \$50 weekly. Write Mogul Fire Extinguisher Co., Dept. 4, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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AGENTS—OUR GUARANTEED SIGN LETTERS cost you 2c, sell for 25c. Instantly put on by anyone, with kerosene and roller. Samples free. Success or money back. Boss Letter Co., 2588 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago.

SALESMEN WANTED EVERYWHERE FOR new office specialty. Duplicate orders every month. Chance of a life time for a live wire. Best office seller. You can work sub-agents. A. Lowell Mfg. Co., 258 E. Broadway, New York City.

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AGENTS WANTED

SEE WHAT I SAY UNDER "TYPE-writers." ATCHISON.

MAKE BIG MONEY SELLING ONLY PRACTICAL fruit strainer and fried food turner known. Rapid sellers; exclusive territory. C. L. Armstrong, Springfield, O.

AGENTS CAN MAKE QUICK SALES AND big money handling our line of newly patented Electric Heating Appliances. Presto Electrical Mfg. Co., 325 Geary St., San Francisco.

AGENTS—MY POCKET STEEL-DIE HAND embosser does perfect work; initial 30c, monogram 75c; booklet for stamp. Box 462 (C), Greenfield, Mass.

ESTABLISH PERMANENT BUSINESS! WE import fast-selling oriental staples and novelties exclusively for agency trade. Enormous profits. Never before advertised. Joseph Kanematz, Box 529, Portland, Ore.

YOU CAN MAKE \$\$\$\$ AS OUR GENERAL or local agent. Household necessity; saves 80 per cent. Permanent business; big profits; exclusive territory; free sample. Pitkin & Company, 96 Pitkin Block, Newark, N. Y.

WE MAKE GAS PIPE STRAPS AS "BY-Product." Prices very attractive. Easy selling for agents. Pocket samples. Write for commission proposition. Peck-Hamre Mfg. Co., Berlin, Wis.

BOKARA DIAMONDS—AGENTS, EVERYONE wanted to wear and sell these famous gems. Big profits. Samples, offer and catalogue free. Northwestern Jewelry Co., 1123 Wilson Avenue, Chicago.

AGENTS—BOTH SEXES. EXPERIENCE unnecessary. 400 per cent profit. Gliding casters; new; 3c set. Save floors, carpets. Sell thousands 10c set. Child can attach. Samples 4c. Evergrip Co., Dept. 110, 22 Warren St., New York.

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AGENTS—TO SELL THE NEWEST ELECTRIC appliance on the market; sold everywhere there is electricity, in the home and office; liberal profit; sales-driving sample, weighs a pound, no experience or knowledge of electricity required; it shows how to use one light instead of two and get the same results; sells for \$3.50 and saves the purchaser an investment of \$25; write for particulars. The Handy Light Co., 723 E. Eighth Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.

AGENTS WANTED

QUALIFIED MEN AND WOMEN, HIGH grade educational specialty, travel in south during winter, work backed by twenty-five years' success. Write today. Lewis E. Myers, Chautauqua Park, Valparaiso, Ind.

BE INDEPENDENT! START A MAIL order business in your own home. We tell you how and furnish everything needed wholesale. An honorable and profitable business for man or woman. Particulars free. Many make \$3,000 a year. Murphy Mfg. Co., South Norwalk, Conn.

AGENTS MAKE BIG MONEY SELLING our new gold letters for office windows, store fronts and glass signs. Anyone can put them on. Write today for a free sample and full particulars. Metallic Sign Letter Co., 400 N. Clark St. Chicago, Ill.

MANUFACTURER OF NEW, EXCLUSIVE linen heel and toe guaranteed hosiery, wants agent in every county. Sales enormous. Re-orders insure permanent, increasing income. Exclusive territory. Credit. Parker Mills, 707 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

AGENTS WANTED—SELL RICH LOOKING imported 36 x 68 rugs, \$1 each. R. H. Carter, Milan, Tenn., sold 115 in four days; his profits, \$57. You can do as well. Write for sample offer and unique selling plan; exclusive territory. R. Condon, Rug Importer, Stonington, Maine.

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BIG MONEY IN SELLING USED AUTOMOBILES. No business so easy to learn, so profitable, so congenial. On \$50 to \$200 investment our agents make \$50 to \$100 per week. We furnish the cars and teach you how to drive, sell and repair them. Write today for particulars and territory. The Automobile and Cycle Company of America, Dept. 2, 1769-1787 Broadway, New York City.

AGENTS WANTED

AGENTS — WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY; act quick, sell "Ambrew" Concentrated Beer Extracts; makes real genuine beer right at home by adding water; saves 100 per cent brewers' price; not near beer, not substitute, but real lager beer; no liquor license required; small package; carry week's supply, deliver as you sell. "Ambrew" is the concentrated ingredients of real lager beer; same material used by all brewers for brewing the best beer; big seller; enormous demand; large profits. Just send postal, we'll show you how to make money quick. American Products Co., Dept. 2804, Cincinnati, O.

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AGENTS WANTED TO SELL NEW AND slightly used automobiles and motorcycles. Send stamp for circular. Eureka Auto Co., Beavertown, Pa.

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FORD 4 CYLINDER RUNABOUT TOP, wind shield, three oil, two gas lamps, excellent condition, \$200. Wilson, 2230 Seventh Ave., New York City.

WHITE STEAMER, 30 H. P., MODEL "G," luxurious seven-passenger touring. Elegantly and completely equipped. Cost \$4,700; sell \$375. Suite No. 337, Thoroughfare Building, 972 Eighth Ave., New York City.

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FORD 3-PASSENGER LIGHT ROADSTER, Model "S," 4-cylinder. Expensively equipped, top, windshield, magneto, clock, five lamps, has everything. Like new. \$225. Shonnard, 114 Fifth Ave., New York City.

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AUTOMOBILES

AUTOMOBILE TIRE BARGAINS — OLD tires taken in exchange. Tire Trading Co., Newark, N. J.

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BOOK 200 (SUCCESSFUL) FORMULAS, 12c. Publisher, 49 Clinton St., Albany, N. Y.

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PATENTS ON SALEABLE ABRASIVE wheels and cloth. Manufacturers, it will pay you to investigate. For full particulars address Ezra B. Landis, Waynesboro, Pa.

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A DAYDARK POST CARD MACHINE; complete outfit. J. H. Reed, Greenville, W. Va.

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WORN-OUT DRY BATTERIES MADE BETTER than new for about 3c each; 15c for receipt. Willamae, Grampian, Pa.

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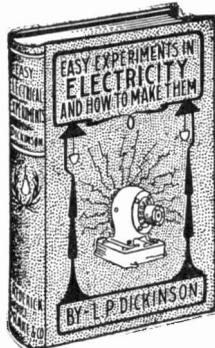
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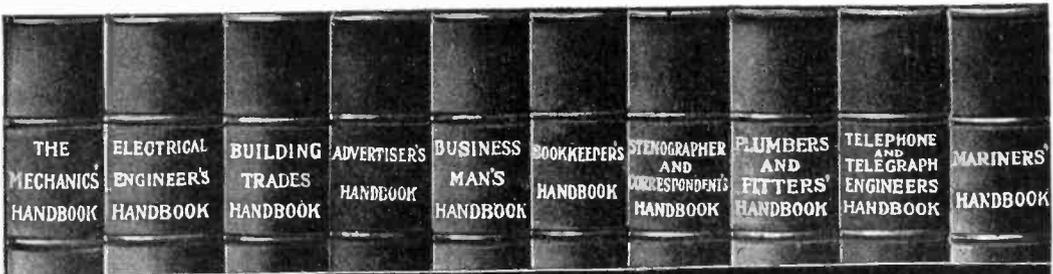
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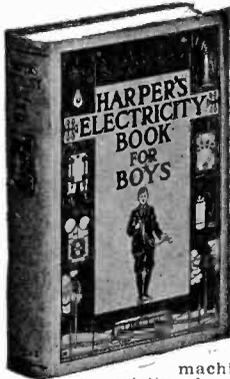
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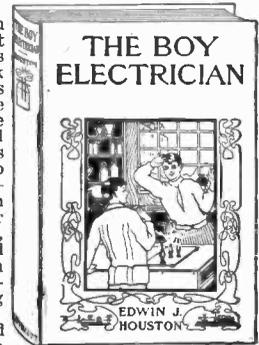
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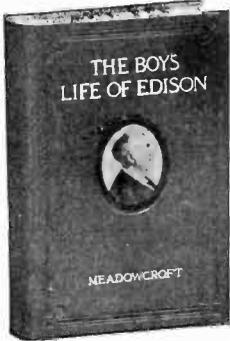
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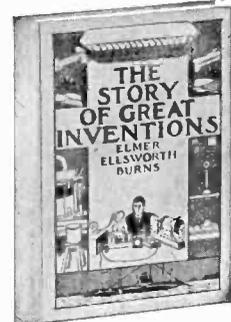
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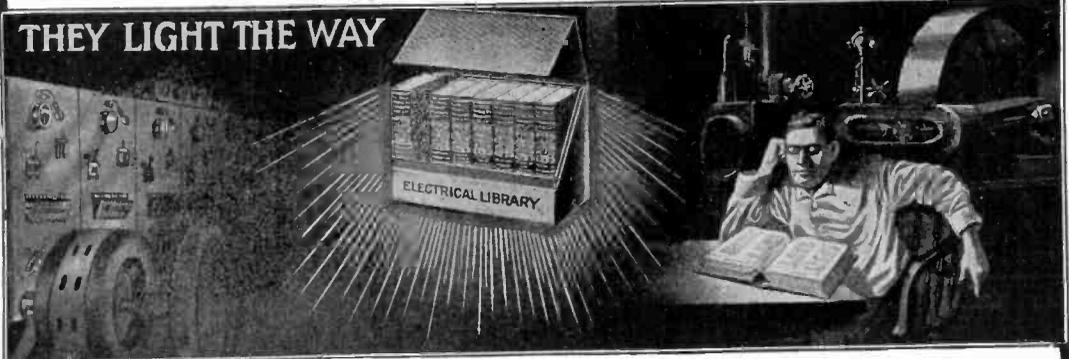
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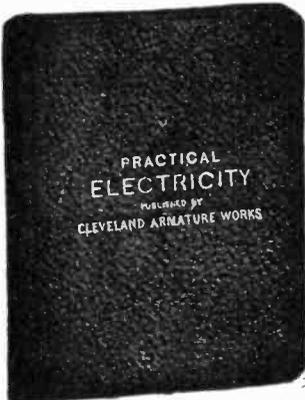
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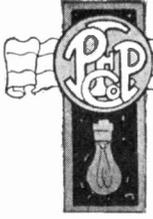
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In Plain English

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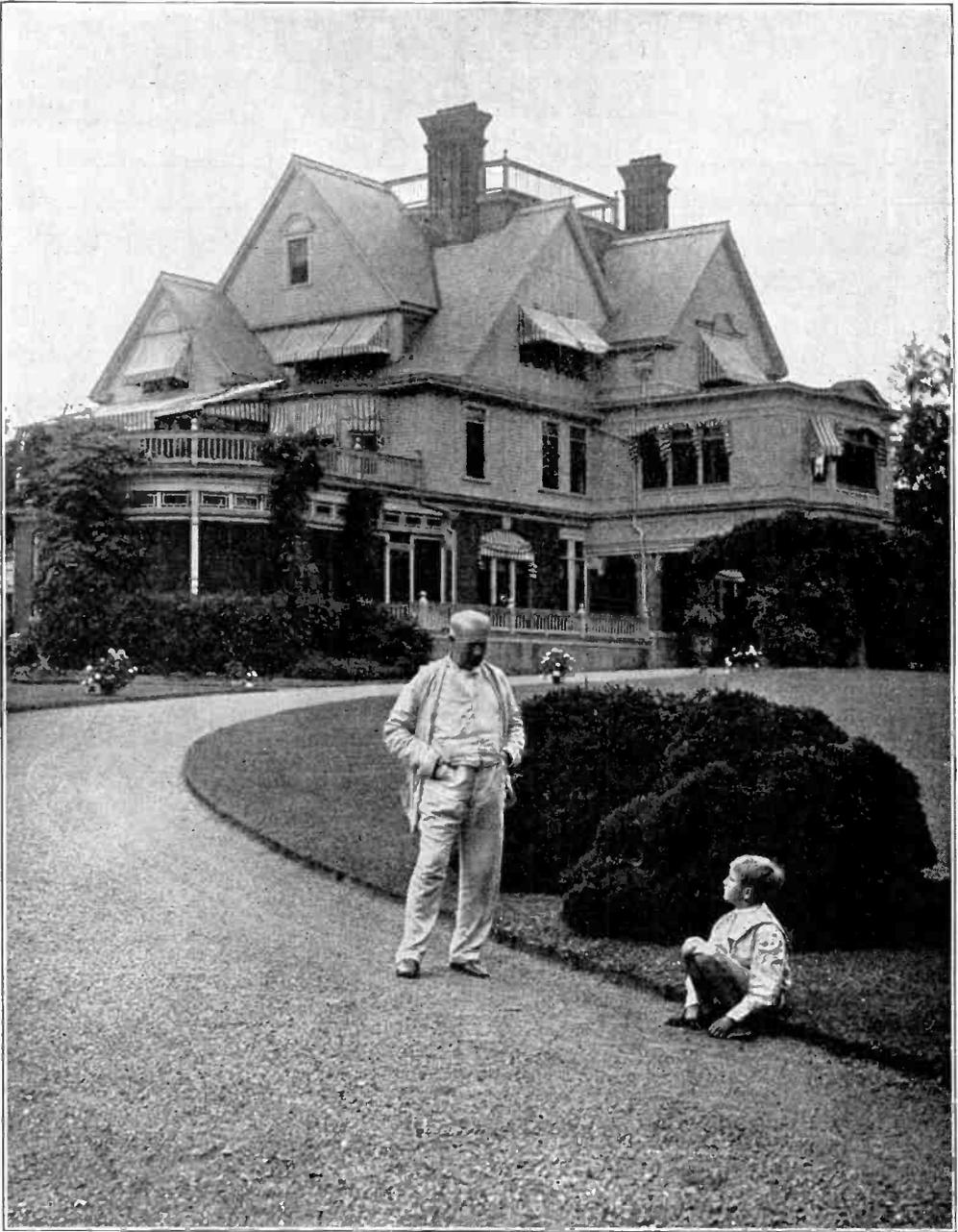
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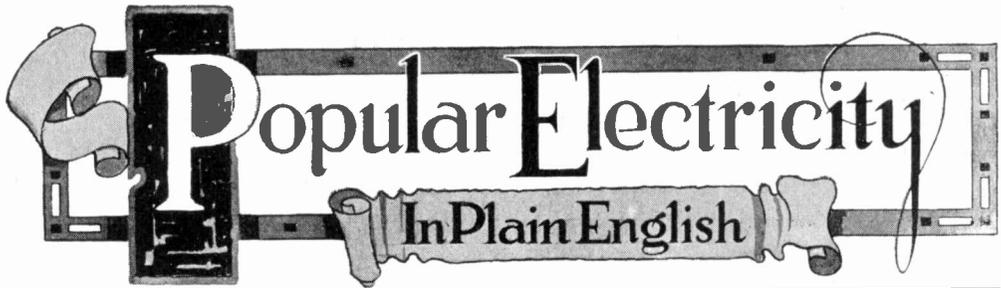
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INSATIABLE APPETITE FOR KNOWLEDGE**



Popular Electricity

In Plain English

VOL. V

JUNE, 1912

No. 2

Phonographs and the Man that Invented Them

By FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

When I was a very small boy a man came to our school one day and showed us the queerest looking machine we youngsters had ever seen. It looked as though he had borrowed his mother's rolling pin, covered it all over with the tinfoil from as many yeast cakes as Daniel Clark ever had in his grocery store at once, put a little crank on the end of the pin and hung it between two uprights so that when the crank was turned the tinfoil-covered rolling pin would revolve. Any boy could see that far into the mechanism; but what we couldn't understand was the big tin funnel that stuck out at right angles to the rolling pin—such a shaped funnel as every one would call a "megaphone" today, but as megaphones hadn't been heard of then, the only thing we could compare it with was the speaking trumpet Peter Hopkins hollered through when the fire company turned out. Peter Hopkins was the captain, and all he had to do was to holler.

Of course, we were curious, and our curiosity was only whetted when the man informed us that the odd looking device was called a "phonograph." "It is a talking machine," he said. "It was invented by Thomas A. Edison. Now, I am going to let one of you little boys talk into it, and you will hear the machine repeat what is said."

It was very plain that we didn't believe what he said. I know I didn't. I turned to Charlie Decker, who sat next to me, and whispered, loudly: "Aw, machines can't talk. He's going to do a trick."

I don't know whether the teacher heard that whisper or not, but just at that moment she caught my eye. "Come up here, Frankie, and talk into the machine," she commanded. I hesitated, but her compelling eye was upon me, and up to the platform I scrambled. There my wits forsook me utterly. I was rather proud of my prowess as a public speaker. Never a school "concert" occurred but I had to "speak a piece." But the notion of talking into the wrong end of a tin fish horn, as if I really believed the machine would talk back, completely unnerved me. I was dumb. I tried to remember the last "piece" I had recited, but not a word came. The man who owned the machine came to my rescue.

"Say 'Mary had a little lamb,'" he suggested, with kindly intent.

If I hadn't been completely benumbed and bewildered and utterly "rattled," I would have resented the suggestion indignantly. Why, that was only a "first-reader piece," and I had been spouting such advanced declamations as "Sheridan's Ride" and "The Wreck of the Hesperus" all winter. But not a syllable of one of these gems of rhetoric could I

cudgel out of my brain, so, after an instant of hesitation, which seemed an hour, I shouted the venerable nursery rhyme into the tin funnel.

The boys all laughed. What was worse, the girls laughed. I could feel my ears turning red as I stepped aside and feigned intense scientific interest in the next step of the experiment. I fervently hoped the machine would slip a cog somewhere and fail to work—for by this time I was convinced that the man took it seriously, at any rate. But there was no such luck in store for me. The man slid the tin horn back along the rolling pin, turned the crank, and out of the speaking trumpet issued such a squeaky, high pitched, ridiculous caricature of my own voice that even I had to smile. But the smile didn't last long. After the first word or two, I began to hope against hope that the thing would stop at the end of the first line. But the man who owned the machine was evidently proud of its accomplishments, and he ground away relentlessly to the bitter end.

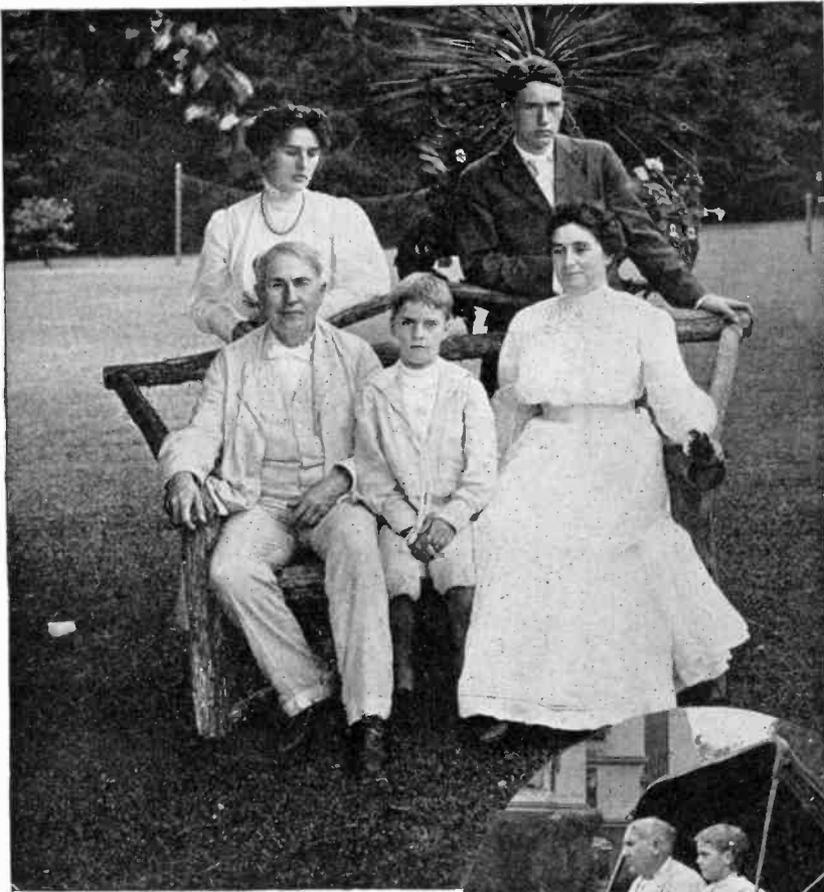
The last few words were utterly lost in the gale of laughter that swept the school from the little ones in the front seats to the "sixth-reader class" in the back rows. I don't know how I got off the platform, but I know my face seemed as if it were on fire, and I had to bite my lips to keep the tears of chagrin and rage from flowing. I felt that I had been imposed upon and put in a false position as embarrassing as it was undeserved. I didn't hear a word the man said in the "lecture" that followed the—to me—painful exhibition, but when we went out for recess I *did* hear one of the boys call me "Mary." The fight that followed was a delightful relief to my pent-up emotions, but I still feel foolish whenever I think of my first adventure with the phonograph.

That was the first time I had heard of Thomas A. Edison. Not long afterwards, however, they began putting in telephones in our town. People today do not always think of Edison in connec-

tion with the telephone, but in that day he shared the honors with Professor Bell. There was rhyme that comes back to me out of the "weis-nicht-wo" which people used to regard as very clever indeed. Its title was "Electricity," and it ran like this:

" 'Twas Franklin first that caught the horse;
'Twas harnessed by Professor Morse;
'Twas shod by Bell and Edison,
Inventors of the telephone."

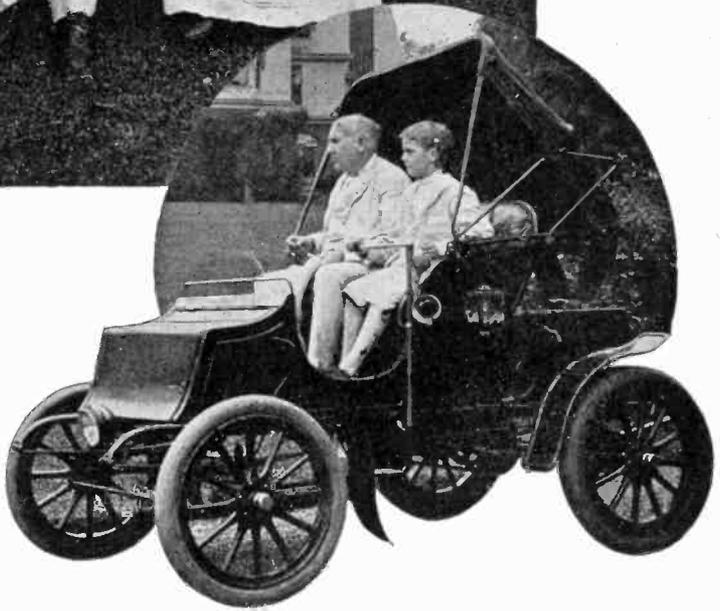
There began to be a great deal of talk about Edison. We heard about electric lights. Then one day—I was in the High School then—it was announced that Main Street would be illuminated that night by electricity for the first time. Everybody in town went out and paraded up and down Main Street. They were arc lights and they spluttered, and lots of us were very much disappointed indeed. We had expected to see that part of town as bright as day. However, I don't remember that anyone blamed Mr. Edison very much, even though most of us were under the impression that he was responsible for the arc lights. The papers were full of a new kind of electric lights he was said to have invented, which would put the arc lights completely out of business. I don't suppose any scientific subject has ever commanded the space the incandescent light got for many years. Some one started a story that Edison had sent his new light up in a captive balloon—a wire running up the anchor cable—and that it gave a light brighter than the evening star, and was going to become a permanent beacon for ships entering New York harbor. People talked about that—called it the "Edison star"—and named the inventor "The Wizard of Menlo Park." Every little while some one would "discover" the Edison star through a telescope and write a letter to the papers about it. And before long the incandescent lights began to creep into use—looking like white-hot hair-pins in bottles. And pretty soon Edison began to be regarded as an institution rather than a personality, and all sorts of



MR. AND MRS. EDISON AND
THEIR THREE CHILDREN,
MADELINE, THEODORE
AND CHARLES

impossible and fantastic inventions and theories began to be attributed to him, and the world whizzed along so fast that people took every new thing as a matter of course, and hardly batted an eyelash when the moving pictures came out with Edison's name as inventor, or when phonographs began to sing instead of to squeak, or when anything else that was marvelous happened.

A good many years after the adventure of "Mary's lamb" I held an editorial position on a New York newspaper.



One of my jobs was to open the "letters to the editor" and answer the questions of "Anxious Reader," "Constant Subscriber" and "Vox Populi." One day a man in Brooklyn wrote in to ask how he could identify the Edison star, which he understood was sent up every night

to a height of a few miles or more. A week or two later some one else wrote a similar inquiry. I found in the course of a year that I could rely on getting an average of two letters a month from people who still believed in the Edison star myth, 30 years after it had first gained currency.

Then, one day, going through some papers in the "morgue," as the files in which clippings and reference material generally are kept are termed in newspaper offices, I found an old, yellow, pen-written manuscript—40 or 50 pages of it—dealing with the life of Thomas A. Edison. The name at the head of it was that of a man who had been a "star" reporter in his day, but who, for years, had been merely a tradition in the office. And the date affixed to the document was 1879—nearly 30 years before!

Thirty years ago—and Edison was then already so famous that the newspapers had prepared for possible emergencies by having several thousand words of "obituary" material prepared and ready for use! It staggered me for a minute. I was almost 40, yet when I was a little boy Edison was already one of the world's great men—and he was still at it. And from another point of view, there was something almost equally staggering in the thought that although I was not yet 40, I had seen almost the whole development of electric science, and the very beginnings of the wonders which the world of today accepts as commonplaces, bearing the name of Edison. I decided that, at the very first opportunity, I would visit Mr. Edison and see with my own eyes the man who had done so much in one lifetime to change the whole aspect of men's affairs. The opportunity came, not once but several times, and I found Mr. Edison all that my fancy had painted him.

The first time I visited Mr. Edison at his laboratory and factory at West Orange he was deeply immersed in experiments with the X-Ray. It was a comparatively new thing then—at least, not

as well understood as it is now. Two of his workmen had been badly burned by it—one, I believe, died afterwards. Mr. Edison himself had been affected.

"I've pulled one eye eighteen inches out of focus," he told me, "and have about ruined my stomach, but I'm still working eighteen hours a day."

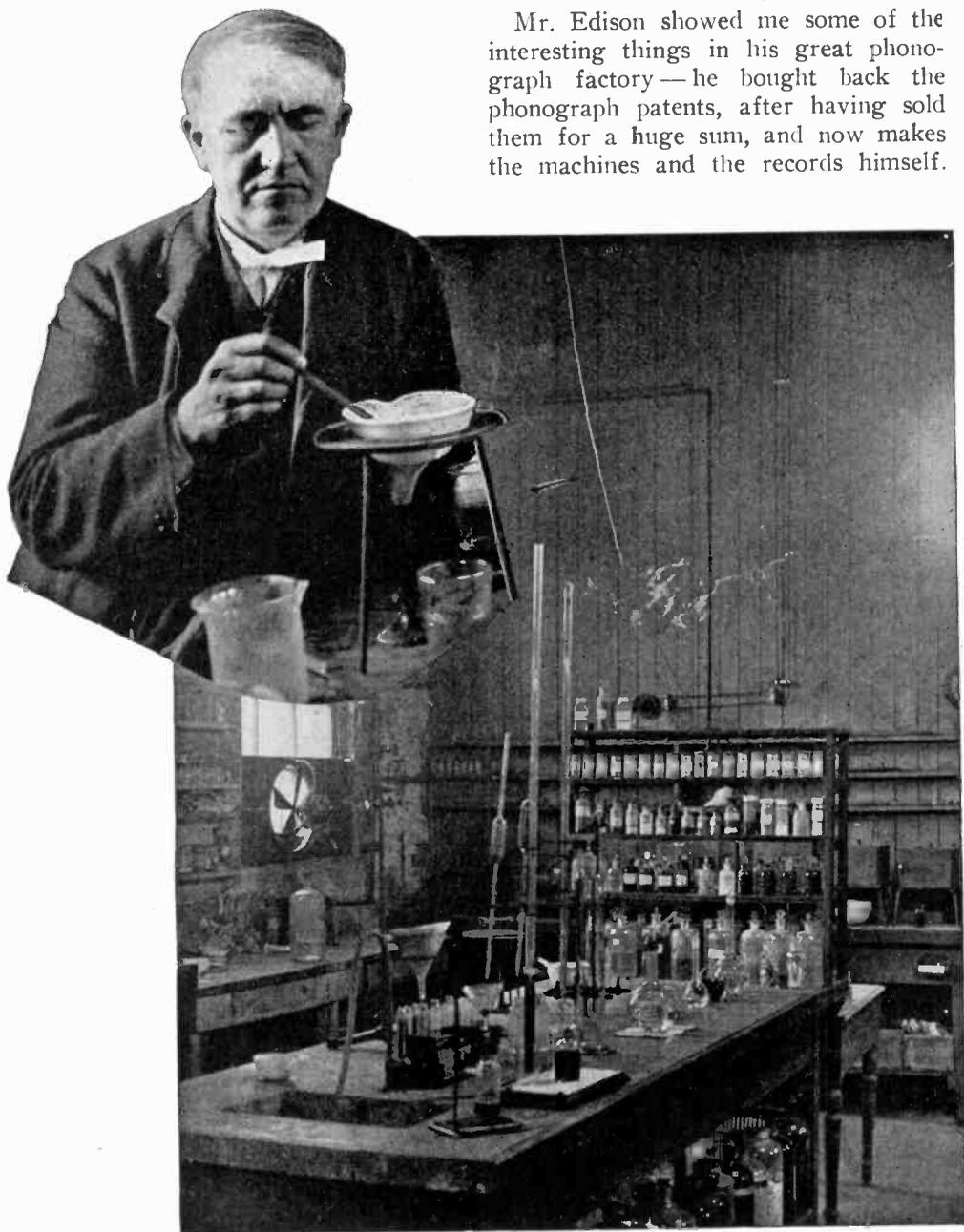
I had read, of course, about those eighteen-hour work days of the great inventor—the story of his ability to work for weeks on end with only four hours of sleep nightly, and sometimes not that much, has been current for years. I had classed it with the Edison star myth, but found it to be literally true. I asked him how he did it.

"One secret is that when I feel sleepy I sleep," he said. "I don't hear things that would disturb other people, for one thing."

Mr. Edison is not at all sensitive about his deafness. It has been a help to him, rather than a hindrance, the defective hearing caused by a railroad man lifting him by the ears when he was a train boy in Michigan, away back before the Civil War. It shuts out all the little sounds that keep most ordinary men's attention subconsciously diverted from the work in hand, and enables him to concentrate on the task before him, oblivious of what is going on around him. Once, however, it nearly cost him his life.

"I was working in the Western Union office in Cincinnati, in the '60's," he said, "handling press matter on a night wire. I always had a lot of books to read—everything I could get about electricity. One morning, about 3 o'clock, I was walking rapidly up Vine Street toward my room, with a bundle of books under my arm. I felt, rather than heard, a faint concussion behind me. I looked around and saw a policeman with his revolver pointed at me. I stopped and the policeman came up to me, angrily inquiring why I hadn't stopped before. It seemed he had seen me hurrying along with a bundle in the small hours of the

Mr. Edison showed me some of the interesting things in his great phonograph factory—he bought back the phonograph patents, after having sold them for a huge sum, and now makes the machines and the records himself.



FORTUNATE INDEED IS THE OUTSIDER WHO CAN GET TO HIM WHEN IMMERSSED IN HIS EXPERIMENTS

morning and, suspecting me of being a thief, had called to me to stop. I had not heard him, and when I kept on without stopping, his suspicions had been confirmed, so he had fired at me. Luckily, he was a bad marksman."

Here was the concert hall, where musical "master-records" are made.

Since his illness of four years ago—from which he has entirely recovered—Mr. Edison, who is only 65 years young, has been giving a large share of his

attention to improving the motion picture camera. He has been working along two different lines. One is his plan of connecting the phonograph and the motion picture machine—synchronizing them—so as to enable the exhibition of “talking pictures.”

“That problem is principally one of detail,” he said, recently. “It is practically solved.”

The other motion picture improvement is that of reducing the dimensions of the film, so that the cost is not only greatly reduced but the moving picture camera is made portable enough to be taken anywhere and used even by amateurs. And the inspiration for this came largely from Mr. Edison’s twelve-year-old boy—a youngster with an insatiable appetite for knowledge.

“The motion picture machine with the quarter-inch pictures will replace text books in many lines,” Mr. Edison says. “It will teach geography, for instance, as it is impossible to teach it now. I have a man now in Africa, taking motion pictures of everything he can find in the Dark Continent, the films of which will be more useful in schools than any books you can buy.”

Once a year Mr. Edison allows himself a short vacation. Then he plunges into his work again, eighteen hours a day, and fortunate indeed is the outsider who can get to him while he is immersed in his experiments. There are a round thousand of patents to his credit already, and he keeps a patent attorney or two busy all the time preparing new applications. In his laboratories alone he employs a large number of the most skillful electrical and mechanical engineers, chemists and other experts, to work out the details of his ideas and carry on

experiments under his direction. He is an organizer and business man of the first rank, and has probably made more money out of his inventions than any other inventor in the history of the world, with the possible exception of Alfred Nobel, inventor of dynamite.

The other day a man came into my office and suggested that I needed a commercial phonograph. He offered to send one in on trial. It came, and one night, when there was nobody around, I tried it. There was something the matter with the adjusticator of the whiffledorf, or something like that, and I couldn’t get much satisfaction out of it. A day or two later the agent called again. I explained that the thing didn’t seem to work as it ought to. “Let me try it,” he said. He inserted the record with which I had been tinkering, twisted a screw here and tightened a nut there, and said: “Now I think it will work all right.”

There were several friends in the room—people whose respect I want to retain, if possible. Naturally, they were interested in the phonograph. So was I, when the agent turned the switch and out of the depths of the instrument came, in my own unmistakable voice:

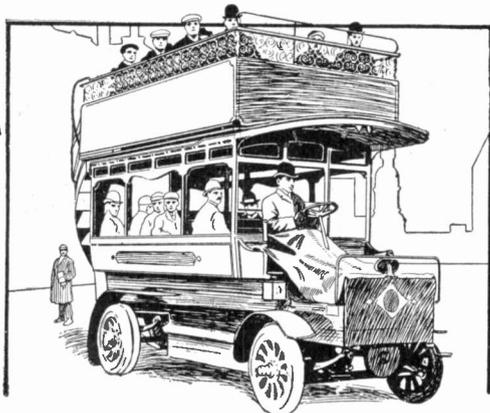
“Mary had a little lamb;
Its fleece was white as snow,
And everywhere that Mary went,
The lamb was sure to go.”

Again I felt my ears burning and my face flushing. For a minute I was back in the old schoolroom again. I glanced at my visitors to see if they were laughing. I mentally dared them to laugh. They were more polite, at least, than the boys and girls of thirty-odd years ago. But if any one of them ever calls me “Mary”—



Double Deck Electrobus in London

London is noted for its cheap taxicab and omnibus service, and a large proportion of the people prefer to travel in



DOUBLE DECK ELECTROBUS

that way. Following the method there in vogue of building street cars with double decks, the London Electrobus Company is building its electric omnibuses with two decks.

A Public Unfamiliar with Coal

A statement was recently made by Mr. Edison to the effect that the time will come when the public as such will be unfamiliar with coal. All coal utilized will be consumed in central stations from which energy will be distributed for all lighting, heating and industrial purposes. In view of this prophecy, the proper work for the central station is to supply electrical energy for all possible services. Where such a result is accomplished the lighting load forms only from fifteen to twenty-five per cent of the total load on the station.

Ripening Walnuts by Electricity

An interesting new application of central service has been discovered in the California walnut country. The ripening of the nuts is now being artificially accelerated by placing the green nuts in trays, arranged in cabinets, beneath which there are electrically heated grids. Air is blown through the heated grids at low speed and warmed and thoroughly dried before passing over the walnuts, and it is possible by this means to accomplish in 24 hours a drying process that usually takes from a week to ten days, according to the weather.

Electric Radiators in Bears' Dens

During the extreme weather of* last winter those of the bears not belonging to the polar variety in the Bronx Zoölogical Gardens, New York, were affected by the cold. To prevent the brown and the grizzly bears from the danger of pneumonia their cages were kept warm by electric radiators.

There was some fear lest the bears form too great an affection for electrical warmth, and bear-like try to embrace their glowing friend, so heavy iron bars were placed in the dens in front of each radiator.



BRUIN FINDS COMFORT BY THE ELECTRIC RADIATOR

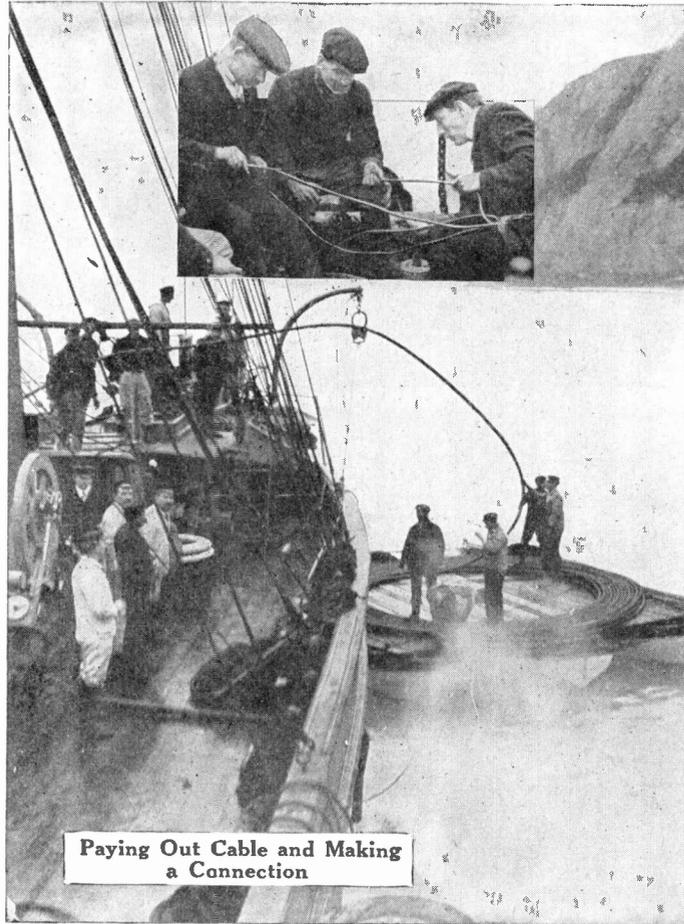
cable, which was done from a pontoon of three boats lashed together with a platform laid across their thwarts. The cable was reeled overside from the vessel, where it was wound on a large drum. When near the shore another boat acted

Arc and Incandescent Lights

It is a curious fact that while the average person knows that, roughly speaking, there are two kinds of "electric light," the arc light and the incandescent light, he has a hazy notion of the difference between the two.

The arc light and the incandescent light differ in principle, in brilliancy, in appearance and in the mode of use. The distinguishing difference to an ordinary observer between arc and incandescent lights may be briefly stated thus: Arc lights burn in air with carbon sticks or pencils, the points or ends of which are heated to a white heat by the current and gradually consumed.

Incandescent light, on the contrary, is produced inside small glass globes of various shapes from which air has been exhausted. These lights are caused by the passage of electricity through a fine resisting wire or filament which is thereby raised to a white or incandescent heat without being consumed on account of the ab-



Paying Out Cable and Making a Connection

as a guide and drag for the cable pontoon. Then it was carried ashore through the surf and among the rocks to the beach at Dover.

The work was done under the charge of Chief Electrician Redgrave of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Co., Ltd., for the French government.

sence of air. If air leaks in, the filament immediately burns up, and that is the end of it.

The term "arc" is an old one, adopted years ago, referring to the shape of the electric spark in passing from one carbon point to the other with the carbons in a horizontal position.

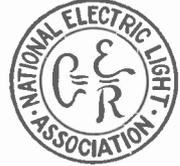




Men Who Follow the Law of Ohm

By JOHN F. GILCHRIST

President of the National Electric Light Association



Not infrequently you may observe a man who wears in the lapel of his coat a button of the above design. He acquires the right by becoming a member of the National Electric Light Association, and he may be identified at once as being connected in some way with the electric light and power industry of the country. He may be an engineer or an officer in one of the great metropolitan companies furnishing light and power to the extent of hundreds of thousands

of horsepower, or he may own or operate a small plant in Texas or Idaho or Maine whose sphere of influence is only a small village. The men of this great association are all bonded together by a common interest—to advance the methods of production, distribution, utilization and sale of electric current, and so their influence is felt in the communities where current is used.

The central emblem in the design of the button is very expressive, to the electrical man at least. The equation

E

$C = \frac{E}{R}$ represents the fundamental law

R

of electricity announced by George Simon Ohm over a century ago, and



named after him "Ohm's Law." The fact expressed by the simple mathematical equation (that the current flowing in a circuit is equal to the electromotive force or pressure, divided by the resistance of the circuit) is one of the foundation stones of modern electrical science and achievement, and particularly so where electricity is distributed over lines of wires as in the case of an electric lighting system.

Members of the National Electric Light Association

are found in all parts of this country, in Canada, Alaska, Mexico, South America, Cuba, Hawaii and the Philippines. Every year they hold a great convention in some city in the United States, where they gather together, two or three thousand strong, and discuss matters pertaining to the engineering and commercial phases of the industry, the papers and discussions being printed and sent to all members of the Association. This year, June 10 to 14, the convention will be held in Seattle, Wash., and although the city is in the extreme West a record breaking attendance is expected. Special trains will be run from Boston, New York, Chicago and St. Louis. Some of these tours de luxe will include side trips to Yellow-

stone Park, Denver, the Grand Canyon and points in California.

The city of Seattle, under the guidance of the Seattle Electric Company, is making elaborate preparations for the reception of the guests. A great armory will be placed at the disposal of the association. Here the sessions will be held and there will be an extraordinary exhibition of electrical machinery and appliances of every type. Special illuminations in the streets will be a feature and

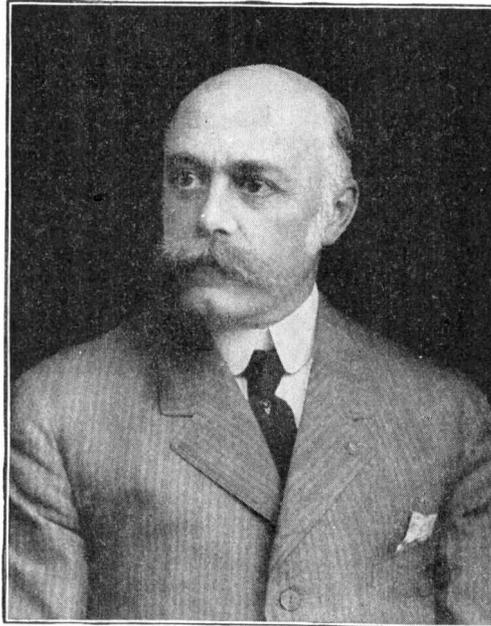
inspection tours to points of interest in the western city and neighboring points provided.

In addition to the above message to the general reader I wish to say to the members of the N. E. L. A. that the Seattle gathering is going to be one of the greatest, in all respects, in the history of the Association, and your attendance there will be a benefit and pleasure to yourselves and a compliment to the present administration.

Brief Sketch of the National Electric Light Association

By T. COMMERFORD MARTIN, Secretary

The greatest body of its kind in the world today is the National Electric Light Association; born in Chicago, February, 1885, and now about to hold its thirty-fifth annual convention at Seattle, where it visits the Pacific Slope for the first time. This industrial and engineering body now has a membership of close upon 12,000 and spends on its general work upwards of \$100,000 a year. In the early days of electric lighting anybody who had a plant, even if it was a small dynamo to run one arc lamp, could come into membership, but for some years past this membership has been limited to central station companies and their officers and employes and similarly to the manufacturing companies which supply apparatus for use in the generating plants



and on the consumption circuits.

Some idea of the scope and influence of the Association may be gathered when it is stated that in an industry representing about \$2,500,000,000 of capital and with an income of over \$300,000,000 a year, it embraces in the 1,100 operating companies that are members not less than 90 per cent of the investments and the earnings. The re-

sult is that when the Association issues reports and recommendations whether as to line construction, accounting, electrical apparatus, terminology, lamps, motors, underground construction, power transmission, or as to other features of the business, its conclusions are adopted at once and virtually become law throughout the industry. From this ac-

crues an enormous gain in economy and efficiency, one result of which is seen in the fact that central station electrical supply is one of the very few things which has grown steadily cheaper in the age when every other necessity and all the luxuries have practically reached the highest prices known since the Civil War. There has also followed an enormous extension of the services and it may be safely asserted that, the country over, the relations between the companies and the public to which they supply electric light, heat and power, etc., are more friendly and more harmonious than ever before. This gain is largely due to the work of the Association.

In the way of organizing the industry the Association has proceeded along three parallel lines. One of these has been to affiliate or create state or geographical sections so that more than half the country and the Dominion of Canada are thus represented in its ranks and in its governing body through the local organizations. The second line of development has been that of company sections, of which there are now some 50 in the larger companies, with several thousand members from among the officers and employes. An enormous amount of educational work is done through these adjuncts. The third parallel line is that of national sections, devoted to a specific part of the industry such as Commercial, Power Transmission, etc., and these national sections are growing rapidly in interest and importance. The Commercial Section for example has already between 1,200 and 1,500 members. It is believed that by means of these processes of development the membership of the Association will easily be carried during the next five or ten years to 25,000 or even 50,000 members.

The great work of the Association is done through its annual convention, which usually lasts three or four days, with two or three sessions daily, at which some 60 or 70 reports and papers are presented and discussed by the leaders in

the art. The papers are always carefully selected and the reports come from some 50 standing committees made up of the best known experts connected with the member companies. The proceedings of these conventions are issued annually and are in great demand. The Association in addition does a large amount of publishing and has issued for example an electrical solicitors' Handbook, of which some 12,000 copies have been sent out: a standard system of accounting; an annotated index of its proceedings for the first 25 years; a digest of the first seven years of its Question Box; valuable reports dealing with welfare work and the laws relating to Public Service Commissions, and single reports which are in steady demand on meters, overhead line construction, preservation of poles and cross-arms, and kindred subjects. The Association issues also a monthly Bulletin, which has rapidly become a standard magazine in interest and contents, and now has attained an edition of 12,000 copies per month and a size of from 80 to 100 pages. Its special feature is the Question Box, which publishes every month questions and answers as to problems which have arisen in the conduct of the business. This enables every reader to bring himself right up to date on even the most difficult subjects and perplexities of the hour.

As an example of the work which the Association assumes in its public and national capacity may be mentioned the Commission, which it organized recently with the aid of the American Medical Association, for inquiry into the best methods for resuscitation from electric shock. A body of distinguished men are now engaged in promulgating a report which will be final and conclusive and which is being eagerly awaited by the entire electrical world. It is in this and other public spirited, high minded ways that the Association has reached its present position of commanding influence and bids fair in the near future to transcend all the many notable achievements that have already attended its career.

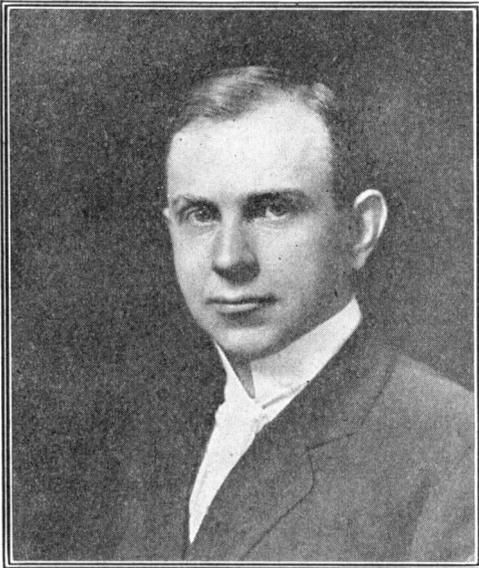
Some Past Presidents of the N. E. L. A.

ANECDOTES AND REMINISCENCES OF SOME OF THE MEN WHO IN
THE PAST HAVE GUIDED THE AFFAIRS OF THE
NATIONAL ELECTRIC LIGHT ASSOCIATION

W. Winans Freeman

Vice-president and General Manager of the
Edison Electric Illuminating Com-
pany of Brooklyn

Associates of W. Winans Freeman are fond of saying that he possesses marked power of hypnotism, and though he scoffs at the suggestion, they offer many incidents in proof. The truth is that Mr. Freeman is a close student of the psychology of human nature and profits by reason of the knowledge he has acquired. He is a natural leader of men because he has the rare power of per-



suading men to do as he desires them to do, and yet leaves them convinced that they have had their own way.

His methods are peculiarly his own. Ideas are one of his best stocks in trade. These ideas are suggested to others in authority, while no one but Mr. Freeman is conscious of the process. Then with

infinite patience he waits until his ideas have been digested and assimilated by the one to whom they have been given, and when the results have been produced he is the first to offer congratulations upon the good work done and the power of initiative displayed. That is what his friends mean when they say that he is a hypnotist.

It is methods such as these that have made a great big working family out of the employees of the Brooklyn Edison Company.

About six years ago Mr. Freeman became convinced of the advisability of treating business corporations as profit sharing institutions. Service annuities for the employees also won his approval. Quiet inquiries convinced him that those then in authority in the Brooklyn Edison Company were not quite ready for the innovation. So he started his hypnotic influence at work, and with only a few knowing of what he was attempting to do, he successfully prepared the minds of his associates for the suggestion which he intended they should themselves make.

So it happened that profit sharing and service annuities were introduced as a part of the Brooklyn Edison Company's policy, with more than one hugging to his heart the delusion that the plan had been born of his initiative. Mr. Freeman has been satisfied to note the result—the tremendous efficiency of the corporation which commands his services.

W. Winans Freeman started with the Edison Company 22 years ago at a salary of \$22 a week. He began as stenographer to the general manager. His first promotion came when he was made assistant secretary. He was not satisfied to do his work and go home; he made a study of the affairs of the corporation, and in a very few years, when

his official supervisors desired any information that concerned the Edison Company, and which was not readily at hand, they asked Freeman. So general became this custom that "Ask Freeman" passed into an axiom and a byword. Naturally, now that he is vice-president and general manager, it is more in use than ever.

There are never any peaks in Mr. Freeman's temperament curve. He always has complete control of himself under all conditions. One of his friends tells an amusing story illustrating this characteristic.

Mr. Freeman is an ardent golfer, and, as the story goes, he undertook to make a mashie shot over a bunker of stones, striking the ball with a long stroke. The ball encountered one of the large stones and came back as fast as it went, striking him in the right eye which promptly swelled to large proportions. Now the average man under such circumstances would have become vicious and said things more expressive than elegant. But Mr. Freeman's only comment in this particular case was: "My, but that was a hard crack!" Then, with his usual whimsical half smile—in the uninjured optic—he set about, very methodically and coolly to make that bunker.

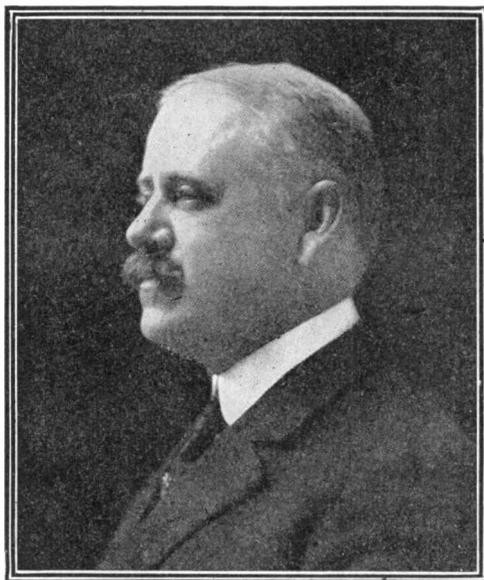
Louis A. Ferguson

First Vice President of the Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago

Ten years have passed since Mr. Louis A. Ferguson was president of the National Electric Light Association, and since which time he has also been president of the Association of Edison Illuminating Companies, and of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, being the only man who has thus been honored with the presidency of the three great electrical associations of this country. Notwithstanding all these honors and the natural cares of a strenuous business and professional life he is still the same jolly, good natured "Louie," as his intimate friends call him, and has still the same wonderful resource and sledge hammer

energy as in the days when he furnished allopathic doses of ginger and "light" to the N. E. L. A. conventions by his discussion with John W. Howell on incandescent lamps, or with H. A. Wagner on distribution, or with H. L. Doherty on rates.

There is just one subject that even his most intimate friends do not mention in the presence of the versatile Mr. Ferguson and that subject is "Pants." The natural instinct to be watchful over one's wallet or other possessions of value is in his case concentrated on that particular article of his wearing apparel and when



he retires aboard the sleeper now he restores their accustomed creases by the pressure of his leonine head on the pillow above them rather than trust them to the valet in the "baggage car ahead."

All this is due to the gossip that this prominent authority on matters electrical, technical and commercial, could have been seen, and, in fact, was seen promenading the railroad track near Rochester, New York, one cold winter morning about 2 o'clock with some of the famed ladies of Chicago society. In addition to the unusual features of the time and place for such a promenade it was observed that as far as one could see

Mr. Ferguson was clad in overcoat and shoes with some inches of gay colored pajama legs showing between.

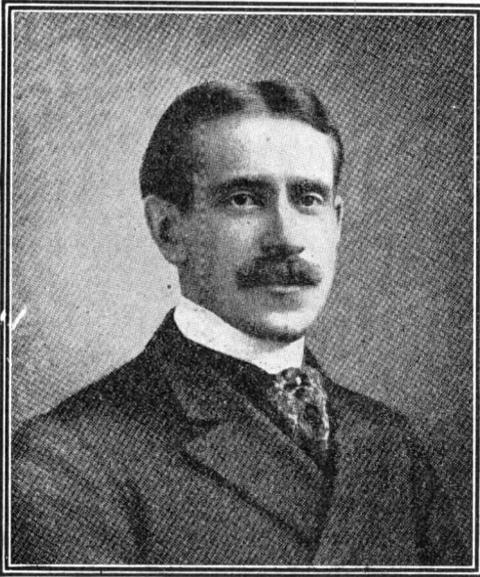
The explanation is that Mr. Ferguson was on his way to New York and there had been a wreck, in a small way, of the "Century;" the front portion of the train speeding miles down the track before it was discovered that the rear coaches had been derailed and left behind. The valet had the trousers some miles further on the way to New York.

Dudley Farrand

General Manager of the Public Service Electric Company of New Jersey

Two New Jersey "commuters" were standing on the forward deck of a North River ferry boat, discussing human nature and its vagaries.

"I'm looking for a man," said one of them. "I've got a mechanical wonder



who can take any old kind of raw material and construct a machine out of it that will work. I've got a fellow who can carry out orders to the letter—provided the orders are carefully written out and explained to him. I've got another fellow who can do anything either of

the others can, but when it comes to trying something new, he always comes back with the objection, 'It can't be done.' Now, I'd swap the three of them for one man who could tell other people how to do things—who doesn't have to have a book of rules to go by."

"There's only one man like that, so far as I know, and he's got a good job now," replied his friend. "He can take a cake of soap and a coil of wire as a starting point, and show a gang of workmen how to construct a piano player or an aeroplane around that nucleus. I don't think he ever paid any attention to a rule in his life—he makes up his own rules as he goes along."

"Who is he, and can I get him?" asked the first "commuter." "I'll pay a man like that any salary he demands."

"His name is Dudley Farrand, but you can't get him at any price," replied the other. "He is general manager of the Public Service Electric Company, and he's never worked anywhere else in his life. It doesn't make any difference how high you bid—they'll bid higher to keep him."

A friend of Mr. Farrand, who overheard the conversation just quoted, declared that he had never heard a better characterization of the man who is responsible for the electric lighting service in 161 municipalities in the State of New Jersey.

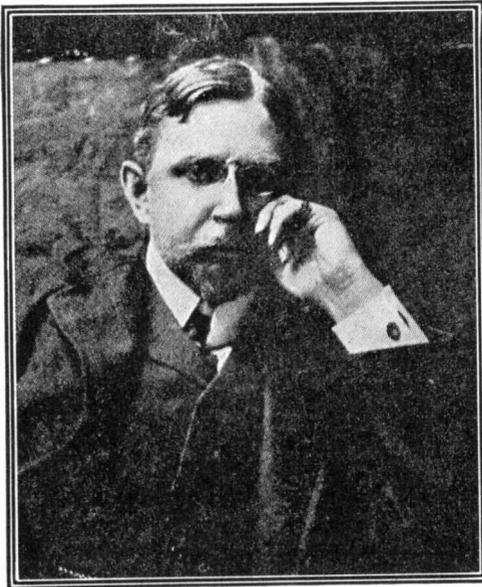
Mr. Farrand's early ambition was to go to Princeton University and study civil engineering. The death of his father, just as he was preparing to enter college, made this impossible. He was offered an opportunity to study law, but instead accepted an offer to become the entire office force of the Newark Electric Light and Power Company. His friends say, incidentally, that he has been pretty nearly the whole company ever since. At that time—1887—the company was equipped for 365 incandescent lights and 175 arcs—the largest central station in New Jersey. It did a gross business of around \$25,000 a year, and young Farrand got the munificent

salary of \$5 a week. But while he was running the clerical end of the business he was studying the operating end, giving his evenings and all his spare time to electrical engineering, and in 1892 he took hold of the "real work," as he calls the operation of an electric generating station.

Charles L. Edgar

President of the Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Boston

Mr. W. P. Hancock of the Boston Edison Company relates a good story concerning Mr. Edgar's early career. "In March, 1883," he says, "in the early days of the electric lighting business, I had a



job on the installation of an electric lighting plant in the factory of Seamon, Bache & Company, corner of Desbrosses and Greenwich Streets, New York.

"The second day we were at work there, a tall, young man made his appearance in the basement doorway. He was rather lightly built, nicely dressed, and in one hand he carried a tin, japanned box, marked 'Cake' in large, gilt letters on the sides. If I read his thoughts correctly, after first observing the ex-

pression on his face, he was mentally saying, 'What miserable hole is this?' To my great surprise, however, he put the box on a packing case, opened it, and what do you think—it contained wiring tools, and he was to help us out on that job.

"For the first time since I had been in my new employment as an electrician, I moved out of range and laughed—not at the man but the tool box. He went at the work, but there was nothing to indicate that he was overflowing with the enjoyment of it. I mentally took one guess that he despised that work, and some time afterward he told me that I guessed right. That man was Mr. Charles L. Edgar, now president and general manager of The Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Boston, and a very honored past president of the National Electric Light Association.

"He didn't give up the work and go searching aimlessly for something easier, cleaner and more congenial. He stuck—'like a dog to a root,' and his determination, supplementing his ability, has carried him successfully upward.

W. C. L. Eglin

Electrical Engineer of the Philadelphia Electric Company

A few months ago the business of the Philadelphia Electric Company necessitated the erection and complete equipment of a 9,000 kilowatt sub-station. Now a 9,000 kilowatt sub-station is no toy, for be it remembered that 9,000 kilowatts is equivalent to over 12,000 horsepower. Moreover, the whole outfit with its frequency changers, exciters, switchboard, concrete compartments and auxiliary apparatus, had to be finished within the short period of four months. This was a job of the kind that mildly interested Mr. Eglin. He went at it, starting with the fundamental design, and saw it clear through, from the building foundation up to the throwing of the switches which connected it to the sys-



Henry L. Doherty

Head of the Firm of Henry L. Doherty & Company of New York

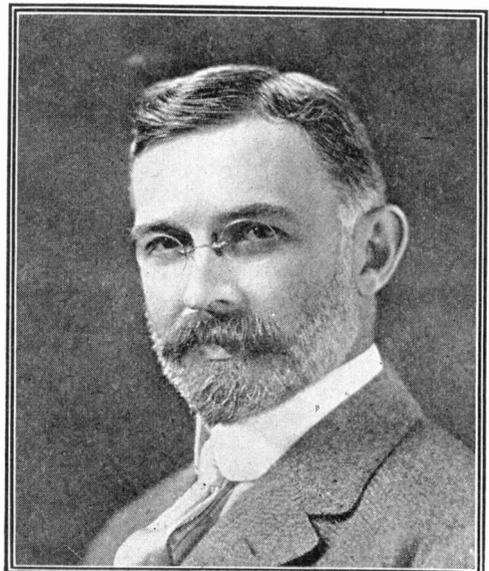
"Doherty luck" has been quoted so many times in public utility circles that probably some may believe that luck has played a great part in his advancement. Nothing could be further from the truth. Incessant work has had the most to do with the success of Henry L. Doherty. Even the time most men take for recreation is spent by him in work, but work that to him is the same as play to many other business men.

As an instance of this, some time ago Mr. Doherty had been for days engaged with some difficult engineering and financial questions which, finally solved, left him in need of what he calls "change of brain diet." Some days previous a friend had brought to his attention a chemical problem, which so far had failed of solution. It had to do with distillation and the friend said that if it could be solved, it would mean much for his business. A problem such as this is just the relaxation required by Mr. Doherty and so forgetting matters electrical for a time, he began to study the subject of distilling.

tem. Piles had to be driven. There were delays incident to inclement weather. There were other unavoidable delays in getting the apparatus together. But inside of the four months it was done.

For many years Mr. Eglin has been the electrical engineer of the Philadelphia Electric Company and its affiliated companies, and it is very largely due to his forceful personality and recognized engineering ability that the company is today in the front rank with the largest electric lighting companies of the world.

One of his most prominent characteristics is his constant thought for the advancement and uplift of the employee, and for protecting him against accident while engaged in the discharge of his duties. This being well recognized, a few months ago Mr. Eglin was appointed a representative of the Association on the Commission on Resuscitation from Electric Shock. This is a subject of vital importance to every one connected with the electrical industry; and the complete recommendations of this Commission, which also includes representatives of the American Medical Association and of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, are being awaited with interest.



He solved the problem and the process evolved by him is now in use in the plants of his friend and incidentally an application for a patent on this process is now pending. With the solution of this question Mr. Doherty's play time was over and he returned again to his work.

A year ago Mr. Doherty was importuned by his partners and friends to forget business matters for a time, take a long vacation and go to Europe. He decided to do so and his friends declared that he would now have to have a real playtime away from all business. As events proved, however, they did not know their man. Mr. Doherty made the trip, had a good time, saw many countries and journeyed north to the midnight sun. But all the time his busy brain was at work, and after his return to his office the results of this work appeared in the announcement that the markets of Europe have been opened to the securities of the Doherty companies.

William H. Blood, Jr.

Of Stone & Webster; Insurance Expert of the N. E. L. A.

There is a certain resemblance between Mr. William H. Blood, Jr., and the great Cato, of whom it was said that "his powers were confined in no pent-up Utica." While Mr. Blood may not be able to exclaim with the Count of Monte Cristo "The world is mine," he is entitled to feel that the United States is his. For he has traversed it at the rate of about forty thousand miles a year for the last 20 years.

Practically every city in this country of over 10,000 population has been visited by him, and he has examined properties which represent over \$1,000,000,000.

He is the peripatetic philosopher of the Stone & Webster organization. He is here today, and there tomorrow; now you see him, and now you don't. In his

office he has a large map of the United States, and on every city that he has visited he has stuck a small black seal—it reminds one of a blackberry pasture when the picking is good.

Mr. Blood's activities have been many sided and far reaching. For many years



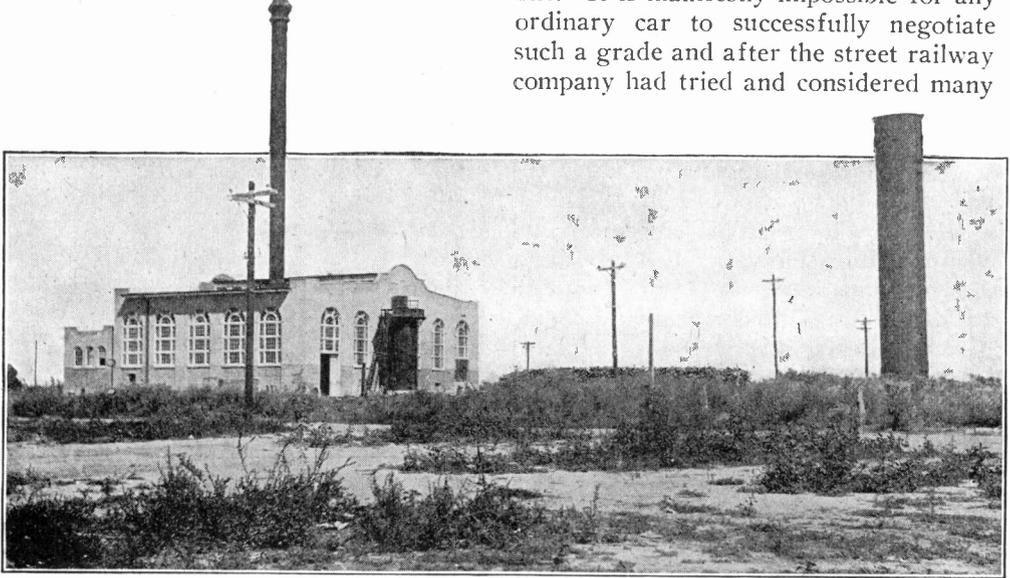
he has had charge of the expert examinations conducted by Stone & Webster. He had a prominent part in the creation of the electric code. He has an intimate knowledge of insurance. He has displayed a lively interest in the development of the electric vehicle, and is now president of the Electric Vehicle Association of America. He is well known as a lecturer on electrical and industrial subjects, and as a writer on matters affecting public utilities.

But it is impossible to describe Mr. Blood without resorting to the language of the real estate dealers—"This property must be seen to be appreciated." One must know him personally, must note the calm judgment of his business views, must listen to his witticisms (which always instruct as well as entertain), must be the recipient of his un-failing good humor, in order to estimate him properly.

Electric Pumping Plants

Operating irrigation pumps by electricity is rapidly becoming general in Texas and the Southwestern States. In the shallow-water belt of the plains country of western Texas and in many

which Brown University is situated. The grade is about eight per cent and is the scene of the heaviest traffic on the local trolley lines. The rise is close to a foot in every ten feet and the hill is half a mile long so that the climb is a hard one. It is manifestly impossible for any ordinary car to successfully negotiate such a grade and after the street railway company had tried and considered many



PUMPING PLANT IN THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY

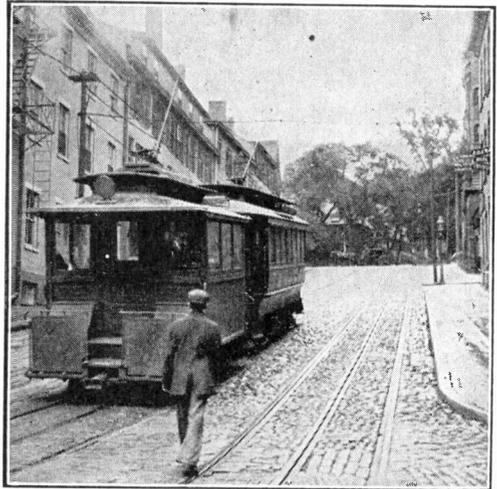
parts of New Mexico and Arizona many small electric pumps have been installed in wells during the last two or three years. These pumps receive the power over transmission wires from central stations in the respective irrigated districts. In the lower Rio Grande valley of Texas is one of the largest electric power plants in the country devoted to operating irrigation pumps. The pumping station is situated upon the bank of the Rio Grande, from which stream the water supply for irrigating many thousand acres of land is obtained. The transmission lines run from the power plant to the pumping station.

Cars Helped by Counter Weights

What is claimed to be the steepest smooth rail hill climbed by electric cars is located in Providence, Rhode Island, called "College hill," the elevation on

of the cograil propositions without success the engineers hit upon the scheme of counterweights, which was installed with most satisfactory results.

The counterweights weigh about sev-



BELOW THE TRACK SLOT RUNS THE COUNTERWEIGHT CABLE

enteen tons each and run on an underground track and down the same incline that the cars do. The hill is double tracked and accordingly two sets of weights are in use, one to each track. In the center of each track a cable slot is utilized for a rolling grip to attach itself to the under part of the car. Special cars containing a single motor are used, which, exerting its full force, is just sufficient to move the grip car up or down against the effort of the counterweight. When other motor cars are being assisted up or down the hill they are switched in and coupled up behind the grip car and the power of both is used to make a fast trip up or down. This system gives a speed of more than twice that of any cog railroad known and though it would hardly work on a grade steeper than the one in which it is used on, it has proved eminently satisfactory where it is installed.

Aids to the Partially Deaf

Persons who are only partially deaf can often be made to hear very well by the use of a small electric device in the



SORET APPARATUS IN USE

shape of a telephone, which fits into the ear. We illustrate one of the newest of these and it is the invention of Dr. Soret, of Havre. He uses a telephone transmitter which is acted on by the voice, and also a receiver so as to act

upon the ear, but both of these are mounted together in a single box-like device. This is of very small size, and has a rubber tube made in the shape of the inside of the ear, so as to fit well into the ear.

Sometimes only one ear need be thus treated, just as a single eyeglass is carried. For both ears, the two devices can be joined by a light head piece passing in the rear. A small pocket battery gives the current.

Of another kind is the "microtelephone" made by Dr. Le Nouène, and here the transmitter is made in the shape of a small disk-like box with perforated cover which hangs upon the breast. In the ear is inserted a very small telephone receiver which is almost invisible. A flexible cord connects the different parts, including the battery.

Electricity from Peat

The St. Petersburg Electric Lighting Company has acquired an extensive peat field near Moscow where it is proposed to erect a large electric plant. Electrical energy will be transmitted to Moscow.



MICROPHONE OF DR. NOUENE

where the prices of naphtha and coal are unusually high. The quantity of peat available is sufficient to cover the fuel requirements of Moscow for a period of 100 years to come, according to conservative estimates.

Charles Proteus Steinmetz

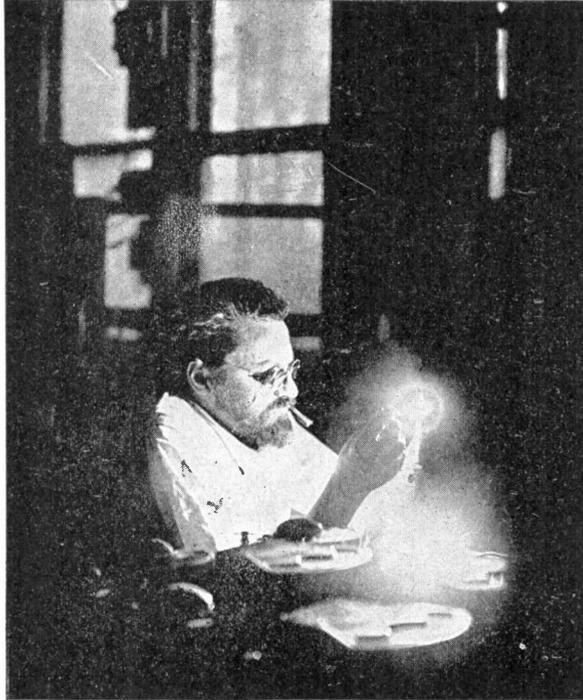


Photo by L. S. Uphoff

DR. STEINMETZ EXPERIMENTING WITH THE FLAMING ARC

When it was announced, a few weeks ago, that Charles Proteus Steinmetz had been appointed to head the school board of the city of Schenectady, N. Y., many persons who had known of him only as a famous electrical engineer wondered why and how this had come about. To those who really know Mr. Steinmetz, however, there was nothing surprising in his appointment.

"It's just another instance of Steinmetz living up to his middle name," remarked one of the men who knows him best. That sent those who heard the jesting comment to their encyclopedias. There they found that Proteus, in Greek mythology, was a prophet who knew all things, past, present and future, and who was able to take on any shape at will. Then they saw the point of the apt re-

mark, for if Mr. Steinmetz has a claim to distinction beyond his skill as an electrical engineer and inventor, it lies in the fact that he knows more different things and has played more different parts in the world drama than most men. There is one important difference between Mr. Steinmetz and his mythological namesake, however. The ancient Proteus was loth to tell what he knew. Charles Proteus Steinmetz has no such scruples.

It is because he is always ready to tell what he knows, and has the ability to tell it interestingly and intelligibly to those who are not as well informed as himself that he is known familiarly to the men in the General Electric works at Schenectady as "The Professor." More than that, he really is a professor, occupying



Photo by Geo. D. Rosenthal

TWO GREAT INVENTORS IN MEDITATION—SAID TO BE THE BEST PHOTOGRAPH EVER TAKEN OF MR. EDISON AND DR. STEINMETZ

the chair of Electrical Engineering at Union University, Schenectady, which he has held for many years. And his earliest ambition—or at least one of his early ambitions—was to be a professor of mathematics in a great German university. If he hadn't tried being an editor first he might have achieved that distinction, and Germany, rather than the United States, would be claiming the credit of his inventions.

It was while he was a student at the University of Breslau, in which city he was born in 1865, that the editorial bee found lodgment in young Mr. Steinmetz's bonnet. A friend of his was editor of a Socialist paper and was sent to jail in the cheerful way they have of sending Socialist editors to jail in Ger-

many. Steinmetz undertook to edit the paper while his friend was doing time. He succeeded so well that the police confiscated the whole paper. Thereupon Steinmetz started another, using the name of a harmless acquaintance as "responsible editor." Before long this publication was also suppressed. Incidentally, the police discovered that Steinmetz was the man who had been writing the articles that had got under the official skins of the ruling powers and reported the fact to the university authorities. They did not want to expel Steinmetz, for he was their most brilliant student, but he learned, through one of the student-detectives, that there was a warrant out for him and went away from there. He threw the police off the scent by buy-

ing a round-trip ticket—it is easy to throw the Prussian police off the scent, apparently, for the destination of his journey was a point on the Austrian frontier. He did not use the return half of his ticket, but continued across the frontier to Vienna, thence to Zurich, where he wrote articles for the Breslau papers, studied chemistry and electrical engineering, decided to go back to Breslau and try for the post of professor of mathematics, but finally fell in with a young American whom he accompanied to this country, arriving at New York with \$20 between them. He went to work for an electrical concern which soon after was bought by the General Electric Company.

“Steinmetz was the most valuable part of the whole plant,” said one of his friends recently. “The General Electric got a real bargain without knowing it.”

That he would have made good as professor of mathematics nobody who has come in contact with his tremendous faculty for figures doubts for a moment. It was told as a joke on the late General Frederick Dent Grant that when he was a cadet at West Point he misunderstood the instructions of the professor of mathematics and sat up all night trying to commit the table of logarithms to memory. But it is no joke to say that Professor Steinmetz really did that very thing—or what amounted to an even more stupendous feat of mental labor.

A few years ago he consented to accompany a party of friends on a hunting expedition in the Adirondacks. Not being much of a hunter, he remained alone in the camp while the others went out after deer. While they were away he thought of a mathematical problem the solution of which required the use of a table of logarithms. There was no such table within several hundred miles, so, remembering a few of the figures, he sat down with pencil and paper and calculated a complete table. Then he solved his problem.

It may be relied upon that the pupils

in the Schenectady public schools under the Steinmetz administration will have to learn arithmetic. Yet he has none of the adoration of mathematics for its own sake that some great mathematicians have had. “Mathematics is only valuable to attain results,” he says. Mathematics for mathematics’ sake is foolish.” And it was not because he was a mathematician, or even because he is a university professor, that he was made head of the school board. It so happens that the present city administration of Schenectady is Socialist, with a Socialist minister, the Rev. Mr. Lunn, as mayor, and it was Professor Steinmetz’s editorial experiences—together with his continuous advocacy of Socialism ever since—that had as much to do with his selection as anything else.

Of course, the work of the school board will not take him away from the General Electric Company, where he will continue to smoke his long, black cigars and to go without an overcoat, no matter how cold the weather—likewise to draw his salary of somewhat more than \$50,000 a year, which isn’t so bad for a Socialist.—FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE.

Regulator for Street Car Lights

Those who read the morning and evening papers on street cars are aware of the fluctuating intensity of the light during the rush hours on account of the varying voltage. The lamps in street cars are usually connected in series; that is, five 110 volt lamps are connected in series with the trolley wire and the rail. A device to keep the current through the lamps steady is promised. It consists of a bulb, in appearance resembling a filament lamp. Within the vacuum bulb is a calculated length of iron wire the temperature and resistance of which change with the voltage. This bulb placed in series with the five lamps causes them to burn without flickering, according to reported experiments.

Eavesdropping by Science

By EDWARD LYELL FOX

The dime-novelist who first wrote "Hist! The very walls have ears!" wrote better than he knew. Then he wrote figuratively. Today he could write it literally because walls, you see, have grown ears! They're wonderfully alert ears, too. They catch the faintest voice; the rustle of clothing. They're susceptible to the slightest sound.

Of course, I mean the dictograph; the tiny instrument that in the last six months has revolutionized criminal detection. In walls, under sofa and chair, in chandelier, behind a desk, beside a window, it has hidden—the unseen listener to secret conversations. The secrets of prison cells have been tapped, hotel rooms and offices have given up incriminating conversation. To representatives of the law it has proclaimed loudly the whispered words of cunning malefactors. It has figured sensationally in the undoing of dynamiters, legislative bribe takers, grafters high and crooks low, across the continent. It eavesdropped in McManigal's cell in the Columbus, Ohio, bribery case, in the Lorimer case, in the office of the Iron Workers' Union at Indianapolis, in Gary, Ind., in—who knows? Always listening where we

know not, it promises more and more sensational disclosures, more confessions—an "automatic third degree."

It was to learn more about this instrument that I went to see the man who invented it. I had read about it. The word dictograph had appeared frequently in the public prints, but always in a report of something criminal. Its importance

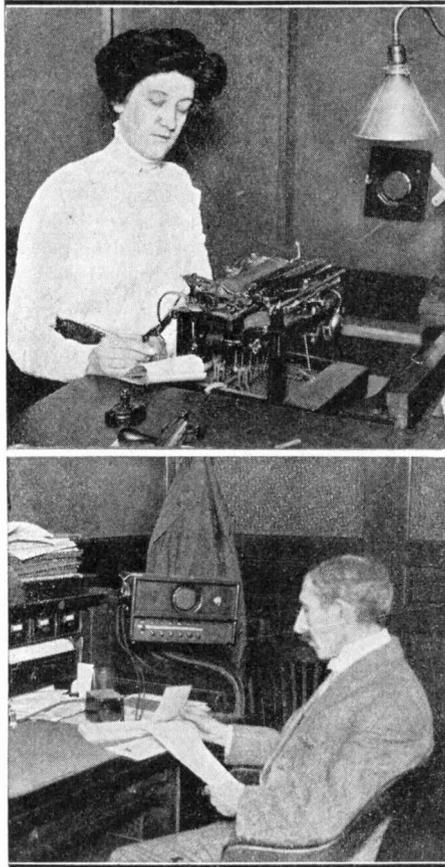
morally was established. But was it of any use to the business man? Could it be made as essential to his office as, say, the typewriter? Surely the inventor could tell me. So I went to see him—K. M. Turner—and found him in a Broadway office building. It was in the theatrical district, very properly. Later, I learned that Mr. Turner made his dictographs in a factory out on Long Island, but one couldn't hold that against him. In his desk, you see, there are plenty for demonstrating purposes.

For a time he generalized in scientific theories applied to his invention. This over, he confessed the invention of the

acousticon and the interior telephone, as well as the dictograph. And as abruptly he asked:

"Have you been dictographed?"

On general principles, I said "No,"



THE DICTOGRAPH IN BUSINESS LIFE

whereupon he asked me to stand in the most remote corner of the room and whisper, "Do you hear me?" This I did, pitching my voice so low that Turner himself couldn't have heard me. Imagine my surprise then, when, an instant later, there issued from a small wooden box beside his desk a distinct, full-toned voice that said:

"Yes! Of course I hear you."

I moved toward the box, and stood close against it. In a moment the invisible voice reported that a queer rustling sound had been heard. Mr. Turner said it was the motion of my clothes caused by breathing. I wondered if that infernal ear with its electric charged wires leading to some man in another part of the building could hear my heart beat.

"That!" suddenly re-

marked Turner, with a wave of his hand, "is the dictograph for the business man!"

And, rising, he dissected it verbally for me. The "commercial dictograph" consists principally of the transmitting disk or sound collector, which is the same as that of the "criminal dictograph," and an orifice which talks back the answer of the person at the "other end of the wire." In the box are half a dozen pegs which may be depressed to put the user in touch with as many instruments in adjoining offices. In fact, it is a wonderfully simplified form of the interior telephone. Only there is no "leaking" switch-board and no bother of taking down receivers from hooks. All you do is to sit in your office, talk and listen to the answers that, full-toned, come throbbing from the box. Thus you can dictate to a stenographer



PROF. FRANK PERRET, AMERICAN SCIENTIST ON MOUNT VESUVIUS, USING THE DICTOGRAPH TO COMPREHEND THE EARTH RUMBLINGS
CONVERSATION IS TRANSMITTED TO AN ADJOINING ROOM, UNKNOWN TO THE VISITOR, THROUGH A DIAPHRAGM CONCEALED IN THE CLOCK ON THE DESK

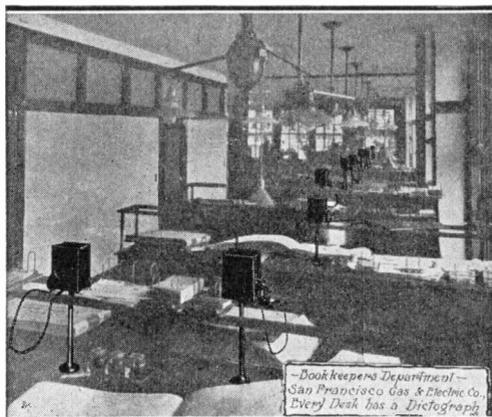
in an adjoining room and hold a business conference with several other rooms simultaneously.

"Corporations will have their meeting rooms fitted with dictograph ears," remarked Turner when we were seated. "It is applicable to all lines of business and professions. Then he told me how an officer of a corporation wanted to know the secrets of a room which had solid walls and no furniture except a desk in the center. Over the desk hung a chandelier, and at the base of the chandelier was a metal ball. In this was rigged a dictograph sound collector—the unseen ear. And a noted banker, he told me, has the instrument hidden in a clock on his desk. If he wants the conversation of a caller recorded he presses a button under the rug, with his foot, to notify a stenographer in the next room. She, pad and pencil in hand, sits beside her dictograph and writes.

Let us dwell momentarily now upon the "detective dictograph." Last year William J. Burns was regarded as the flesh and blood unification of Sherlock Holmes and M. Lecoq, with an Arsène Lupin dare-deviltry. That was before it became known that he used the dictograph. This with all respect to Burns' acumen as a detective, for he knew enough to make use of the latest that science had devised for catching criminals. Burns was the first American to see the immense possibilities of the instrument in detective work. He is so enamored with it that he always carries one in his pocket. Fictional detectives carry automatics and handcuffs. Burns carries a dictograph.

Let us see what this instrument is. Turning it over in our hand we estimate that it weighs a half pound. If we put it in a little leather case it looks like a small pocket kodak. Regarding its mechanics, there is a sound collector or transmitter, a receiving desk, a couple of small dry batteries and a double length of black silk covered wire. The sound collector is a disk of black hard rubber

weighing a few ounces. It is about three inches across and an inch thick. There is a metal eye by which it may be hung on a nail behind a desk or a picture. The wires are inserted at the lower end of the disk. To the receiving disk which the eavesdropper holds to his ear the wires are connected at their terminus. Necessary current is provided by the dry batteries. Unlike the "commercial dictograph," no provision for a chat between



ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE COMMERCIAL
DICTOGRAPH

two persons is made. An eavesdropper doesn't want to talk back to the person whose conversation he is overhearing.

This sounds simple. The construction of the mechanical ear, however, is most intricate. On the outer extremity of the sound-collecting disk is a series of oblong, semi-circular openings. Through these pass the vibrations of air which constitute sound. Inside there is a cone, the point of which is an electrode and which reaches the center of the disk. Vibrations of air, striking the bottom of the cone, are reflected back and forth. They climb a circular mountain, so to speak, and become focused at the center and peak of the cone. The action suggests a burning glass focusing the rays of light on a central point. The disk gathers the sound vibrations within a circle about nine and a half inches in circumference and transforms them into electrical impulses to be sent over a wire.

So much for the mechanics of the ear, that is said to multiply sound four hundred times. Now let us see how it came to be. One day when Turner, experimenting with his interior telephone, was waiting for the person at the end of the wire to speak, he chanced to overhear snatches of a conversation. Like a flash the idea of the eavesdropping dictograph came to him. Upon perfecting his interior telephone he turned his efforts toward the dictograph. At first he had a difficult time getting anyone to take his machines seriously for detective purposes. At the Thaw trial an assistant district attorney turned down his suggestions flatly. Then, as many other inventors have done upon meeting rebuffs in this country, he crossed the Atlantic. Obtaining an audience with the late King Edward of England, Turner showed him a form of his invention, and the monarch said: "Scotland Yard should have it." Later, Paris and other continental cities took it up. The European detectives used it and kept their mouths shut. Also, the European newspaper man is not a prying person like his brother in America. So we on this side of the ocean did not know that such an instrument existed. Finally the United States Secret Service got wind of it, and an alert, red-haired man, called "Billy" Burns, began to dabble with it. Now he's known as William J. Burns.

Not until a year ago did the first published notice of the dictograph come. Then it was in connection with the Illinois shop grafting case. Burns had such success with the metal ear in running down the grafters that he tried it on the McNamara dynamiters. He's been trying it on people ever since. Last summer the ear overheard the legislative grafters at Columbus, Ohio. The incident disgusted these higher crooks exceedingly. Not so the honest population of the city. They held a dictograph celebration. Today you can buy dictograph cocktails at Columbus. What better proof of its popularity could be given?

Moreover, the Ohio Supreme Court upheld the dictograph as a legal evidence getter.

The surprising part about it all is that despite the publicity, the more it is used the more effective it becomes. Most people scoff at it until they have been sent to jail by its agency. Even then many of them are inclined to doubt. You cannot get around the fact that men must talk and the dictograph must listen. They cannot see it; they cannot find it. It's more elusive than the "dimmed elusive pimperl" of Fred Terry fame. Wallpaper may hide it. Under a ventilator its ears may be cocked; the stone wall of a cell may hold it, unseen—yet it is always listening.

I recall an instance that Mr. Turner told me. Two Italian crooks were placed in the cell of a Pennsylvania jail. In the cell was a dictograph, and some distance away, waiting for the electric current to carry their conversation to him over the wires, sat an operator. For five days, fearing that they would be overheard, the Italians kept silent. On the sixth day they could endure it no longer and broke into speech. And the metal eavesdropper heard every word.

Mouse Carries Thread Through Pipe

The fact that even so small a creature as a mouse will prove invaluable at times was realized by a contractor, who had without success tried every available means to pass a pair of wires through 197 feet of conduit having a right angled bend about half way of its length. Finally it was suggested that a mouse might be used. One was caught and a thread was fastened to its leg. It was then placed in the mouth of the pipe and given a start by a whiff of compressed air. It appeared at the other end in a minute or so with the cord. The rest proved easy as the cord drew tape through the pipe and the tape drew the wires in.

Electrical Securities

The Proper Time to Buy Stocks and Securities in So Far as the General Public is Concerned—How to Buy Them—What to Buy and Why You Should So Invest Your Money.

By "CONTANGO"

You as an individual, part of the general public, doubtless have on various occasions had this or that electrical share or bond brought to your notice as a good opportunity for getting good dividends or interest on your money, year in, year out, and without any risk of losing it. This short article will endeavor to tell you when, how and what to buy.

The ground has been carefully covered in this "Contango" series in so far as good faith, the wide prospect before you, the pitfalls in the past, and other necessary considerations are concerned. It is now time to particularize a little more closely, without giving names, for after the suggestions set forth concerning frauds and fraudulent companies that is scarcely necessary, even though it would be quite easy to place before you a list of such undesirable companies.

Though much has been made clear as to what public service and public utility companies are, yet would-be investors are probably still in the dark as to when to buy with the best advantage, because prices sometimes seem high and sometimes suspiciously low, and in either case there is much uncertainty as to what to do and what not to do.

In times of business depression, in panicky times, there is no greater opportunity, but usually you are afraid to part with your money then, afraid to make a single forward step, lest you lose your small capital or savings. In times of booming business and of general confidence and good faith, you often hesitate because you are apt to think the price too high, or else your money might possibly find a better opportunity in some small business chance in the improving business conditions. In the slack period between the extremes you are hopelessly at

sea, drifting along, fearing to take any initiative whatever. But opportunities for investment are always at hand, though you must be able to differentiate between the good and the bad.

The public utility or service company depends on the certain and constant growth of population and development of the country locally and generally. You can no more stop this than you can mark time in your steps through life. We have already in past articles discussed the question of management, amounts of stocks and bonds, and the like, and as a result it has certainly been made clear that when all these requirements of soundness have been fulfilled, you would have to search the world over to find a better stock or security for bringing you reasonable but certain returns than the issues of such corporations. On your stock—that is, shares—you may net, in strong companies, as high as 5 to 7 per cent per annum on your investment, and still the company be judged in the financial world as perfectly sound and reliable, and $4\frac{3}{4}$ to $5\frac{1}{4}$ per cent on your bonds is not too high a rate to expect.

The very fact that state commissions regulating such companies are being appointed from time to time only means further safeguards for your dividends and interest. Therefore the present time—and that means *now*—is always the best in which to invest your money in sound enterprises of this character. Do not for one moment lose sight of the fact that such opportunities come along from month to month, and if your money is not in them, it is probably idle or wasted in speculative chances.

Naturally, the electrical public service or utility—and this comprises many

power development companies—should prove very attractive, because electricity is so fast superseding every other form of light and power. The conclusions you should have drawn, and doubtless have drawn, then lead up to this *final note of action*—get your money busy and put it into the shares and securities of such enterprises.

Now, as to “How to Buy?” such stocks and bonds.

You will doubtless have noticed from time to time the advertisements of bond houses, bankers and brokers. As to the reliability of these houses you should judge by the class and standing of the publication in which they appear, and by making inquiries of your bankers or friends familiar with financial affairs. Sometimes they announce that they offer the stock or securities of this or that company at such and such a price; they also give particulars as to the rate of dividends or interest paid. It is to such houses you should write. You can also apply to your local banker in the case of companies whose circulars concerning their securities come to you direct, or who put out their own advertisements concerning the financial offerings or investment opportunities they are making to the public.

In practically all cases you pay a deposit on the allotment of stock to you, then the balance in two or more subsequent payments. The more important and substantial corporations, when declaring a dividend, declare it also on those shares partially paid up. On the other hand, cases have been known where, even when an individual has agreed to buy, say, ten shares in installments, and has paid up a quarter of the total amount, dividends have been withheld.

If you happen to buy some stock from an acquaintance or locally through your banker, be sure and have the transfer made at once at the offices of the company by which they are issued, or its transfer agent, usually some trust company or bank. If you buy by application

to the particular corporation's brokers or bankers, this transfer should be taken care of in all cases. Having your shares transferred to your name and thus registered insures immediate participation in the dividends as declared.

It is always better to buy outright if you have the money ready, as the matter is thus disposed of as one transaction. But where you are anxious to secure a number of shares at the then price, on which you fear there may be an advance, then by all means secure the number for which you can afford to pay in the specified time, by two or three installments.

Having bought shares in a great public service or public utility corporation at a high price, in times of activity in the stock market and when business sentiment is optimistic and all markets are strong, do not let go and sell out because there comes a time when the price shrinks. The stock of such corporations is always good as long as the management is efficient and honest, and in these days it has to be. At the time of the 1907 panic it was the stocks and securities of the great public service and utility companies that showed the lowest shrinkage, and their business, following natural conditions, in most cases continued to increase, so that they had much cash coming in at a time of prevailing dearth and shortage.

The price of bonds varies, as a rule, but a few points in the case of the larger electric undertakings, and most of them have excellent security and value behind them.

A few words as to the rate of interest on bonds will be in place here. Great estates, life insurance companies and other large investment institutions are still good buyers of low interest yielding bonds, but the average investor wants more, and he is getting it from the class of high grade public utility, municipal and industrial bonds now on the market. Moreover, dealers in investment securities are beset at this time with demands for “safe investments

yielding not less than five per cent." A few years ago safety and five per cent were considered almost incompatible, especially the degree of safety suitable for women, but nowadays five per cent appears to be the minimum of income demanded. The request for a list of safe securities yielding five per cent or more is repeated in every banking house. For a long time brokers said it was impossible to furnish it. A list of five per cent investments was not a list of absolutely safe investments, but the demand persisted and was met partly by new issues and partly by the decline in the prices of old securities, but mainly by the advent of the securities of the big, strong utility and public service corporations, so that now when an investor wants five per cent with safety he has a big selection from which to choose. Hundreds of five per cent lists may now be had, and in these incomparably the best companies named are the public utility and service corporations. And this steady demand for the five per cent bond brings naturally to the question of—"What to Buy?"

The answer is ready and is absolutely convincing. Buy the bonds of those companies giving public service or supplying the public with necessities, particularly the securities of those companies doing business in a territory where there is a constantly increasing population, and in places where there is concentration of population at many points, for the public service company, the public utility company, or even the industrial company supplying public needs has an ever growing source of revenue if its business is at all properly managed.

Municipal bonds of a high grade character, and that is to say such issues as have been tested by experts in their relation to their respective municipalities' revenues, and have then been brought out by reputable bond houses, are equally desirable.

A progressive future is before such corporations, and your income is as secure as the "Rock of Gibraltar."

As to the general outlook at this pres-

ent time—and never forget that the present makes the future—the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Lloyd George, one of the ablest and brightest business heads in the world, in forecasting his budget for fiscal plans for his government for this year, referred, only a few weeks ago, very pointedly to the prospects in the United States as well as in the British Isles and to the future of international trade. His most convincing speech indicated that, in the opinion of those best posted and most certainly familiar with business and trade conditions the world over, there was nothing but satisfactory readjustment of all existing obstacles to renewed and continued prosperity for both nations ahead of us.

This, too, is the conclusion of the writer of these "Contango" articles. There is no time like the present in which to get the advantage of reasonable prices for both the stocks and bonds of those great electrical undertakings, which, of all utility companies, have the greatest certainty of development.

A New Use for Tungsten

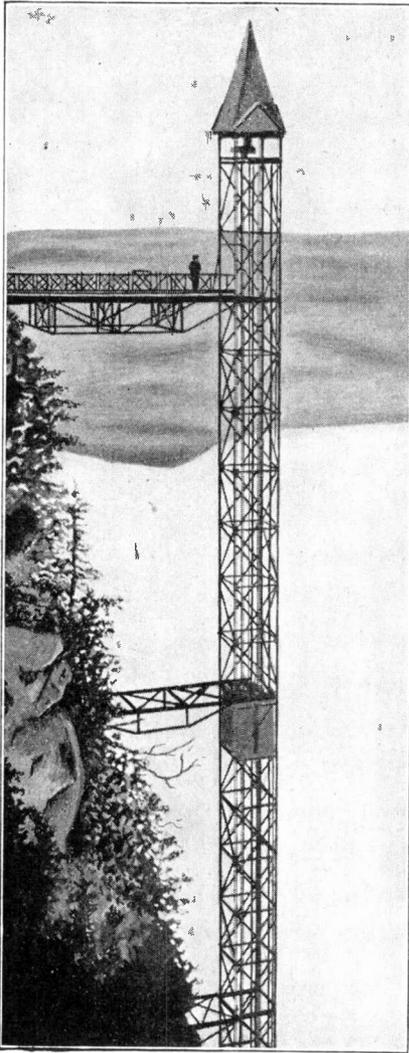
Tungsten, which has become so well known through its use in metallic filament electric lamps, promises to find many useful applications in the industrial field. One of its latest applications is in replacing platinum on the contact points of induction and spark coils. It has a high melting point and is found to be much cheaper and many times more durable than platinum. Experiments are being conducted on tungsten points for spark plugs which promise great success.

An Automatic Wheelsman

A device for automatically steering a boat has been long sought for and has been the subject of much thought and invention. One device of this kind seeks to make use of the compass needle, through an auxiliary circuit, automatically to open and close the circuit of a motor which swings the rudder.

An Outdoor Elevator

This interesting view was taken at one of the mountain lakes of Switzerland. As is well known, much profit results



CURIOUS OPEN AIR ELEVATOR IN SWITZERLAND

to the people of that country through showing tourists the beauties of its natural scenery. But not all tourists care for the climbing part. So when there is some popular vantage point which cannot well be reached by the mountain electric railway, an outdoor electric elevator is often built to cut off some hundreds of feet of difficult climbing.

Miniature Motion Picture Machine

At a recent demonstration in the Minneapolis schools, motion pictures were shown, produced by a miniature machine, that were complete reproductions of "The Battle of Trafalgar," "The Declaration of Independence," "Niagara Falls," "The Cocoa Industry," "Magnetic Lines of Force," and other subjects of educational nature.

The machine itself is a complete model of the larger machine and has a regular hand feeding arc. The carbons used for the arc are only a trifle over $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter and are cored and copper coated. The machine can be used with slides as well as motion films.

The chief novelty appears to be in the film, which is fire proof and which contains as many pictures in 80 feet as the regular film has in a reel 1,000 feet long. The pictures are only about $\frac{1}{4}$ by 3-16 inch in size and arranged in three rows on the one film. The two outer rows face in the same direction but the middle row faces in the opposite direction. The machine has an arrangement for shifting the light onto the rows separately.

Starting from one end the film is wound with the outer row in front of the light until it reaches the end. It is then shifted to the middle row and the direction of winding reversed. When the end is again reached it is shifted to the outer row and the direction of winding is again reversed. In this manner the three rows are made practically continuous. Some of the larger films last about eighteen minutes, the same as the regular films. The projected picture is about four by six feet and is very clear.

It is difficult for the layman and the student to get a clear idea of magnetic lines of force for the very reason that they are invisible to the eye. In fact, it is not definitely proved that these magnetic lines take the shapes which are given by the modern theories.

A thorough understanding of the mod-

ern theories is essential to an understanding of practical electricity. With this end in view a series of moving pictures have been prepared by the Edison company to show the magnetic lines in motion exactly as the modern theory demands.

The film is one of these new Edison miniature films. First a magnet is shown with a keeper moving to it and then a hand pulls it away again. The expanding and increasing magnetic lines are shown in a striking manner. In a similar manner, the lines of force about a wire, an alternating current magnet, a motor armature, a dynamo field and the Hertzian waves used in wireless telegraphy, are all shown. The lines are shown in motion and convey a lesson which is not possible in any other manner.

The pictures were produced from a great number of drawings and are quite remarkable.

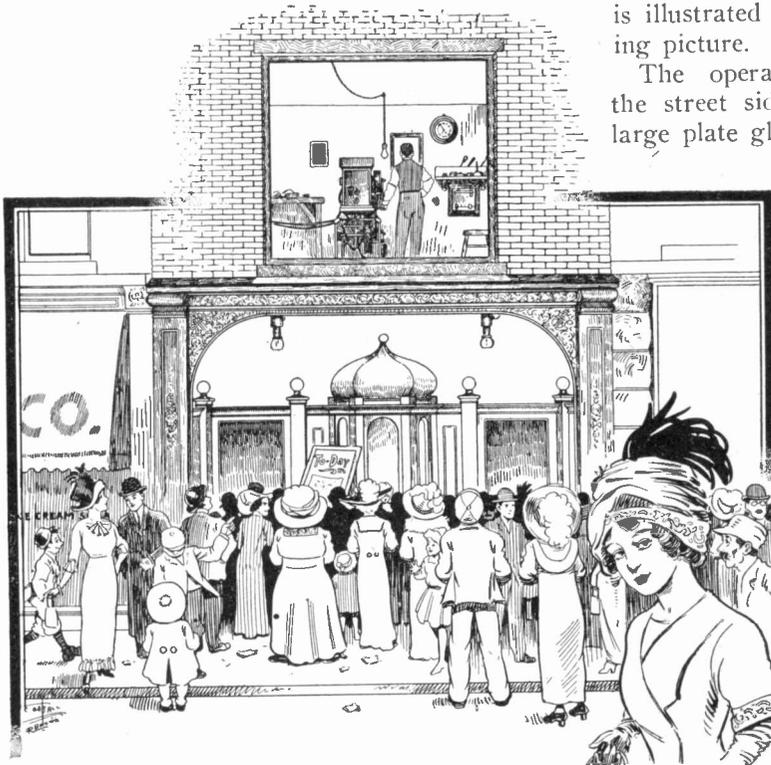
Street Cars to the Leaning Tower

An electric street car line has just been constructed in Pisa, Italy, where the famous Leaning Tower is located. The building of the car line has long been bitterly opposed by local cab drivers, who immemorially have depended for their livelihood upon carrying tourists to the place where are located the world famed tower and a number of other celebrated structures. As the street car fare will be only two cents, it may be expected that some of the hackmen will be forced into other channels of industry.

Two Shows in One

A most unusual and effective scheme for attracting the passing public to take note of "Today's Program" and to patronize a moving picture theater is illustrated in the accompanying picture.

The operator's booth upon the street side is fitted with a large plate glass window. With the booth lights on as they always are during the show the movements of the operator can be easily seen from the sidewalk below. At all times while the theater is open a crowd may be seen watching the "free show" and a goodly number always become interested enough to part with a nickel to see the "inside show."



MOVING PICTURE OPERATOR IN FULL VIEW OF THOSE ON THE STREET

A PENNSYLVANIA FARM ELECTRIFIED

Electricity has been harnessed to a surprising extent by William Hazard at his home in Fallsington, Bucks County, Pa. He uses it as a motive power for



IN THE WASH ROOM JUST AFTER A BIG DAY'S WASH

work around the house and barn and the neighbors are calling his establishment the "Electrical Farm." Mr. Hazard took up the study of electricity after retiring from active work and has accomplished results through his own efforts.

In his house he has an electric stove and bake oven, and if coffee is wanted quickly there is a coffee percolator, and there is also a small stove to cook eggs, cakes, etc. Another step saving device is an electric dumb waiter running from cellar to top floor for small articles. The sewing machine has a motor and there are electric lights throughout the house, electric fans, and an electric vacuum cleaner.

In the large wash house the washers, wringers, etc., are entirely operated by electricity, and Mr. Hazard says, "The washing machines have saved enough money to pay the interest on my whole investment."

The great advantage which Mr.

Hazard has in his homemade plant is seen in the conveniences in the barn. He can shell, crack and grind his own horse feed, cut corn, corn stalks and hay and the same motor is also used to lift the hay into the barn from the hay wagon.

"In most barns and mills," says Mr. Hazard, "there is required much line shafting to get all the machines onto the engine, or else the inconvenience of moving the machines to the engine is involved. Here I have everything so as to get current direct. A small motor placed in an out of the way place can be used to run as many different kinds of machines as you have room to use, and your power is always direct from the power source."

His latest hobby is a wireless station. The mast stands 78 feet in the air, and messages can be taken from stations ten and twelve hundred miles away. He has caught messages from ships many miles



THE ELECTRIC IRON IS APPRECIATED IN THE FARM HOME



CUTTING FODDER FOR THE HORSES AND CATTLE

at sea and also from several inland stations.

The power plant is in the cellar. There are 70 cells of storage battery, 62 cells being in series with eight end cells for regulation. The eight regulating cells are to keep the voltage uniform at 110 volts.

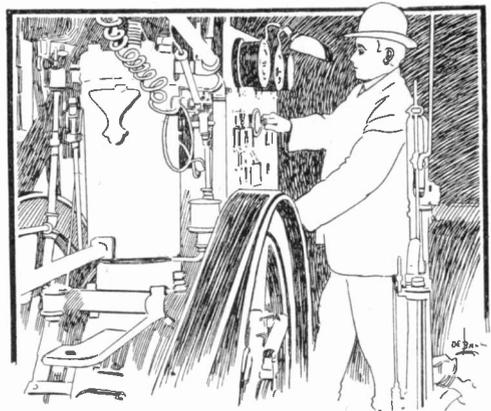
The engine which Mr. Hazard uses for running the dynamo for charging the batteries is an especially constructed Fairbanks-Morse engine for running electrical machinery. He started his plant with a few storage batteries and a few lights, and kept on increasing until he now has the only plant of its kind in western Pennsylvania. He says the plant is only in its infancy as he intends to have everything complete before ceasing the work. In his opinion if the farmer of today cannot increase his profits 100 per cent through improved methods there must be something wrong.

Telephone Dispatching System for Taxicabs

It has long been recognized in the taxicab business that the principal source of loss lies in long hauls without passengers. To eliminate this leakage in revenue the Pittsburg Taxicab Company has originated in this country for the first time a system of taxicab telephone stations which are distributed over the territory served by the com-

pany. These sets are built much after the style of the ordinary patrolmen telephones which are a common sight now in all of the larger cities.

They are weatherproof and consist of a ringer and combination receiver and transmitter mounted in a locked iron case. Twenty-one of these stations are installed throughout the city of Pittsburg and its suburbs for the exclusive use of the taxicab drivers. In the system in practice before the adoption of the taxicab stations a passenger making a four mile trip to one end of the town would pay his fee and if the car on its return was not flagged by a chance fare the return trip would have to be charged up to loss by the company. With the adoption of the present system, however, the cars are run much as a well regulated steam railroad. The wires from

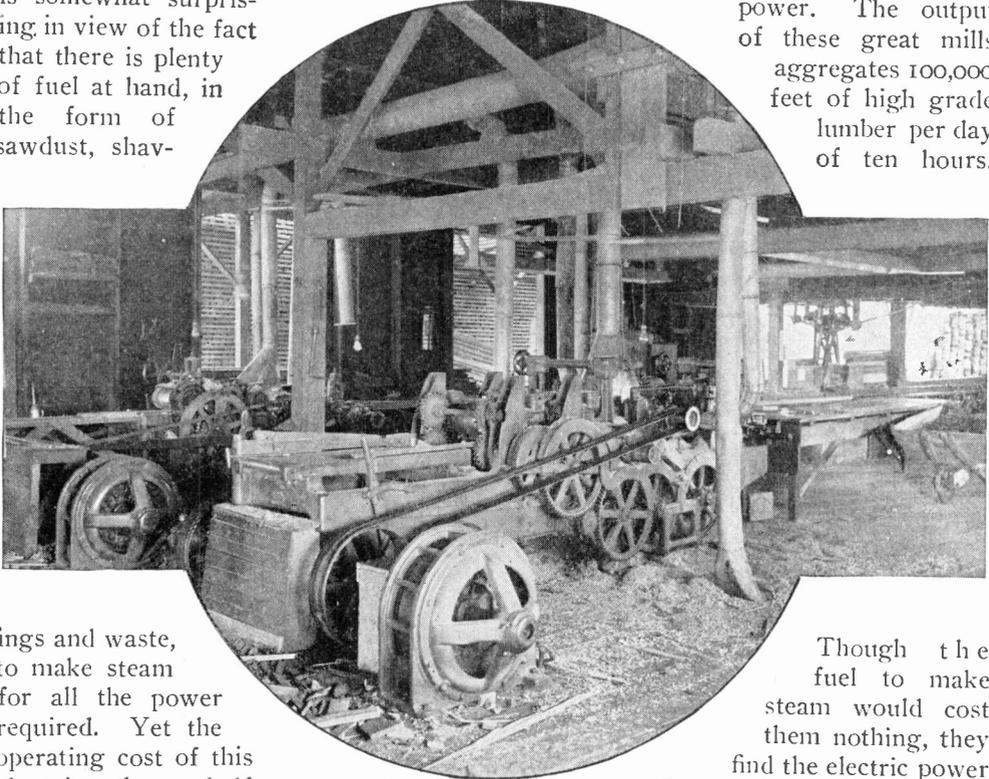


AT THE FARM PLANT SWITCHBOARD

the 21 stations of the company converge at the main office of the company in a switchboard at which a special operator constantly stays on duty. Here a record is kept of each taxicab, where it is bound for, the fare, and distance. When the passenger is delivered, the chauffeur calls up the central office at the nearest taxicab station and finds out from the operator the nearest return fare. He secures his new fare and delivers him, calls up the office again and learns of the nearest third passenger who has telephoned and so on.

Electricity Cheaper than Steam in Seattle Mills

In Seattle, Wash., one of the largest sash and door factories in the city is operated by electric power, from the Seattle Electric Company—some 400 electrical horsepower being used. This is somewhat surprising in view of the fact that there is plenty of fuel at hand, in the form of sawdust, shav-



ELECTRICALLY DRIVEN MACHINERY IN A
SEATTLE MILL

ings and waste, to make steam for all the power required. Yet the operating cost of this plant is only one-half of what it would cost to operate with steam or any other source of power, and the maintenance cost is practically nothing, amounting to less than \$25.00 per year, which is a record hard to beat. In a plant like this there are a great many machines that are not continuously in use, and with the direct connected motor drive it is very convenient to close a switch, start the machine and open it to stop when through. Another great advantage is that there are no belts in the way, no shafting to be getting out of line, and the machines may be spotted on the floor at any angle desired.

The refuse such as shavings and sawdust, other than that required for producing steam for dry kilns, is sold for commercial purposes, the sawdust going to a chemical factory.

Similarly in the cases of the Balcom and the Canal Lumber Company mills, electricity is found to be the cheapest power. The output of these great mills aggregates 100,000 feet of high grade lumber per day of ten hours.

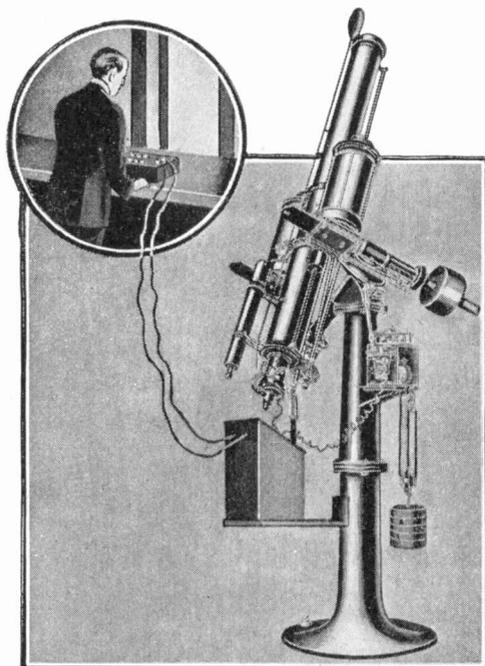
Though the fuel to make steam would cost them nothing, they find the electric power more economical, due to the low maintenance cost and greater flexibility of operation of the electrical machinery.

Beefsteak by Wire

A New York restaurant has abandoned the shouting of orders to the chef and has installed a telegraph system. The waiter takes your order, and then signals it back on a small clicker where the message is caught by a man in the kitchen. The regular telegraph code is, of course, not used but one better suited to the needs of the restaurant has been devised.

Measuring Starlight

Nearly all the measurements of the brightness of our heavenly bodies have heretofore been dependent on the observations of the human eye or the photographic plate. Recently a new method



MEASURING STAR LIGHT

has been devised which utilizes a certain property of the wonderful element—selenium. Selenium, when properly treated, is an element which in the dark offers a high resistance to the flow of electric current, but when illuminated it becomes a much better conductor of electricity. The selenium cell, as the instrument is called, is made by winding two parallel wires on a flat insulator. The wires are kept separated by melting selenium on their surfaces and then baking the cell at a temperature below the melting point of the selenium.

The usual procedure is to place the selenium cell in the focus of a telescope. The cell is contained in a light-proof box provided with a photographic shutter. When the measurement is taken the shutter is opened for a few seconds and

the cell is illuminated by the light from the star whose brightness is to be determined. The increase in the flow of electric current through the cell when illuminated is measured with exceedingly accurate instruments, and by comparison with measurements on objects of a known brightness the unknown brightness is readily obtained.

Stars are classified according to their "magnitude," which is determined by their brightness. By this method the light from any star can be focused on the selenium cell and a direct measurement of its brightness can be made. The method has also been used to study eclipses. It is especially valuable in determining the exact middle or maximum of solar and lunar eclipses. Measurements of the variation of the moon's light throughout the year have been studied. As an example of the measurements on the variation of the candlepower of the moon during its various phases it was found that the brightness was nine times greater at full moon than at half moon.

Some Odd Facts About the Telephone

Eight million miles of wire have been added to American telephone systems in five years.

Iowa, Nebraska, Washington, Nevada and California lead the states in number of telephones to population.

Texas sends more messages per capita than New Jersey; Utah is ahead of Pennsylvania.

Cleveland is the city with the most telephones to every thousand inhabitants; New Orleans the least.

In Chicago the company has 60,000 requests daily for the time.

The busiest hour on the telephone exchange is between 10 and 11 a. m.; the busiest day in the year, the day before Christmas.

Five office buildings in New York have telephones enough for a city of 100,000 people.

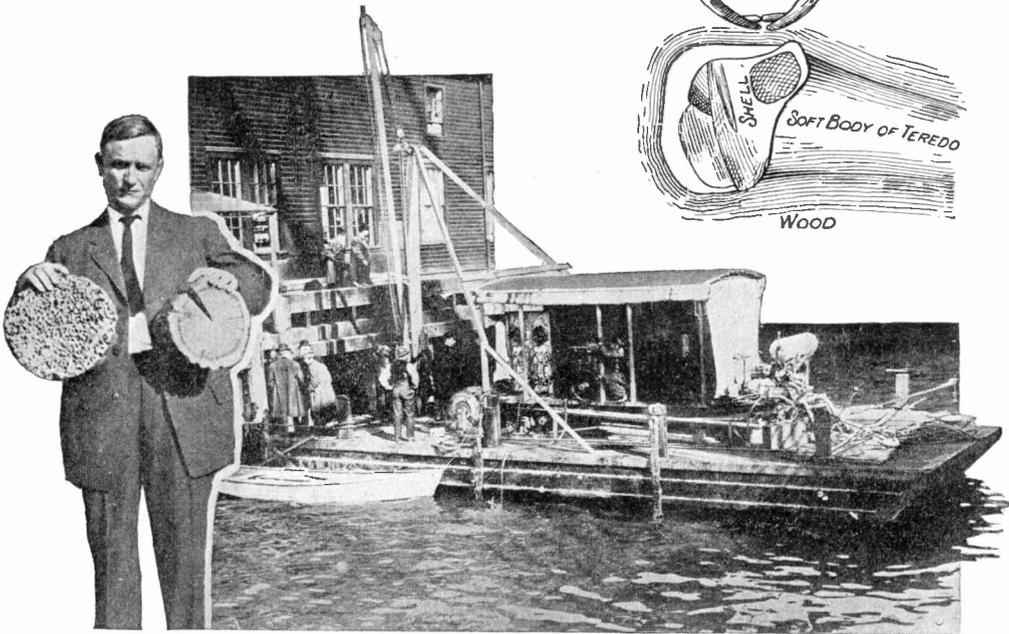
Floating Power Plant Protects Piling

Electricity has solved another problem of great importance to commerce by affording protection for wharves and docks against the destructive teredo and other marine borers which destroy piling. The man who is not closely connected with marine business has no idea of the alarming ravages of this bivalve, a tiny threadlike creature which is almost invisible when it first attaches itself to pier timbers, but which burrows into the wood and grows greater as it honeycombs the piling, until it sometimes reaches a length of eleven feet and a diameter of an inch.

Electricity has been tried before, a

ing burrow, thus forming a natural insulation against electric shocks.

But a novel application of electricity has recently been devised by Prof. George Delius and Mr. Charles Pembroke Tatro, of Seattle, which finds the vulnerable point of the teredo. It destroys the borers by electrolysis, using the following ingenious method: A floating power plant is installed on a barge, carrying from 20 to 40,000 amperes at very low voltage. This is brought close to the piling to be treated, the wharf having been wired, and electrodes (of cheap cast iron) having been



AN EXAMPLE OF THE WORK OF THE TEREDO AND THE UNIQUE POWER PLANT PLANNED FOR ITS DESTRUCTION

current being passed through the infested piling to destroy the borers, but it was expensive, dangerous on account of the fire risk, and ineffectual, for the reason that the teredo as it eats into the wood secretes a calcareous matter which is deposited on the surface of its wind-

suspended in the sea water under the wharf. When the current is turned on the effect of the electrolytic action in salt water is to release large volumes of deadly chlorine gas. As each cubic inch of gas will permeate four cubic feet of water to the extent of destroying the

teredo and other wood borers, the method is highly efficient. No teredo within the affected zone escapes alive, no matter how deeply it may have bored into the wood, as the gas reaches every burrow, and not only destroys the life of the teredo but coagulates its body to the consistency of a soft boiled egg.

The treatment must be repeated at regular intervals, which will differ according to the locality. In tropical waters the teredo works very rapidly and grows with alarming speed, while in cooler latitudes its destructive efforts are slower. However, while this treatment must be regarded as an upkeep charge in wharf maintenance, it is not expensive compared to the replacement of piles at frequent intervals, to say nothing of the danger of accidents from insecure dock supports. As an example of this danger, it will be recalled that a few years ago the dock at the foot of Broad street, Seattle, fell into the water only two years after it had been built. Its creosoted piling had been eaten by the teredo.

Toned Telegraph Signals

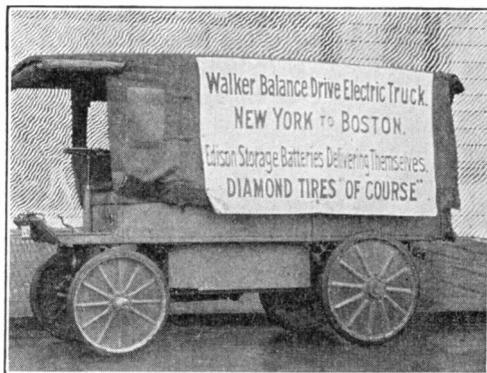
In England there is coming into use a method of telegraphing in which the operator sends signals by his key, but at the other end of the line there is used only a telephone to take off the messages. The method differs from the usual Morse signals in the use of a high and a low musical note in the line, so that each high note signal represents a dash and each low note a dot. Thus the letter "A" on the usual code is a dot and a dash, and "B" a dash and three dots, while on the new method "A" is a low note signal followed by a high note, "B" is a high note followed by three low note signals. Seeing that all the signals are now of the same length, that is, only dots are used, it takes less time to send the messages, as the dashes take up three times the length of the dot, and we thus have a saving of about 27 per cent of time, which is quite an item. An-

other point is that the signals are much clearer, and when there is trouble on the line for any reason, it is easier to read off the messages, and mistakes are not as likely to occur. The present apparatus is designed by Mr. E. Raymond-Barker, a London engineer. Two vibrating tongues set in movement by electro-magnets are used, and one of these gives the high musical note and the other the low pitch. The operator works two keys so as to put in one or the other note.

Electric Truck Makes Record Run

A run from New York to Boston, a distance of 252 miles, in 21 hours actual running time, is the record of the Walker balanced drive truck shown in the picture. During this trip only two charges of the Edison cell battery were made.

The driving mechanism of the car is particularly interesting, as all of the mo-



ELECTRIC TRUCK THAT MADE 252 MILES IN 21 HOURS

tive parts are in the rear axle and the rear wheels, with the exception of the batteries and the connecting wires. The motor on the rear axles has a direct drive to two pinions running to idler gears in the wheels. These latter engage in teeth in the extreme rims of the wheels, propelling the car by this means.

The car weighs 3,000 pounds and the load brought from New York weighed 2,800 pounds, to which was added the weight of two men.

The Casino Technical School for Women

By R. J. WATSON

All over the country we hear of various methods by which large industrial corporations are seeking to help those of their employes who wish to help themselves. Located in the vicinity of the Westinghouse interests of the Pittsburgh district, the Casino Technical Night School is carrying on several courses of training, not the least important of which is a department for women.

The course of instruction now embraces stenography, typewriting, cooking, sewing, music and preparatory work in the common school branches, the aim and object being to give a fundamental training in these lines and to give the student a broad view of her work and its relations to the various activities of life.

Classes meet Monday and Wednesday evenings of each week from seven to nine o'clock. There are two terms of four months each in the school year.

The work in stenography is designed not only to give the student the speed and accuracy essential to successful work, but to train her also to use thought and judgment in her work, to become familiar with business terms and practices; in short, to be self-reliant.

The instruction in cooking is designed to give a practical knowledge of plain cooking and the serving of simple food. The economy of buying, both in regard to quality and quantity; the use of material, especially of food materials that are often thrown away, is emphasized as essential to good housekeeping. The classification of foods, their composition, and the chemical changes which take place by the application of heat and moisture, and the best methods of cooking food to preserve the nutritive value in the most digestible form, are some of the things aimed at in this course.

Instruction in the fundamental points of sanitation in connection with sinks, drawers, garbage cans, etc., is attested by the scrupulous cleanliness.

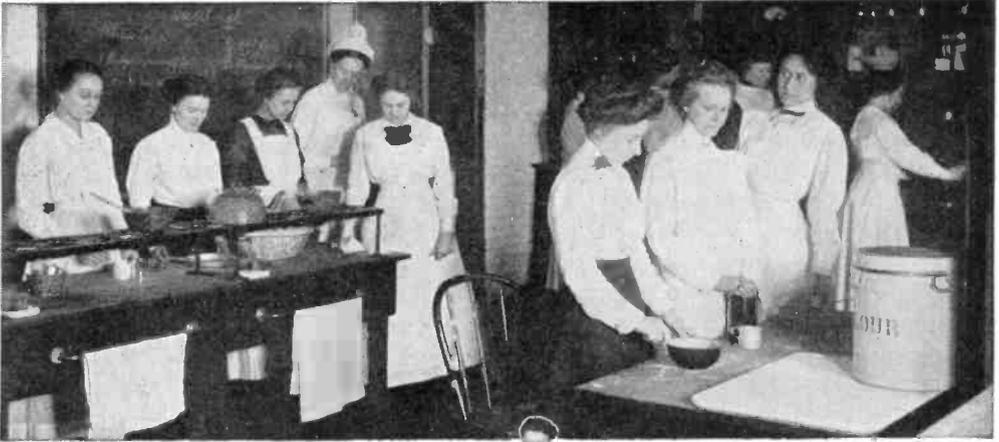
The instruction in sewing embraces both hand and machine work. In the beginning, simple garments, such as small sewing aprons, are made, and as the student progresses, more difficult work is undertaken. The idea is to give a thorough knowledge of the fundamentals of sewing and to guide the girl in her taste for dress so as to develop an individuality of style in keeping with her income.

Because of economic conditions in the homes, many girls are forced to leave school at an early age and seek employment. The Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company alone employs over 1,600 women who are engaged in the various occupations of winding and taping electrical apparatus, etc., as well as in clerical positions. The night school offers a preparatory course in the common school branches to all who have not previously had such training.

Last, but not least in importance, is the course in music. Piano and voice are taught, the choice of which is optional with the pupil. The aim is to give a general knowledge of good music, to cultivate an appreciation of and a desire for the better class of music, and to reach a certain proficiency in piano playing.

The subject of cost is one that naturally arises. In this case it has been put within the reach of all, for those who are in charge and have the welfare of the community at heart believe that the individual rarely wishes a gratuity, and appreciates most that which can be purchased with his or her own efforts. Tuition per term of four months is as follows:

Cooking and sewing.....	\$5.00
Stenography and typewriting.....	5.00
Music	3.00
Cooking only.....	3.00
Sewing only.....	3.00
Preparatory department.....	5.00



COOKING CLASS, ENGLISH CLASS AND MUSIC CLASS IN THE CASINO TECHNICAL SCHOOL FOR WOMEN. THESE COURSES ARE SUPPORTED LARGELY BY ONE OF THE GREAT ELECTRICAL MANUFACTURING COMPANIES WHICH IS SEEKING TO HELP ITS EMPLOYEES TO HELP THEMSELVES

The income from tuition pays about one-half of the expenses of the school. The balance is made up by contributions

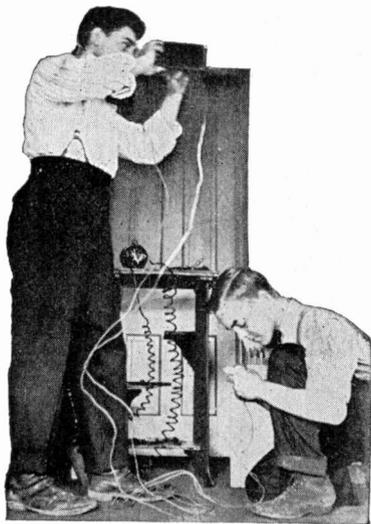
from the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company. In addition to the tuition, the students are put to a

small expense for pencils, paper, tablets, needles, patterns, sewing materials, music, etc. It must be borne in mind that all articles made in the sewing department become the property of the student and time and material are not wasted in making useless niceties or articles that can not be worn.

The social side of life is not neglected. The school has a regular lecture course, which is free to the students and their friends. Once a month a social hour is provided when all the students assemble in the auditorium, and recitations, music, and general sociability hold sway.

An Electrical Hygrometer

Selenium is a substance which through its peculiar properties is being used in many unique processes. The electrical resistance of this element changes when illuminated by light. Selenium cells are



ELECTRICAL HYGROMETER IN USE

made by winding two wires on a porcelain or mica core. These wires are kept apart by melting selenium between them and permitting it to harden. The cell is then baked and treated in various ways and the resultant operation of the cell depends upon this treatment. The resistance of some cells increases when illuminated, while in others it decreases.

Another interesting property has recently been discovered; namely that the resistance of a selenium cell changes with moisture. Immediately it became evident that the selenium cell could be used as a hygrometer to detect the amount of water vapor in the air. Experiments have shown that the instrument will indicate humidity with considerable accuracy when precautions are taken to standardize conditions. The selenium cell will readily lend itself for use as a regulator of moisture in the air in buildings. Modern buildings are equipped with apparatus controlling the amount of water vapor in the air and as the selenium hygrometer is an electrical device it will be possible to make the hygrometer automatically control the humidifier.

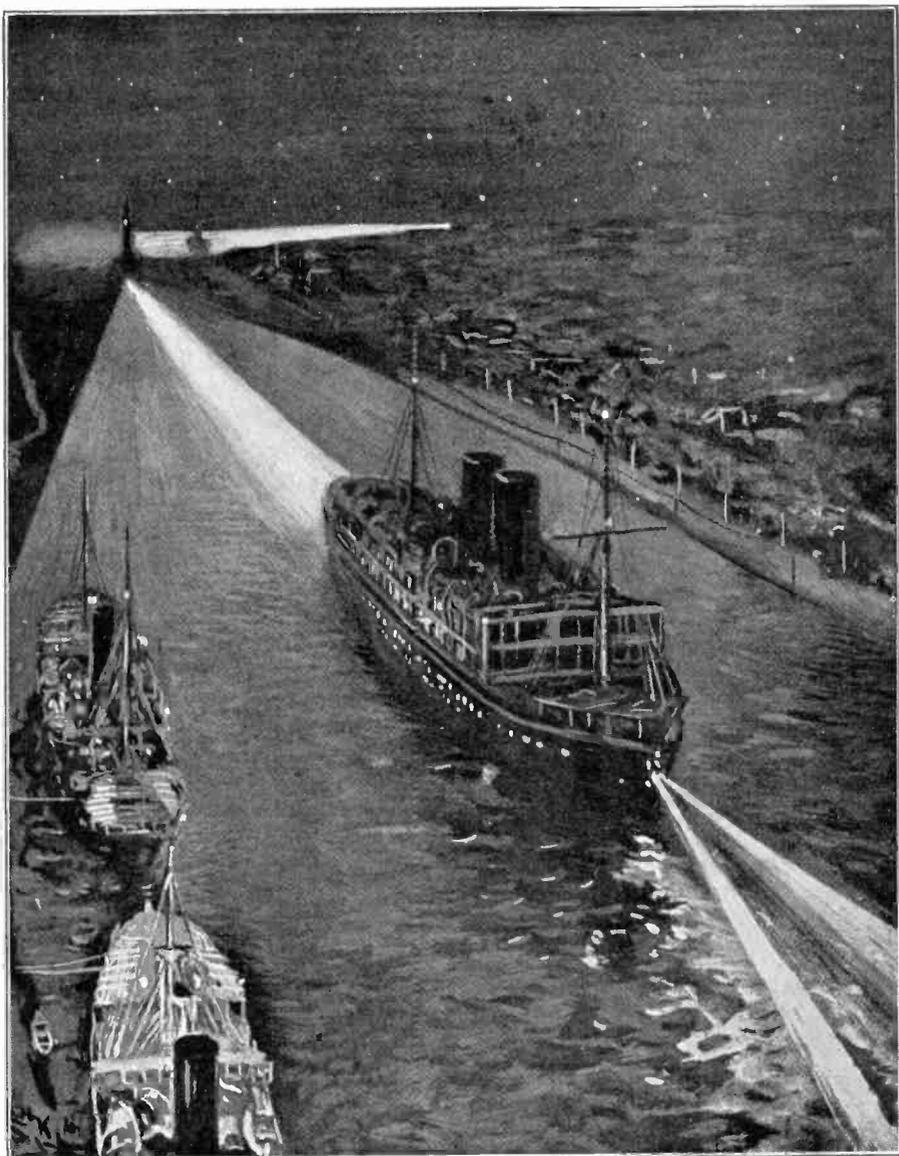
Again a practical instrument has grown out of a scientific toy.

Death of Prof. Antonio Pacinotti

Prof. Antonio Pacinotti, original inventor of the direct-current dynamo with its commutator and of the ring and toothed types of armature, died at Pisa, Italy, on March 24.

Professor Pacinotti was born in Pisa, Italy, June 17, 1841. Under the direction of his father he early began the study of electro-magnetism, and by the time he was seventeen years of age had the principles of the direct-current generator well in mind, constructing in 1860 the celebrated machine which ten years later was reinvented by Gramme. After three years of experimentation with his models, Pacinotti published an illustrated description of his dynamo in the *Nuovo Cimento* in 1864, but this received little attention at the time.

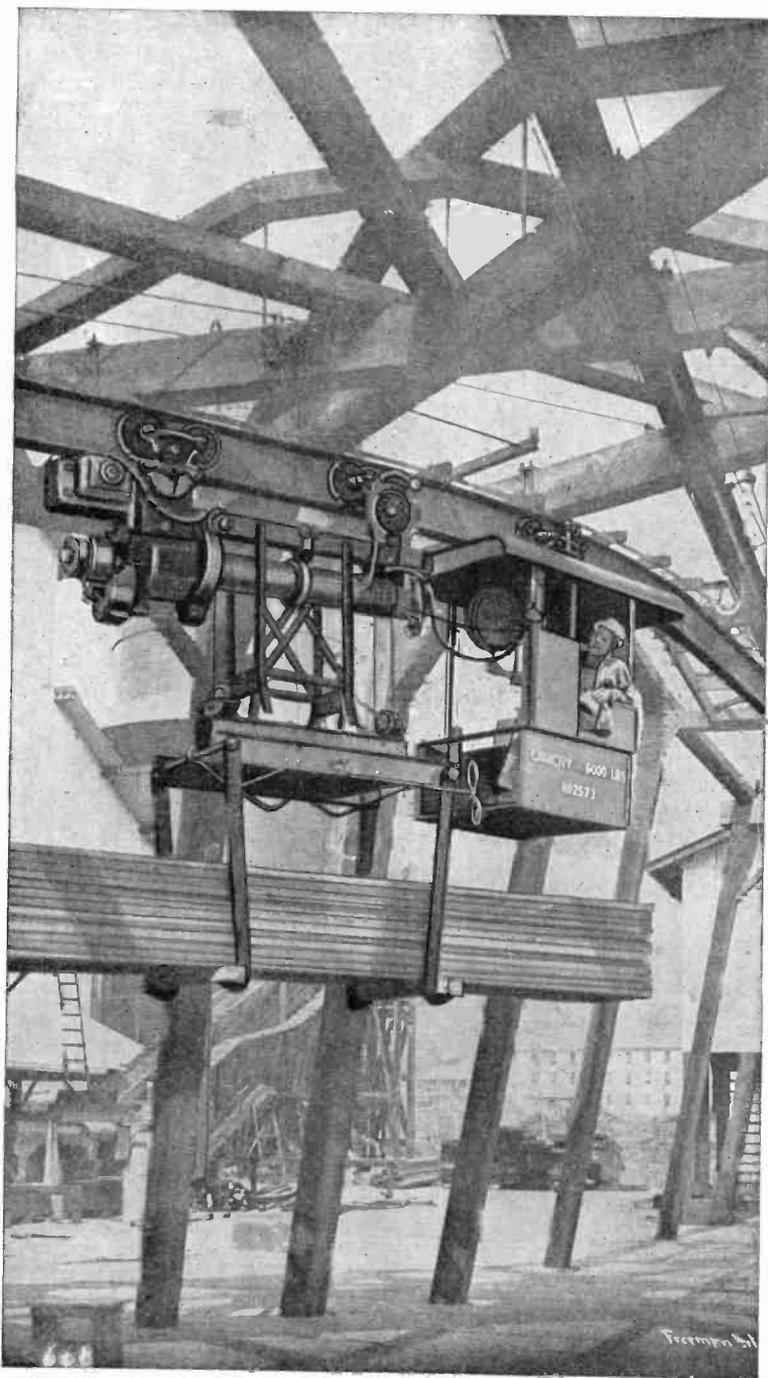
It was not until 1873 that he exhibited, at the Vienna Exposition, the dynamo model which he made in 1860. He then, for the first time, received wide credit for his invention, interest in which had meanwhile been reawakened by the invention of the ring armature by Gramme, in 1870.



SEARCHLIGHT PILOTS OF THE NIGHT

In the Suez Canal a crude though effective arrangement prevails to light each vessel's way. Over the bow of the ship is hung a cage in which is an arc light and an operator. The blinding glare to the crew of an approaching boat is avoided by dividing the arc light's beam at the lamp by cutting off some of the rays and projecting a dark angle as shown in the picture.

MONORAIL SYSTEM FOR LUMBER MILLS



A RAILWAY ON STILTS THROUGH THE LUMBER YARDS

In the most up-to-date lumber mills and yards it is not unusual to find a sort of railway on stilts which meanders around through the various yards and into and out of the mills and drying sheds. It carries on its under side a single rail from which is suspended a monorail car driven by motors which derive their power from a trolley wire. In addition to driving the car along on the rail the motors also operate a drum which lowers or winds up grappling irons which can lift several tons of lumber at a load.

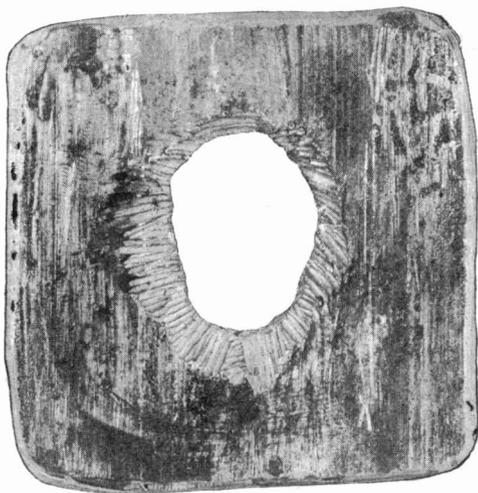
In moving lumber from one shed to another and in sorting out the various sizes the use of such a system results in a marked economy. One man in the little cage directs the motors in doing all this laborious work, making it possible greatly to reduce the cost.

Proving the Engineer Alive

Last summer quite a number of lives were endangered on one of our western roads when the engineer was stricken with heart failure in his cab and the locomotive kept thundering along with no one at the throttle. An inventor has since come forward with a practical solution of the problem involving this danger. He mounts an electric push button in the lever of the throttle so that the hand of the engineer will press on this button. Should the hand be withdrawn while the engine is going at high speed, an electro-magnet will automatically shut off the steam and set the brakes. At low speeds, or when the engine is standing still, the safety device is not connected in service and as it only requires a trifling pressure of the hand to keep the button operative, this would seem to be the simplest and most dependable way of watching the engineer to make sure that he is both alive and awake.

A Rat's Handiwork

This piece of lead armor was taken from a 400 pair aerial telephone cable and was found where the cable made its entrance to a building. The hole was cut



Courtesy of the Cumberland Telephone Journal
CABLE ARMOR GNAWED THROUGH BY A RAT

by a rat which evidently sat on the messenger wire outside of the building to do the work—a clean cut, workmanlike job.

Individual Telephone Transmitter

The unsanitary condition of the public telephone transmitter has led to the invention of a vest pocket instrument.



VEST POCKET TRANSMITTER AND ITS APPLICATION TO A SPECIAL DESK SET

The transmitter and collapsible mouth piece are contained within a watch case. On pressing a button the case springs open and a coiled spring within forces the mouth piece out into operating position. Two terminals are provided for connection to the telephone instrument.

Of course, where the ordinary desk set is in use there is no way of attaching the pocket transmitter. In this case it is proposed to provide a special set adaptable to its use. For instance, in a hotel or railway station one of the several booths might be provided with a special set so that travelers having their own transmitters could be able to use them.

Electricity Aids the Date Industry



HARVESTING DATES IN ARIZONA. IN THE LOWER PICTURE A YOUNG DATE GROVE IS BEING SET OUT

The date industry in our southwestern states is developing into one of importance, as large shipments of shoots from the African oases have been imported and set out in Arizona and Southern California during the past year. For several years the United States government has carried on experimental work at Tempe, Ariz., with various kinds of dates, but it was found that one of the most valuable varieties known as the Deglet Noor would not ripen in that climate under ordinary conditions. The summers, while hot, are not long enough

to complete the ripening process with certainty.

Electricity has come to the date grower's aid, however, being employed in the artificial ripening of the fruit. The credit for this device belongs to Prof. George F. Freeman of the University of Arizona in Tucson. He has invented an electrically heated metal oven in which the dates are placed when they have ripened naturally as far as possible. The fruit is washed and "incubated" in these ovens for three days; a temperature of between 45 and 50 degrees C. being

maintained. This is not a dry heat, but sufficiently moist to keep the dates luscious and juicy. In fact the same treatment will restore fruit which has been allowed to remain on the tree until partially dried and withered, though in this case a preliminary soaking is required. The ovens treat 100 pounds of dates at a time.

By this invention, which assures the date grower that his crop can be ripened for the market, the industry will be on a firmer basis. Already immense areas in the Coachella Valley of California and various parts of Arizona have been set out to dates. Shipments of the electrically ripened fruit have been exported to all parts of this country and to Paris, France, and have arrived in good condition. The fresh dates sell at from 30 to 50 cents a pound, and the demand is great.

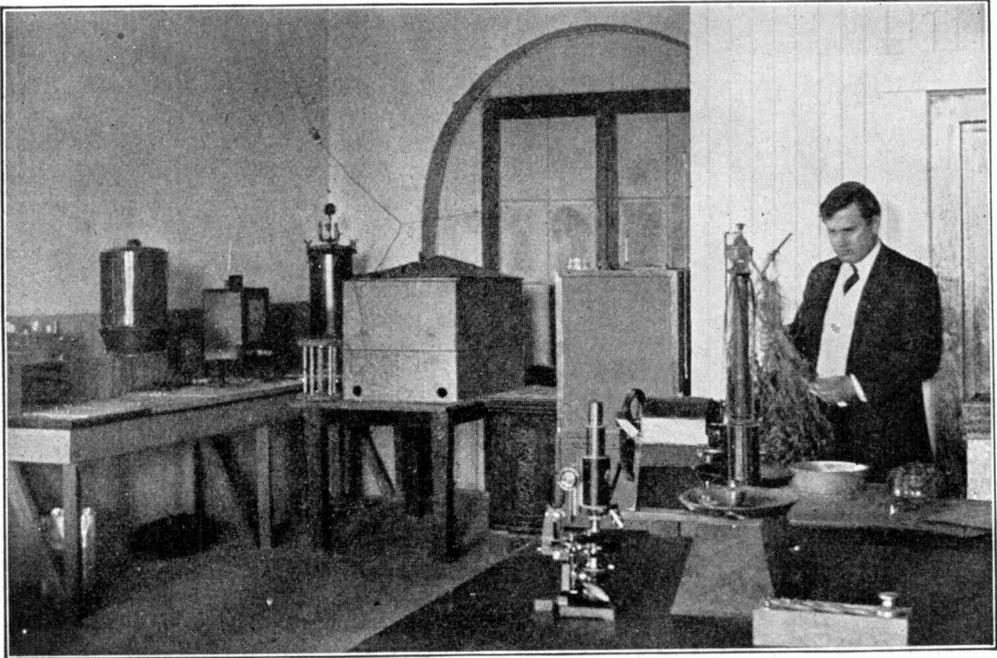
Electricity Direct from Heat

To obtain electricity direct from heat is a dream which is likely at some time

to be realized. At present there are numerous methods of obtaining electricity direct from heat but the power obtainable is very minute. However, a new method has been devised which employs two insulated carbon rods heated in an electric furnace or oxy-acetylene flame. The two carbons are kept separated at one end, but the other ends are connected through a current-measuring instrument. When one of the carbons is suddenly displaced a current of several amperes will flow. By displacing one of the carbons periodically an alternating current can be generated.

When a slight voltage is applied to the carbons the current increases to more than ten amperes at about 450° Fahrenheit.

These experiments are interesting inasmuch as such a result would hardly be expected at atmospheric pressure. The same phenomenon has been noticed before on a much smaller scale, but in a high vacuum. Such seemingly insignificant discoveries often mark the beginning of wonderful developments.



PROF. GEORGE F. FREEMAN AND HIS ELECTRICALLY HEATED OVEN FOR RIPENING DATES

Deaf Mutes' "Telephone"

William E. Shaw, a deaf mute, of 11 Grove Street, Lynn, Mass., has invented what he calls a "deaf mutes' telephone," to enable them to converse rapidly not only with each other but with those who possess their sense of hearing and speech without the use of the finger sign language.

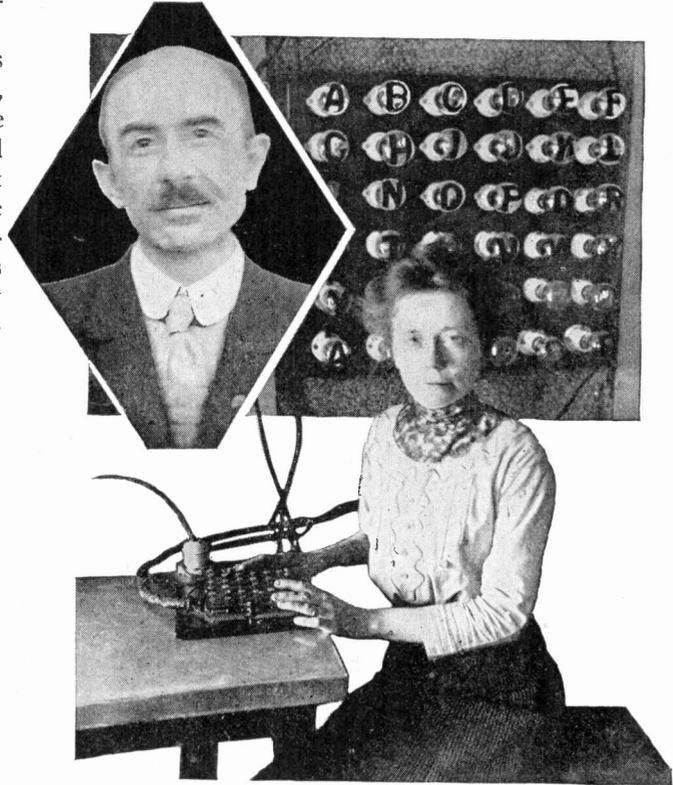
The "phone" comprises an electrical keyboard, something in appearance like that of a standard typewriting machine. It has, like a typewriter, the "universal system" or arrangement of letters. This keyboard is connected by wire with the electric signal board, which is the talking machine proper, consisting of 36 incandescent light globes, each painted on the end of the bulb with a large letter of the alphabet or one of the numerals.

The deaf mute who wishes to talk with another person presses the keys in order, spelling out the words as on a typewriter, his vis-a-vis reading off the letters as they flash up on the lamps. The keys come down onto points of contact in the same manner as the printing-typewriting telegraph machines, instead of striking by means of a lever bar as does a typewriter key. This does away with any false or lost motion and insures perfect contacts. But the keyboard can be operated as quickly by an expert as an ordinary typewriter, and the letters can be read as quickly as they can be flashed up.

Mr. Shaw has perfected his invention so that two machines may be installed in separate rooms or houses some distance apart and the conversation carried on swiftly and silently. Two machines

may even be connected up over an ordinary telephone line and conversation carried on at any time, the line being left open for signals.

Mr. Shaw is employed by the General Electric Company and has made several other inventions for deaf mutes, including an alarm clock, where electric lights



DEAF MUTES' TELEPHONE, WITH THE INVENTOR
WILLIAM E. SHAW AND HIS WIFE

take the place of the customary bell, and a door signal for houses of deaf mutes.

United States Asbestos Production Doubled

Asbestos is important as an electric insulator and in the electric fireless cooker serves as an excellent non-conductor of heat. It is a matter of interest therefore to note that in the year 1911 the production of asbestos in the United States more than doubled. Vermont and Georgia produced nearly all of 7,604 tons valued at \$119,935.

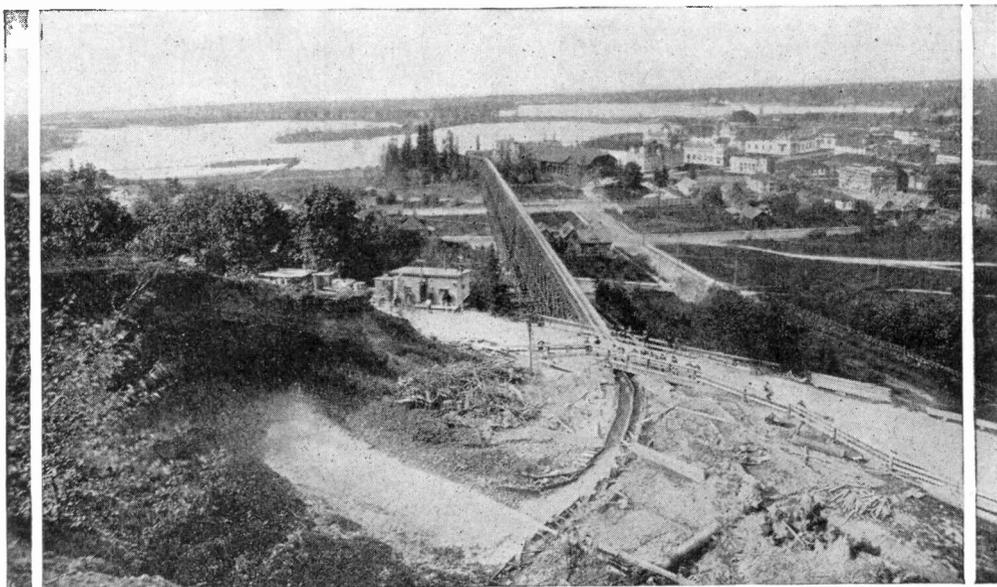
Portland Regrade Operation

It is well known that Seattle, Wash., has in recent years veritably remodeled herself. From a city of steep hills she has been changed to one of gentle grades. This great project was eminently successful, largely because of the use of high grade modern electrical and mechanical hydraulic apparatus.

Portland, Ore., 200 miles to the south, noticed the miracles being worked in

The trestle supporting the sluice through which the debris is conducted to the lake also supports two eighteen inch pipes carrying the water pumped from the same lake.

The pump house, a temporary structure, of course, is located near the lower end of the trestle. Its foundations were laid in the bottom of the lake at low water before any filling had been done. Now, however, the pump house is in



REMOVING GOLDSMITH'S HILL AND DUMPING IT INTO THE LAKE.

Seattle and is now following suit by hydraulically reducing an abrupt prominence within her limits, known as Goldsmith's Hill. Because of the great satisfaction given by the motors used to operate the pumps which washed the hills of Seattle into the sea, these same motors were later taken to Portland, where they are now being used to drive the pumps in the regrading there.

The composition of Goldsmith's Hill is especially gravelly. The streams, therefore, are directed by huge nozzles so as to undermine the lower part of the bank, and the weight of the material above brings down the sand and gravel from the working face. From here it is washed into Guild's Lake.

the middle of a filled tract of several acres.

It is expected that by the spring of 1913 the so-called Goldsmith's Hill will be no more and that its site will be suitable for no less than 300 residences, while the operation will reclaim to the city several acres of land from Guild's Lake, half a mile away. The project is, therefore, serving a two-fold purpose.

The pumping plant, driven by great 650 horsepower Westinghouse motors, is capable of supplying 500,000 gallons of water an hour at a pressure varying between 200 and 300 pounds per square inch, according to the demand. Electric energy is supplied by the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company's plant.

How to Become a Telegraph Operator

By AN OPERATOR

In the old days the only way to learn to be a telegraph operator was to work as a messenger in a telegraph office and rely on the generosity of the operator to teach the dots and dashes. Many operators would do this for a small sum of money. However, progress in this manner was always slow and generally took several years before it was possible to hold a position. There are also operators who will claim that they taught themselves. Maybe they did, but if they did they wasted many years before it was accomplished. The only practical and thorough way to learn telegraphy is to enroll in a good school. In regard to enrolling, investigate thoroughly the school you want to attend. Talk with the students, talk with the graduates, look up their guarantee, then if satisfied enroll and your career as an operator will be started.

Let us take, for example, the Jones School of Telegraphy, the official school of the Western Union Telegraph Company, Chicago, Ill.

The student is placed in one of the class rooms at a table with other beginners. He is then instructed by one of the school's instructors, and spends his time in learning the Morse code, and how to make the letters. The school is open both day and night, and students can attend either class. Students who are required to work while learning can obtain positions as clerks with the Western Union at from \$25 to \$35 per month. This does not require any previous knowledge of the work.

After the student has learned the Morse code and can make the letters without hesitation, he is graduated to another table, where he begins to practice sending and receiving. Regular telegraph messages which have been transmitted over regular wires are used.

In this way the student becomes accustomed to handling telegrams and also learns the method of putting them down right.

As the student progresses, he is changed to tables doing faster work. When the student can send and receive at a fairly good speed, he starts copying from the wire with a typewriter, "mill" as the operators call it. This requires a lot of practice, as it is necessary for an operator to be a first class typist. This is absolutely necessary to obtain a position. Typewriters are furnished free by the school for the use of the students. As there are main line wires running through the class rooms of the school over which actual commercial messages are being sent, the student finishes up by copying from these wires. This gives the best practical experience possible.

When the student is able to send and receive at not less than 30 words per minute, and is able to turn out good copies from the typewriter, he is instructed in the managing of a branch office, how to look up rates, route messages, handle branch office switchboards, etc. When he is fully trained in these things he is ready for a position.

The first position given to commercial students is generally that of operator in some small town. Many operators are sent to Rockford, Elgin and Joliet, Ill., Racine, Wis., Cedar Rapids, Ia., etc. The average pay of these positions is \$55 per month. From any of these positions the operator is promoted to a larger office in another town, where he will probably get \$60 or \$65 per month. Many operators come back to Chicago and work in the main office of the Western Union. Here they receive from \$60 to \$70 or more, depending upon their ability.

First class operators generally get about \$80 per month. Operators on

overland wires are paid \$90 to \$100 per month. The positions of assistant division chief, division chief, switchboard man, wire chief, assistant chief operator, chief operator, etc., are always there to smart progressive operators in both day and night shifts.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company has opened a school for the purpose of qualifying operators for positions as railroad operators and station agents. This school has made arrangements with the Western Union school to accept all graduates for this course absolutely free. The student must be able to send and receive 20 words a minute. While in the Western Union school he is instructed in taking and sending train orders, etc.

This school of the Illinois Central offers exceptional opportunities to those desiring to become railroad operators. To this railroad school the company has assigned one of its experienced agents as instructor, and his entire time is taken up in instructing the students in the routine of station work. Students work eight hours a day, five hours are devoted to actual station work and three hours to copying from main line telegraph wires, practicing on train dispatcher's telephone equipment, and to telegraphic practice work on a local telegraph circuit. Each student receives individual instruction, and his advancement toward graduation depends solely on his attention and ability. The time required to complete this course is about four weeks.

After a student has qualified in this course of study, he is placed in a position as a station agent's helper on a salary of at least \$25 per month. Here he remains for about three months. From the position of station agent's helper he is promoted to the position of scheduled telegrapher at a salary ranging from \$55 per month upward, or agent at one of the smaller stations where the salary and commissions usually amount to \$50 per month or more. The opportunities for

the young man entering the field of station service are many and very desirable. The opportunities of the railroad operator are to be envied. He is actively engaged in railroad work at all times, and is always familiar with the managing of trains, etc. In fact, he has the best position for learning railroading. The positions of train dispatchers are filled from the ranks of the operators, and these salaries are very high. Railroad operators average \$75 a month.

Walking on a Magnetized Floor

A "magnetic floor" is one of the latest amusement devices in Paris. The persons who walk on it wear shoes with iron soles and as the floor can be magnetized or not by throwing on switches they will



THE MAGNETIZED FLOOR

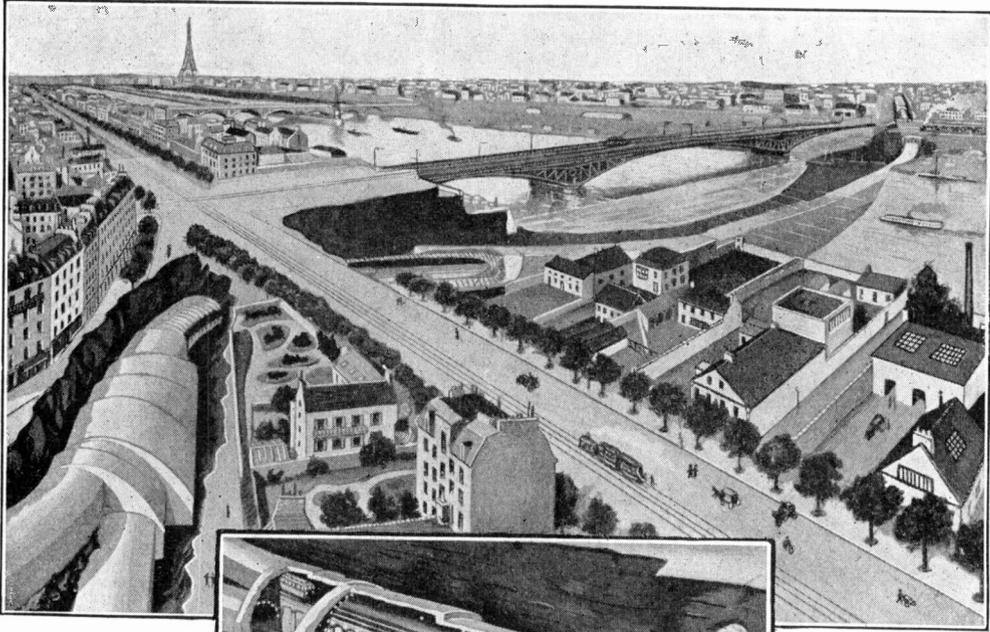
sometimes stick fast to the floor and at other times walk with perfect ease. By manipulation of the switches, the operator can produce the most grotesque actions on the part of the walkers.

The construction is quite simple and consists in the use of iron beams running along parallel, with wood strips between, so as to make up the floor surface. Between the iron beams are electro-magnets and these are spaced at the right intervals so as to have the floor well magnetized over all its parts. Switches are used in the circuits of the magnets so that all or any number may be energized.

Unusual Feature of Paris Subway

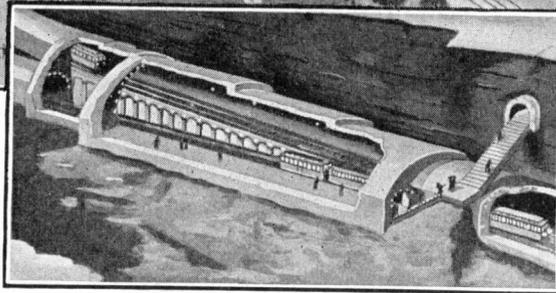
A somewhat original piece of work in the way of subway construction is being carried out on one of the new Paris lines at a point lying near the Seine. Here is located the subway station

tunnel with one track lying above the other after leaving the station. Together with the station itself, this part of the subway makes up a length of 280 feet. As the second view shows, the station is built up of three sections which increase in height so as to allow for the rise of



known as Mirabeau. Through it runs one of the electric subway tracks which keeps about on the same level and serves to take passengers from the station platform. Alongside it is a second track, but what is peculiar is that this track enters at one end at the same level as the other and then mounts up on a steep slope within the station so that on leaving, it is about ten feet higher up than the first track.

Owing to the arrangement of the two lines, the engineers were led to give an unusual shape to the station and the part of the tunnel lying next it, as will be noticed. One of the views shows the

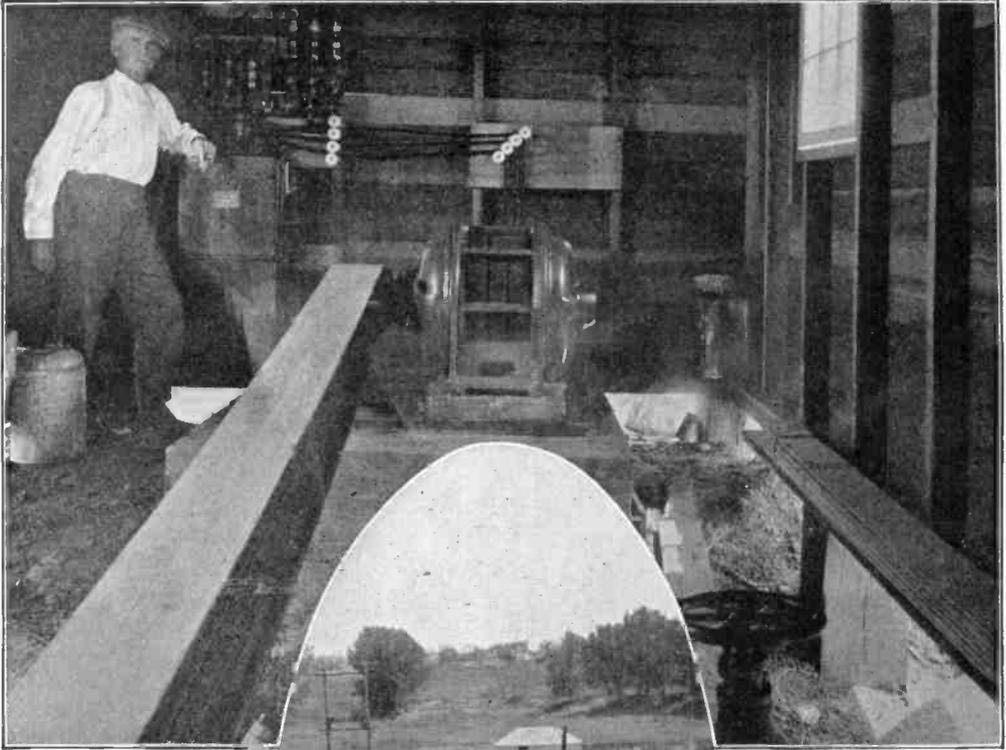


A SECTION OF THE PARIS SUBWAY AND ONE OF THE ODD STATIONS

the second track. Then come two short sections and after this each of the tracks continues on its way in its own tunnel. At the other end of the station, on the contrary, both tracks lie in a common tunnel of the usual somewhat elliptical section. This latter tunnel then runs down considerably and passes under the Seine, rising on the other bank and then proceeding on its course.

The present section of the subway belongs to the new line which connects the west end of town or the Auteuil district with the center of town at the Opéra.—*Abstract from La Nature by F. P. Mann.*

ELECTRICITY VERSUS GRAVITY SYSTEM FOR IRRIGATING



Martin A. Lum, the owner of a 90 acre farm two miles west of Denver, has been able to triple the output of his land by the use of electricity for irrigation purposes. He distributes water over his acreage through pipes and an electric pump in connection with auxiliary ditches.

The reservoir is located in the center of the ranch and the water is conveyed through two ten-inch mains to



IRRIGATING PLANT FOR A 90-ACRE FARM
AND THE RESULTS WHICH IT PRODUCES

the high places of the property and from these points distribution is made through ditches. Each of the high points is 80 rods from the reservoir, one having an elevation of 50 feet, the other of 45 feet. The water is raised with a six-inch centrifugal pump operated by a 35 horse power electric motor, having a capacity of 1,100 gallons per minute.

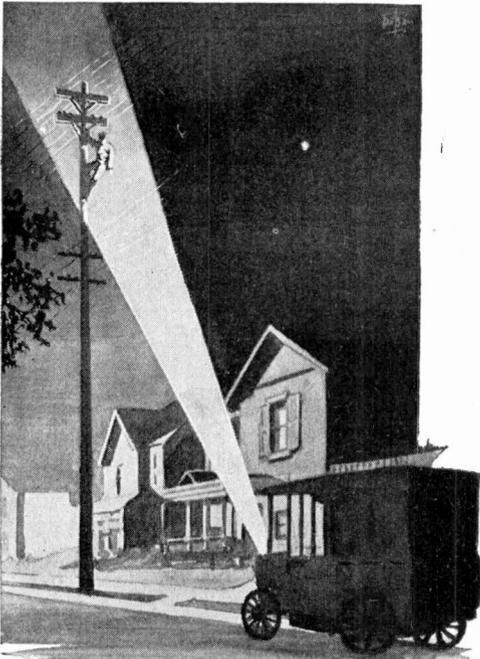
The plant was installed at an ex-

pense figuring \$50 per acre and the cost of operation in a year amounts to \$3 per acre. But the owner declares that the ranch has increased in value by \$150 per acre.

It is pointed out that there are many advantages of electric pumpage over the ditch water. There is an absence of sediment and weed seed in the water and the water is warmer than from the ditch. The storage in the reservoir gives it a chance to attain a degree of warmth which the chilly mountain stream does not have. Current for the pumping is furnished by the Denver Gas and Electric Company.

Searchlight on Repair Wagon

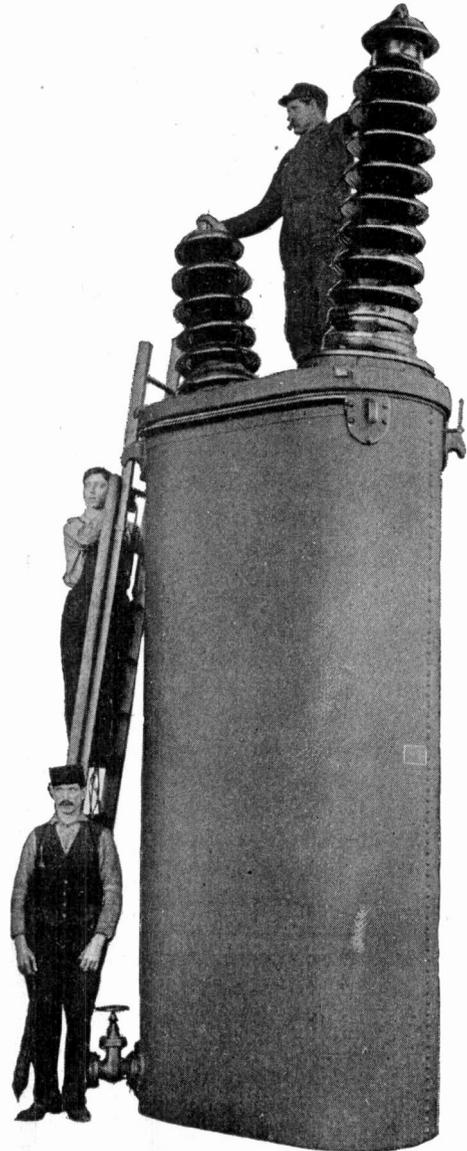
A new wrinkle with the Dayton Lighting Company is to equip one of its electric repair wagons with a searchlight for



LINE REPAIRING BY SEARCHLIGHT

after-dark emergency work on its pole lines. The truck is run alongside and its beam, directed at the pole top, enables the lineman to make connections as conveniently as in daylight.

Largest Lightning Arrester in the World



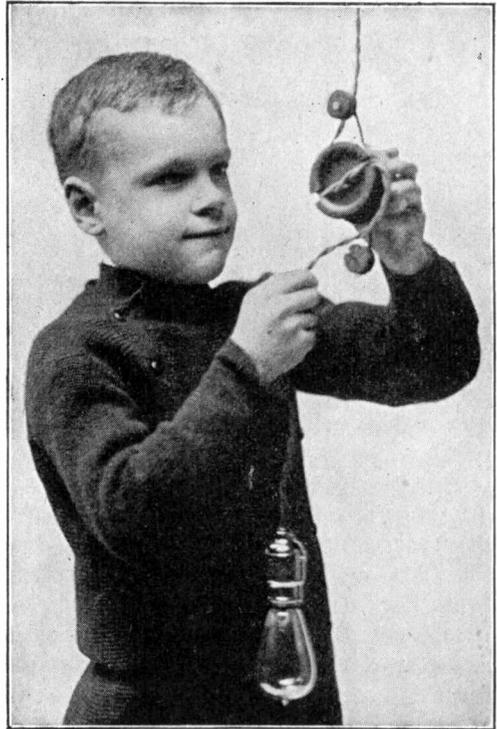
IMMENSE LIGHTNING ARRESTER TO PROTECT HIGH VOLTAGE LINES

A lightning discharge takes place at a voltage far beyond measurement and exceeding any electrical pressure that man has thus far utilized. However, a slight approach towards lightning's high pressure is the operation of 110,000 volt transmission lines. To protect these lines gigantic lightning arresters are neces-

sary. In the illustration is shown one of the four tanks required to make one of the General Electric Company's 140,000 volt aluminum lightning arresters. A lightning discharge in striking a high voltage line would play havoc with the generating plant were it not quietly disposed of in the ground near the entrance to the plant by these carefully built and insulated protective devices.

A New Cord Adjuster

A cord adjuster operating on the principle of the shade roller is shown with the small boy just about to complete the insertion of the drop cord. The grooved wooden roller is wound up against its spring far enough to have the necessary tension to take up the cord to the desired length. The light is raised and lowered in the same manner as a window shade, an upper and lower guide carrying the cord.

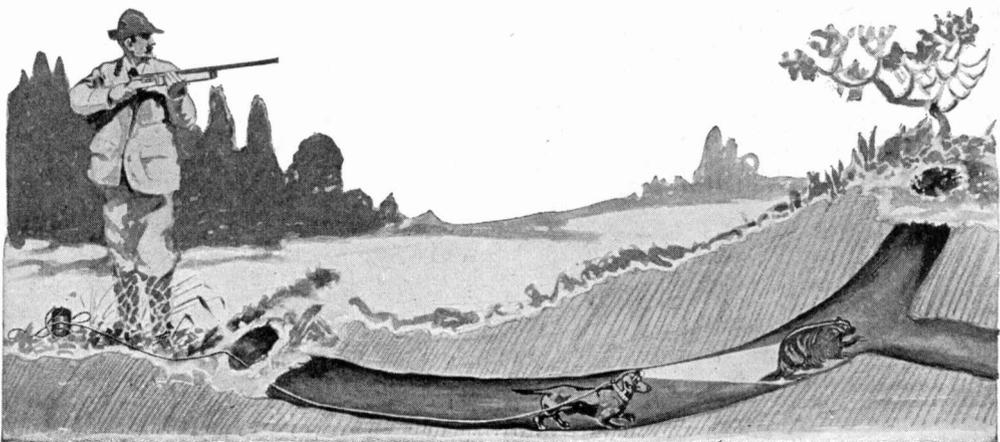


Frightening Badgers with a Searchlight

In some parts of Portugal a queer method is pursued in regard to the hunting of badgers and foxes. Badger hounds are used—short-legged animals that can crawl into the burrows of their

quarry. Each dog is provided with a collar on which is mounted, like a tiny searchlight, a little electric light operated from a small battery which can be carried about by the hunter.

When the dog enters the hole the light is turned on, and the glare frightens the hunted animal out at some other hole, where he is bagged.



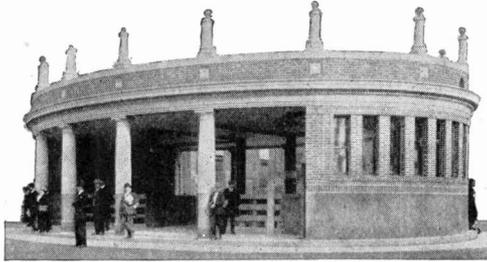
THE BADGER HOUND AT WORK WITH A SEARCHLIGHT TO SCARE THE GAME

The New Cambridge Subway to Boston

By LIVINGSTON WRIGHT

Cambridge and Boston's \$20,000,000 outlay on street railway subways, power houses, tunnels and equipment is the latest effort to solve this mighty problem of transportation that is puzzling the cities of the world. In the just-completed "Cambridge subway," as goes the popular expression for the vast system of improvements being brought to the finishing touch by the cities and transportation interests of Boston and her sister municipality, there exists, if not absolutely the finest, certainly one of the most perfectly constructed pieces of municipal engineering in the world.

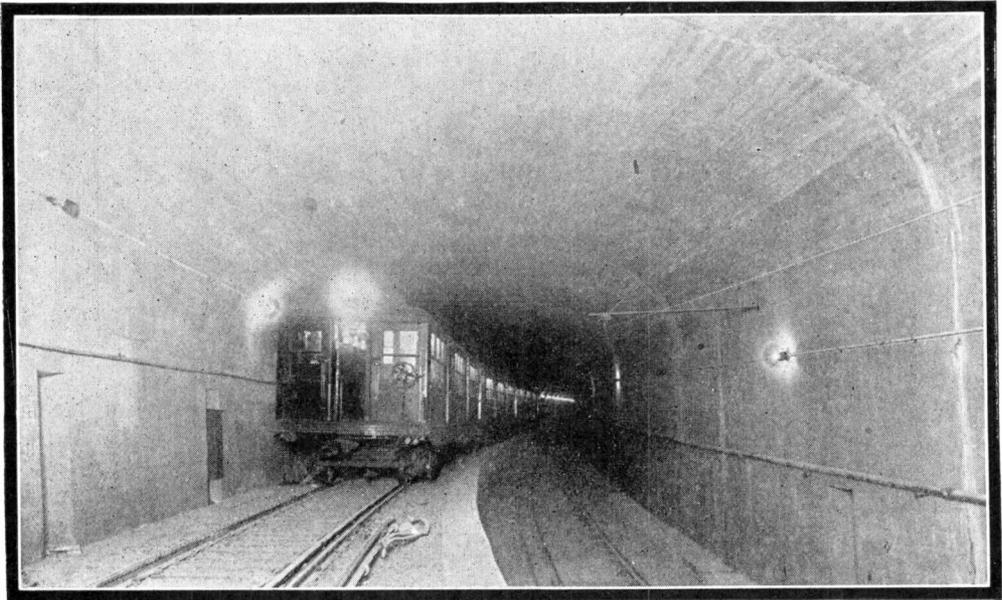
The stamp of "Boston" is all through



SUBWAY ENTRANCE NEAR HARVARD SQUARE

the huge project, as unmistakably, uniquely and genuinely as if the word were cut into every bit of steel, concrete, copper and glass employed in construction. Carefully, calmly, conservatively solidly and for-all-time designed; built with exactness and such care that only five deaths resulted in the entire subway and tunnel work; finished and embellished in that peculiar Boston way of soberness and chasteness which at the same time result in a true elegance, this mighty undertaking may well be studied as the apotheosis in the latest method of scientifically alleviating city traffic troubles.

Properly to complete the original project of building a tunnel under



INTERIOR OF THE NEW BOSTON-CAMBRIDGE SUBWAY

Beacon Hill upon which the State House stands, on crossing the Charles river and making a subway thence, $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles to Harvard Square (near the University), in Cambridge, many incidental and monumental works had to be planned and constructed. The total cost of the work was \$19,050,000.

The largest single piece of new construction is the tunnel and subway venture which costs \$10,000,000. There are three sections in the Cambridge subway. The first is the subway proper 13,200 feet long, including the elevated track over Boston bridge (1,950 feet long), for which the Boston Elevated, the concern which operates the street railway system of Boston, Cambridge and other suburbs, paid Boston and Cambridge some \$425,000 for the right to use. The second section (675 feet long), is the short piece of elevated structure which fills the gap between the end of the West Boston bridge in Boston and the Beacon Hill tunnel. The third section is 2,500 feet long. This makes a total of 3.1 miles.

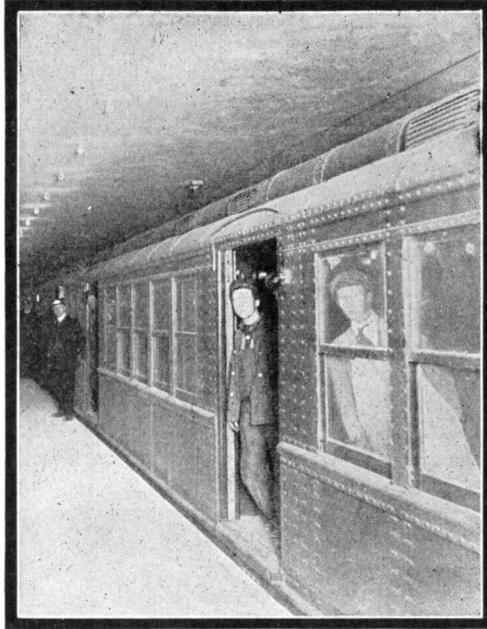
The \$3,500,000 power house expenditure represents the big new power station in South Boston and its seven substations where power is transformed for the use of cars. Six of these latter are now operating and for the last two months this power station has been generating power at the lowest cost of production in the history of the Boston Elevated. The two steam turbine genera-

tors develop together 40,000 horsepower.

The expenditure for equipment includes 40 Cambridge subway cars, 50 prepayment surface cars and 20 elevated cars. The Cambridge subway cars are a

new idea. They are of steel entirely, seat 72 persons and cost \$11,000 each.

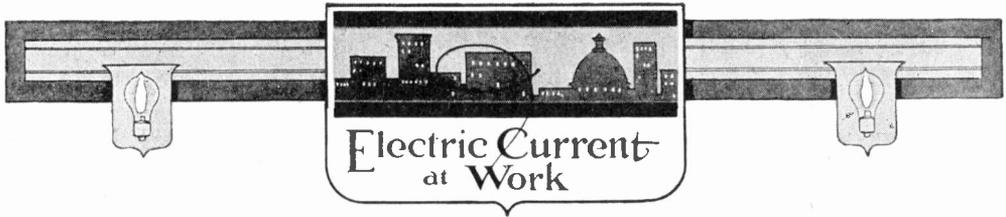
Some idea of the scope of details in construction may be gained from remembering that 2,500 men have been employed each day of the more than two years of subway building, and that for much of the time 4,000 men were at work! There was over 500,000 yards of excavating in Cambridge, and 4,000 tons of structural



THE ALL-STEEL SUBWAY CAR

steel used; 6,000 tons of steel rods for concrete; 350,000 barrels of cement; 350,000 tons of crushed stone; 200,000 loads of sand.

The Cambridge subway extends just $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Harvard Square, along Massachusetts Avenue, past the entrance station at Central Square, and turns in southwesterly under Cambridgeport to arise to the surface at Kendall Square near the West Boston Bridge. A graceful, concrete-arched elevated structure takes the trains across this bridge at the Boston end at Charles and Cambridge streets. The elevated structure carries them on to the mouth of Beacon Hill tunnel at Grove Street, a comparatively short distance. From thence through the tunnel to Park Street Station (near the famous Park Street church) is but a swift, short shoot.



The Modern Sculptor

The great Shield of New York State, destined to occupy the place of honor above the doorway of the new Immigrant's Savings Bank in the Metropolis of America, is being sculptured in marble by the six sons of Joseph Piccirilli, a sculptor of Rome. These six boys, Horace, Thomas, Furio, Attilio, Furuccio and Getulio, came to New York in 1887 to carve out fame and fortune for themselves in the art of their father.

Fame has come to them, as they are known as among the leading sculptors of America. Unlike their father, who chiseled away in the slow and tedious process of the old school, these six sons caught the American spirit of the times and have substituted electricity for hand power wherever practicable, without sacrificing one whit of art and all that it signifies.

The first thing to be done to a block of marble is the roughing-out, at best a laborious and lengthy task when done by hand. Modern drills operated by compressed air, produced by electricity, chisel out the superfluous corners and the portions of the marble that will not enter into the making of the statue. These drills

drive a row of small holes several inches deep, where the split is desired; wedges are then inserted and driven in by hand, until the piece drops off. The work of roughing-out is expedited seven-fold by the use of the rapidly pulsating drills.

Electricity and compressed air also supply the means of finishing the work on a piece of marble. This process consists of reducing the surface of the statue from a chiseled-out state to a smooth one, ready to receive the polish. The electric finishing tool gives a great variety of finishes not to be obtained by



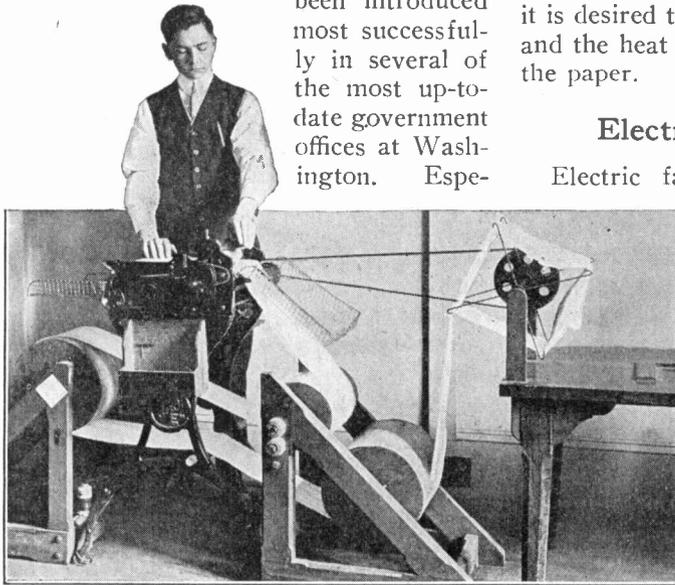
SCULPTURING BY ELECTRICALLY DRIVEN TOOLS

hand work, and does in one day the work of a whole week.

The Piccirilli Brothers' plant consists of two tanks of compressed air, in one of which a pressure of 100 pounds is maintained. This is used for the roughing-out work and gives 200 pulsations to the minute in the drills. The air in the other tank is kept under 25 pounds pressure and gives the finishing chisel 90 beats to the minute. A 35-horse-power motor supplies the power.

Electric Dryer for Letter Press Copies

In almost all business houses where press copies are made of the outgoing typewritten letters more or less trouble is encountered in drying the copies rapidly. To solve just this difficulty an ingenious and comparatively inexpensive electric dryer has lately been perfected by one of Uncle Sam's experts and has been introduced most successfully in several of the most up-to-date government offices at Washington. Espe-



COPYING LETTERS AT THE RATE OF TWELVE PER MINUTE

cially significant is the fact that being a governmental invention no patents have been taken out on the device so that it may be duplicated by any firm or individual whose needs it might serve.

The new electric dryer may be used in connection with any of the standard models of rapid roller copiers now on the market and it virtually requires no extra power—the whole operation of the dryer being dependent upon the “pull” of the copy paper as it unwinds from the roll and passes between the various rollers. Essentially the dryer consists merely of three rollers, cylinders or drums hung in a wooden frame.

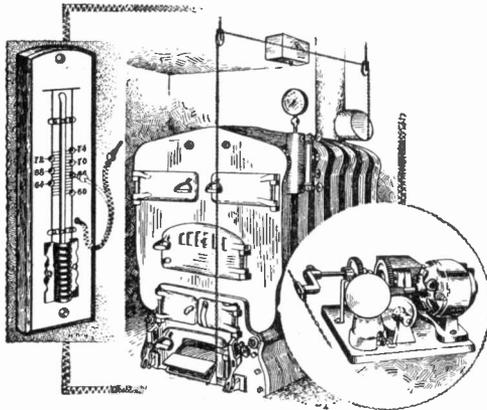
All the drums have wooden ends (perforated for ventilation), but the circular face is formed from a good grade of galvanized iron. Inside each revolving cylinder are three 32 candlepower incandescent lamps which furnish the heating power. At the outset Mr. W. Musser, the Federal expert who invented this dryer, installed electric heaters in the cylinders, but it was found that the heat could not be regulated so minutely as by means of the ordinary lamps. Under operating conditions the current is turned on fifteen or 20 minutes before it is desired to begin the drying of copies and the heat is never sufficient to scorch the paper.

Electric Fans in India

Electric fans seem to be replacing some coolie labor in India where, at certain seasons of the year, it becomes necessary to employ some means of fanning and keeping mosquitoes away. The regular price for four coolies to divide up the 24 hours between them is six cents each per day. With electric fans the cost is reduced, and considerable inconvenience is avoided as well. The day shifts of coolies do reliable work while they are being watched, but the night shifts are likely to quit work while their employer sleeps. The electric fan works all the time.

Automatic Temperature Regulator

The addition of an automatic control to a heating system takes away much of the care of operating it when the control system is simple. The Utility electric thermostat, with a motor in connection,



AUTOMATIC TEMPERATURE REGULATOR

does this work. The thermostat is a thermometer. The expansion or contraction of the mercury column of the thermometer brings it into contact with platinum wires woven at intervals into the glass tube, and completes an electrical circuit. The current then passes along the wires to the motor box in the basement, starts the mechanism therein, and by a simple turn of a shaft controls the furnace or boiler drafts and dampers.

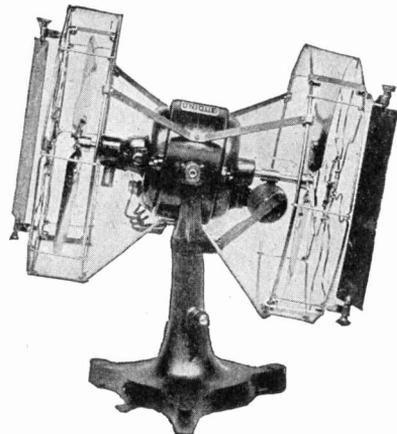
Suppose it is desired to maintain a temperature of 66 degrees. The small plug is inserted in the socket corresponding to the 66 degree point on the thermometer. While the mercury is below the wire connected to the plug, the mechanism will keep the front draft open and the rear check damper shut. This causes the fire to burn briskly. But, as soon as the temperature of the room rises so that the mercury touches the contact point (66 degrees) opposite the plug, an electrical circuit is completed which in turn, through a simple relay, controls the current to a small motor operated from the lighting circuit. Current flows through the wires to the motor, causing it to move

the elbow shaft in the opposite direction to which it had been moved. This immediately reverses the position of the draft and damper and instantly checks the fire. Should the temperature fall as much as 1-10 degree below the point at which the contact plug is set, the motor operates long enough to again open the draft and close the damper.

The electric thermostat can be installed in any house wired for electric light. The thermostatic thermometer is placed in the living room, or any central room in the house from which it is decided to govern the house temperature. The wires run through the wall down to the basement and there connect with the motor box. This box, which contains the operating mechanism, is attached to the ceiling over furnace or boiler or to any convenient place nearby. A projecting shaft with elbow attachment operates the draft door and check damper by a simple chain arrangement.

A New Type of Fan

An electric fan with such special features that the manufacturers have named it "Unique" is here illustrated. The fan has two sets of blades and revolves in

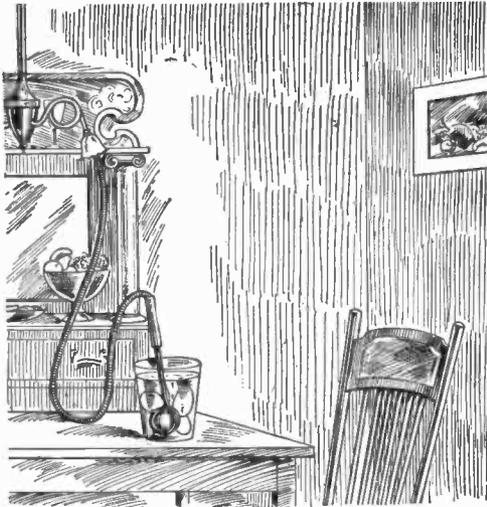


FAN WITH TWO SETS OF BLADES

a circle. While running, it also tilts or see-saws. Three running speeds are provided for and by adjusting a set screw the amount of the tilt is regulated.

Boiling Water in a Hurry

While the breakfast toast and coffee are being made, the eggs may at the same time be boiled by turning the

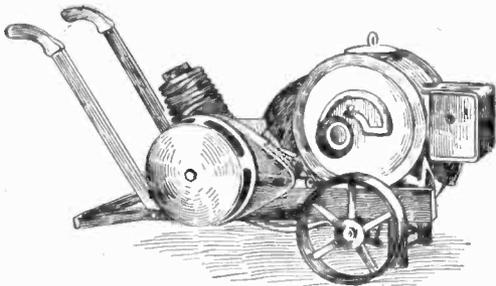


THE UTILITY WATER HEATER

switch to which a little electric heater is connected. This device, called the Utility heater, is small enough to plunge into an ordinary water glass. The heated portion is entirely under the water when used, so that no heat is lost and the device can be used on either direct or alternating current.

European Farm Motor

The cost of installing and maintaining a number of small motors, each of which is used only occasionally, is often considered as an argument against the use of electricity on the farm. This

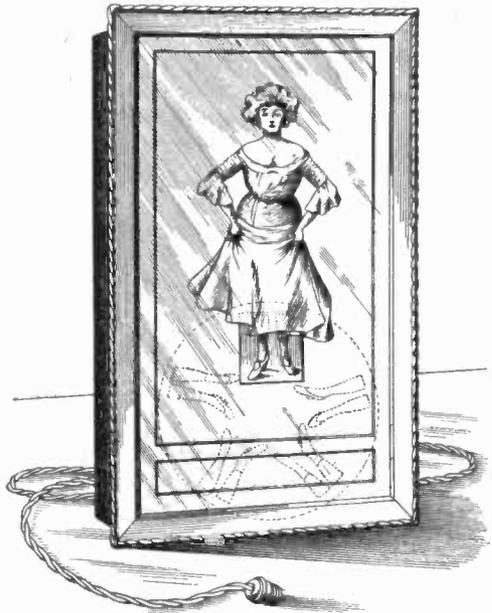


FARM MOTOR

objection, however, disappears if a single portable motor is used. A Swiss firm is placing upon the market a portable motor built in sizes from two to six horsepower. The weight of the motor is so well distributed that in handling, only 49 pounds fall upon the handles. The uses to which the equipment has already been applied are threshing machines, wine presses, wood saws, corn shellers, feed cutters, etc.

Shoe and Hosiery Display Device

A clever advertising device for displaying successively upon the same figure several styles of shoes and hosiery



SHOE AND HOSIERY DISPLAY

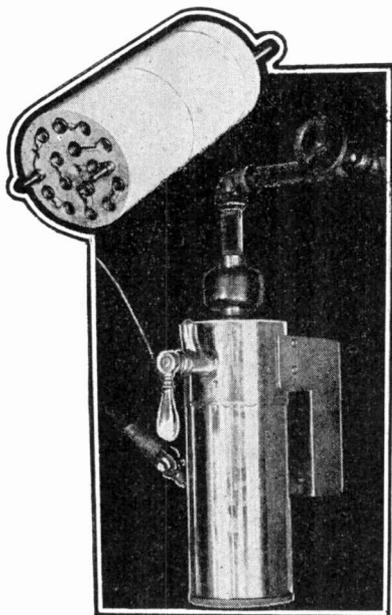
is the invention of G. T. Fielding, Jr., of New York City. Within a suitably framed casing is arranged a female figure. Upon a circular revolving display board are placed the articles to be exhibited. The revolving board is entirely hidden except for an opening in the proper position to make the goods appear as if upon the figure. When the outfit is connected to an electric circuit

the motor driven mechanism causes the arms to drop the skirt for a moment, during which time the display board revolves, bringing a new pair of shoes or hose to the opening. The board stops for an instant and the arms of the figure lift the skirt. In a few seconds the operation is repeated with the next articles upon the board.

New Type Instantaneous Water Heater

This is an instantaneous water heater consisting of bare resistance wire coils within a series of passages in a porcelain cylindrical body through which the water flows when the faucet handle is turned.

The faucet handle is arranged to operate a special snap switch turning the current on and off with the water. The heater may be connected to either direct or alternating current, and where



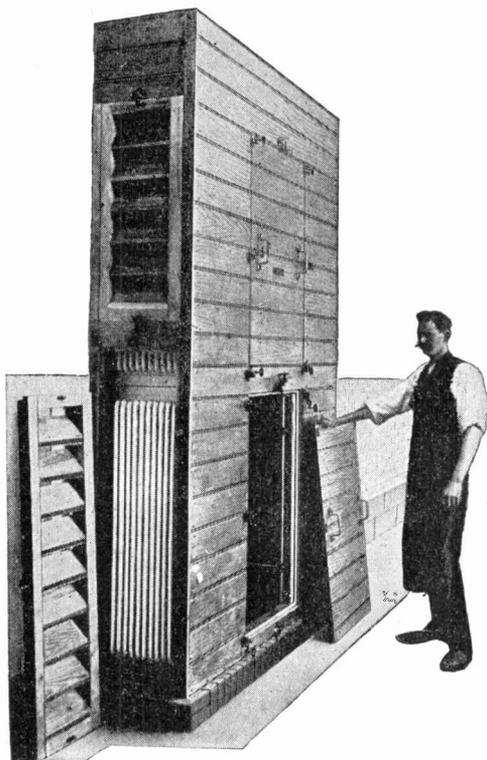
INSTANTANEOUS WATER HEATER

attached to the water pipe it is provided with an insulating joint. This is to eliminate the leakage of current except through the water, which as shown in the open porcelain cylinder comes in

actual contact with the electrically heated wires.

Filtering Air for Dynamos

In modern German power stations where turbo electric generators are used it is now quite commonly the practice to filter the air which circulates through



AIR FILTER WITH DUST PROOF WOODEN CASE

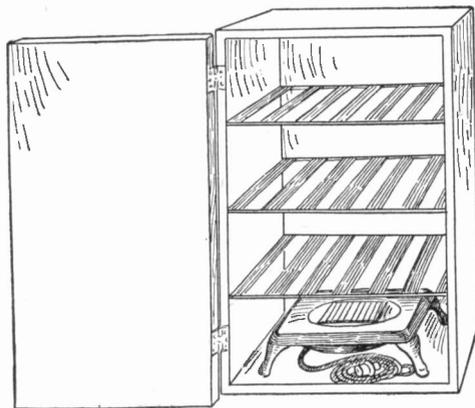
the generator or dynamo coils and about the collecting rings. All dust and flying particles are taken out, which might eventually be harmful to the insulation of the machine.

There are various types of filters, one of which is shown in the picture. Pockets are provided inside the case, lined with cloth, and through this cloth all the air must pass on its way to the pipes leading to the dynamo.

In some cases the cabinet or case containing the filtering screens is built permanently into the wall. In others it is made portable so as to be moved easily to any convenient wall opening.

Paper Drier for the Job Printer

A Kentucky printer has found that a 770 watt electric heater is one of the biggest money savers in his shop. He has constructed a drying cabinet, with the heater in the lower compartment, while above it, on light wooden frames, the sheets to be dried are placed. Work which would require lying undisturbed

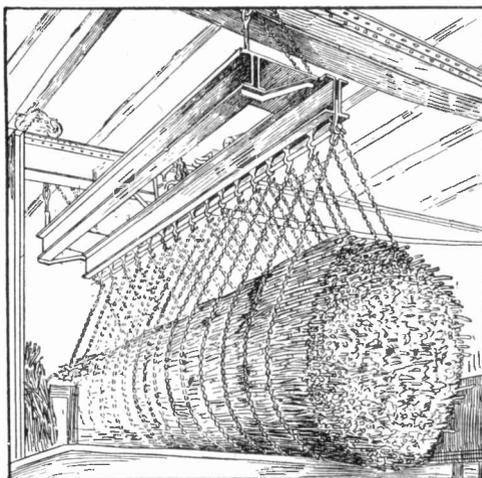


PRINTERS' DRYING CABINET

24 hours at the ordinary temperature of the room will dry in the cabinet in less than an hour, and can then be printed on the reverse side or handled without any danger of "offsetting" or smearing. As so many printing jobs are rush orders, an electric drying cabinet would be a valuable addition to any printing office, for it will clip off many hours in time.

Handling Cane in Sugar Mills

The sugar mills of the West Indies yield rich returns on investments, so that it is not difficult to understand why millions of dollars are invested there in mills and lands. But to bring these returns, well handled mills and a steady supply of cane are necessary. To both of these needs electrical equipment contributes. The cane cut in the fields by natives is loaded upon ox-drawn wagons and hauled to the nearest railroad. Cars are stacked with the cane, which is then forwarded to the mill, where it is unloaded in a small fraction of the time re-

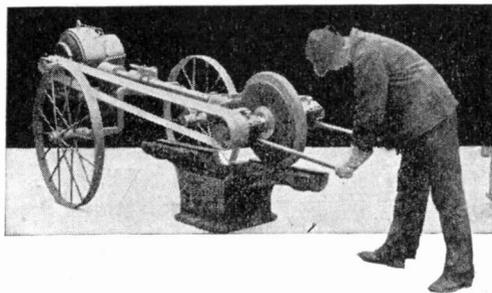


ELECTRIC CRANE HANDLING SUGAR CANE

quired to load it. An electrically operated hoisting crane especially fitted with numerous chains and hooks lifts the entire mass at one time and dumps it into the crusher, where it is cut into small pieces and starts upon its journey by passing immediately through the first set of rolls.

Trimming Off the Rough Spots

Another one of the former hand operations in large shops is doomed. When castings were too heavy to be held up against an emery wheel it used to be



WORKING WITH THE PORTABLE GRINDER

customary to chip off the rough projections by hand. Now the up-to-date workman comes along with his motor driven grinder mounted on a little cart, so that he can touch up the castings in a very few minutes and without either moving the castings or greatly exerting himself.

Electrical Men of the Times

MATTHEW C. BRUSH

Matthew C. Brush, one of the most noted street railway and traction executives in the East, has just been appointed second vice president of the Boston Elevated Railway, with special duties to be assigned by the executive committee and by the president.

The rise of Matthew Brush in the street railway world has been rapid but fully merited by his talents. He is only 37 years old, but has had a thorough practical experience from the ground up. He was born in Stillwater, Minn., and graduated from Armour Institute in 1897. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1901. He paid for his higher education in these technical institutions by his own work and enterprise, pegging steadily away until he won his degrees. When he launched into the whirl and competition of the railway business this steadfastness of purpose became the foundation of his later successes.

Finely equipped technically, he has the added gifts of practicability and executive ability, combined with tact and a genuineness that makes every one coming in contact with him feel that he is a friend. It is said of him that he could do more business in an hour offhand, with less fuss and feathers, than the average corporation official could transact in a day. On one occasion, while playing pool at a clubhouse, a salesman

intruded upon his leisure to show him a sample of bellcord. Mr. Brush examined it carefully, told the salesman that if goods delivered came up to the sample they would be accepted, gave him a substantial order and resumed his pool playing. Many another official would have refused to talk business and have forced the salesman to come around to the com-

pany's offices next day and cool his heels in the anteroom for two or three hours, thus to be duly impressed with that official's importance, regardless of the fact that the salesman had other customers equally important with whom he had appointments.

After leaving Massachusetts Institute he entered the machine shops of the Union Pacific at Omaha as an apprentice, where he served his time. He then went to Council Bluffs as a machinist,

and from there went back to Chicago, where he took a position with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road. He had already served as a rodman in Kansas for the Chicago & Rock Island.

In 1904 he joined the staff of the Boston & Suburban Electric Companies, as assistant to the president. At that time the properties consisted of nine street railways, a gas company and two amusement parks. In eight months he was elected general manager of the properties. In 1905 he was made vice president and general manager and a year



later was also made head of the Suburban Manufacturing Company, which was formed to build a \$300,000 power house in Waltham.

Through his efforts the Boston & Suburban lines, which had previously been losing a great deal of money, were put upon a sound financial basis. His administration was marked by a co-operative policy between officials and employes, and when he resigned in 1909, 500 officials and employes of the company gathered in the theater of Morumbega Park to express their regard for him.

He left the Boston & Suburban to become general manager of the Buffalo & Lake Erie Traction Company, the Jamestown, Chautauqua & Lake Erie Railroad and the Jamestown & Chautauqua Steamship Company, operating 200 miles of electric lines, 50 miles of steam road and a fleet of steamboats on Lake Chautauqua. He remained in this position a year, when he was called back to Boston to become assistant to the vice president of the Boston Elevated Railway, which controls the largest traction system under one unit in the world. For the past year he has been chairman of the efficiency committee, which acts as an advisory and assistant committee to the president, executive committee and the vice president.

Mr. Brush is a member of the Newton Club, the Pales Club, the Waltham Business Men's Club, Delta Kappa Epsilon, New England Street Railway Club, the Boston City and University Clubs and is an associate member of the American Street & Interurban Railway Association.

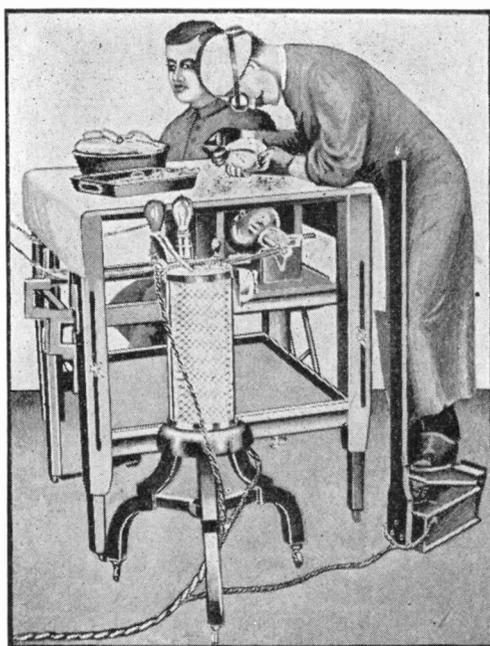
Speaking of the Boston traction service at a meeting in Wells Memorial Hall held recently to discuss the subject, "How Can Overcrowding in Street Cars Be Avoided?" Mr. Brush said he believed that the solution was in overcoming the physical peculiarities of Boston by new facilities and by using the new large prepayment, semi-convertible cars, of which 100 are now in use and more

ordered. Eventually the entire system will be using them. The company now has 28 miles of cars, and extra cars are impossible in the congested section of the city, which contains only five miles of outward bound tracks, against over 700 miles on the entire system.

Adapting the X-ray to Minor Surgery

The assistance rendered the physician by the X-ray in the examination of broken bones and in the setting of these has given impetus to the designing of apparatus for this service.

The accompanying illustration shows a piece of apparatus devised by Dr. Grashey of Germany to use in operations



USING THE X-RAY IN SURGERY

in which the bone structure or material worked upon is small. A needle buried in the flesh of the hand is being removed. The surgeon wears a special eye piece which shields the eyes from daylight, the work being performed in the daytime. A foot switch serves to turn the current on and off the tube which is supported on the underside of the table.



Electrical Interests of Women



EDITED BY GRACE T. HADLEY

Electricity in the Summer Home

"We are fitting up a summer home on the North Shore," chatted Mrs. Arthur Dainty, over a cup of tea at the home of a very dear friend. She was an Easter bride and bubbled with enthusiasm and the mere joy of living. Her best friend and adviser was Mrs. Eleanor Beach, a famous club woman, with whom she frequently spent an afternoon. Mrs. Beach beamed upon her petite and pretty visitor with a kindly smile of approval. She approved most heartily of bubbling brides, blithe joyousness and home happiness.

"That's good news," she remarked in her even, musical voice. She had a well trained voice and could address a fashionable club with fervor and brilliance.

"You know I have had such charming chats with you over this electric samovar," bubbled little Mrs. Dainty, "that it gave me an idea. I have been studying things electrical and I am fitting up our home with the new power appliances and if I am left without a servant I shall not be entirely helpless.

"All the domestic power appliances today are a long step toward the solution of the servant problem," remarked Mrs. Beach.

"Of course I shall use electricity as an illuminant," Mrs. Dainty ran on with enthusiasm, "and I shall have a chafing dish and a toaster. But best of all, my husband has promised me an automatic

electric cook stove, a power table and we are to have an auto-electric refrigerating plant on our ice-box."

"Wonderful!" exclaimed Mrs. Beach. "Housekeeping today is not the awful drudgery it used to be, and the furnishing of a home is not the task it once was, especially the fitting up of a summer home."

"Oh, yes," pursued the little bride, "with the modern reed craft furniture, wicker craft chairs, comfort rockers and electric wicker lamps, one can manage to make a summer home quite comfortable."

"Then there is the rattan furniture for porches and dens," she continued, "and the Chinese grass chairs imported from Hongkong. They are simply ideal for lawns on account of their resistance to moisture."

"Speaking of Hongkong," interrupted Mrs. Beach, "reminds me of the exquisite suggestions for artistic summer homes that come to us from the far east, from Japan, for example. We do not see nature as the Oriental sees it and as his art proves that he sees it. The Japanese artist with a few dashes of the brush, seizes and reproduces with an incomprehensible power of interpretation, not the recollection of any individual blossom, but the perfect realization of the general law of form. The Japanese artist gives you that which he



EXQUISITE SUGGESTIONS COME
FROM JAPAN

feels, the precise sensation of an hour or the mood of a season. He steps his distances in mist or bands his landscapes with clouds and stimulates the imagination."

"And the western artist?" queried Mrs. Dainty.

"Too often renders minute detail and satisfies the imagination."

"The Japanese decorative designs are exquisite. I love them and I believe I shall have a Japanese suite in my summer home. Would not that be delightful?"

"Indeed it would be," responded Mrs. Beach with enthusiasm.

"Then help me plan it, this very minute."

"First there must be the finest matting for the floors and a Japanese rug over that and the furniture of polished wood

with tapestry backs. The electric lamps must be encased within those unique and delicate silken shades decorated so wonderfully by Japanese art, and of course there should be screens."

"And dragons?" inquired Mrs. Dainty with breathless interest.

"Yes," laughed Mrs. Beach, "and some lacquer ware, a statuette of ivory, a few pieces of that lovely porcelain, and an incense vase of bronze. How would

that do?"

"I am delighted with your suggestions. I think they are quite



A GENERAL LIVING ROOM SOMEWHAT COLONIAL IN STYLE

perfect. I was wondering just how I would fit up the suite in the west wing, but you have solved the problem for me. My general living room is somewhat Colonial in style with a fireplace for chilly mornings and cool evenings. Above the mantel are paneled decora-

tions in color, suggestive of summer blooms. Huge beams of oak project outward and bear the lighting fixtures, which are imitations of the Colonial candle, and there is a lantern effect on the lower side of the beam. The wood trim is ivory white paneled with Japanese grass cloth. There will be plenty of fumed reed furniture with brown leather cushions, built-in book cases and similar accessories, while the window fabrics are in two tones, a delicate green combined with golden brown."

"I think your summer home will be a most enjoyable place and I shall give myself the pleasure of visiting you often," laughed Mrs. Beach. In fact, I am almost persuaded to abandon my northern trip and camp in that Japanese suite we have just planned."

"Nothing would please me better," cried the little bride, giving her friend a joyous hug. "You know we thought of going abroad on our wedding trip and then we said: 'Oh no, let us spend our money here and make a home that shall be the perfection of comfort and convenience.'"

Home Refrigerating and Ice-making Plant

"Just what I have been looking for!" This is the expression of every up-to-date housekeeper who sees the auto-electric refrigerating plant, another silent, automatic servant for the modern home and a safe, sure, labor saving device. There is no uncertainty about the ice supply during a continued hot spell in the summer time. Many a housekeeper has had the following experience in the middle of a hot afternoon on a very hot day. The perspiring maid trails up the stairs and announces that the ice is nearly gone. Company is expected to tea and worse still it is a holiday!

"But I told you to order an extra supply to last over the Fourth," protests the perplexed hostess.

"I did, ma'am," replied the maid, "and

the ice man said he couldn't because he was running short on all his orders, and I had to wipe up after him because he always comes in just after I clean the floor. It makes no difference when I clean that floor, the ice man comes in afterwards, and makes tracks," continues the maid in an injured tone.

"Well, send the yard man out and tell him to buy some ice somewhere," interrupts the mistress, "we're expecting a guest to tea and we must have ice."

"Please, ma'am, the yard man has gone for the day——" the maid begins again. Every housewife knows the story. It is just the day when the last straw breaks the camel's back, and the housekeeper is convinced of a conspiracy on the part of



NO UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE ICE SUPPLY WITH ONE OF THESE MODERN REFRIGERATORS IN THE KITCHEN

the weather, the ice man, the maid and the invited guest, to make her life as miserable as possible. Not so with an electric refrigerating plant in the home. You can have the ice when it is most needed. Best of all, you can have the

niciest little cubes of ice made to order in your own ice box, ready for the ice tea or for a glass of lemonade.

A small motor driving a compressor with a system of piping and a storage tank inside the ice box are the essential elements of the refrigerating plant. Down in the lower part of the refrigerator is a marvelous instrument, the thermostat, which regulates the temperature and maintains an even 45 degrees or so, never varying over two degrees. The contents of the ammonia tank may be replaced twice a year at a cost of one dollar. When the required temperature is reached, the motor stops. Should the ice box be opened so that the temperature rises, the motor, in obedience to signals from the thermostat, starts automatically and the temperature is reduced.

Telephone Etiquette

A newspaper in Michigan is authority for the statement that four hours and fifteen minutes were consumed by a couple of estimable ladies in a telephone chat one Sunday afternoon in a town of that state. Needless to say this town has flat rates. But think of it! Count up the time consumed, four times 60 minutes plus fifteen more. It is said that the connection was put up soon after noon and from that time until after dark there was continuous talk. No one could get in on the line. Everybody else was talked off the wire. No transcript of the conversation has been preserved but it probably ran along like this:

"Say, Mrs. X, I want to ask you about that pattern you promised me. You said you had loaned it to Lydia Smyth but that I could have it as soon as she returned it. Did you ever get it back?"

"No? Well, wasn't that careless of Lydia? Did you notice her dress at church this morning? Didn't it hang simply awful? And that is the one she made herself! Well, if I couldn't sew any better than that I wouldn't borrow other person's patterns and then neglect to return them.

"Have I heard about the Brown's baby? No, what is it? Measles! And I better not let Tommy go over there! Indeed I won't, but I saw the other Brown children at Sunday school today and I don't think they should be allowed to run at large. Oh, you're not sure it's the measles, you merely heard that some



PERHAPS A YOUNG GIRL AND HER SWEETHEART MONOPOLIZE THE PHONE

one else thought it might be the measles!"

Imagine 255 minutes of such conversation and other people waiting to use the line. A record breaking conversation of this length shows an utter lack of consideration for the rights and necessities of other people, and yet many of us, who are on party lines, recall that we have waited while similar estimable ladies or perhaps a young girl and her sweetheart monopolized the phone beyond the limits of patience. The telephone is one of the greatest modern conveniences. It has placed all mankind within earshot of each other but it should be used in a businesslike manner even by women in their homes.

The Silent Servant

It was Saturday afternoon and baking day at the home of Mrs. B. T. McCanna, 6320 Ingle-side avenue, in Chicago. Two visitors trudged up the steps and rang the bell, but Mrs. McCanna did not mind a bit because visitors called on baking day; neither did the Silent Servant. Now right here is the first great advantage of this remarkable new servant. It is never the least bit flustered or embarrassed over the advent of visitors or company to tea.

"We came to see the Silent Servant," was our explanation, and Mrs. McCanna laughingly led the way to the kitchen.

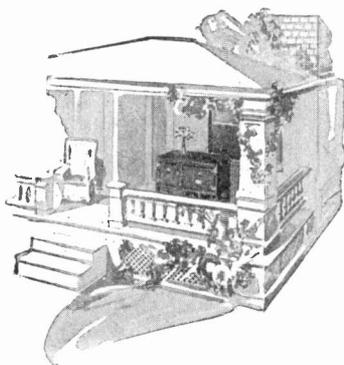
"Well, here it is," she said. "Inspect it as much as you like. It doesn't mind at all."

A modern automatic electric cook stove, made of solid oak, stood in a corner of the kitchen. It was 35 inches high with top and doors of finished asbestos and nickel trimmings.

"Now, let's see what it will do," we demanded with interest.

"Well, I'm going to stir up a sunshine cake first and here is the recipe I use: Whites of seven eggs, yolks of five; $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups granulated sugar, one cup flour, scant third teaspoon cream tartar, a pinch of salt added to the whites of the eggs before whipping, and flavor to taste. Sift, measure and set aside flour and sugar. Separate the eggs, putting the whites in a mixing bowl and the yolks in a small bowl; beat yolks to a very stiff froth. Whip whites to foam, add cream tartar and whip until very stiff; add sugar and beat in (always using a spoon to mix cakes with), then flavor and beat in; then flour and fold it lightly through.

This cake was put into a cold oven at



2:40 by the clock. The thermostat was set at 250 degrees and the electric current was then turned on. When the oven reached the degree of heat indicated by the thermostat, there was a sudden click and the current was automatically cut off and the baking was done with the heat stored in the oven chamber. The

cake was beautifully baked and delicious to taste. In fact, it melted in the mouth. Several pans of biscuit were then put in at 300 degrees of heat and were baked in the same way. Four apple pies went into the oven at half past four o'clock. Pies require 350 degrees, and when taken out they were so well baked they shook loose from the pans.

Rice was cooked in the boiling compartment. Mrs. McCanna used one cup of ordinary rice. This was washed thoroughly and put into an aluminum utensil, not a double boiler. Three cups of water and two of milk were poured over the rice. The thermostat was set at 212 degrees or boiling point. The current was on 20 minutes, then was automatically cut off and the rice cooked on the receding heat principle.

"I often set rice or oatmeal to boil this way," said Mrs. McCanna, "for the boys' luncheon, and I go down town. In a third of an hour the current is cut off, but the cereal continues to cook until the boys come home at noon. Then they take the nice warm food out of the oven and make their lunch on it together with bread, milk and jam."

"This is certainly an easy way to cook," remarked one of the visitors.

"Oh, I wouldn't go back to a gas range for anything," said Mrs. McCanna with

emphasis. "I cannot imagine a greater hardship. Now I will stir up some cup cakes." After the cup cakes were taken out of the oven, a pan of apples went in. Last of all four loaves of bread in an aluminum bread pan were put in and the thermostat was set for 350 degrees. The bread went into the oven at 5:20 o'clock and baked for 50 minutes, during which time the current was on for 30 minutes, and the balance of the time the bread baked in receding heat.

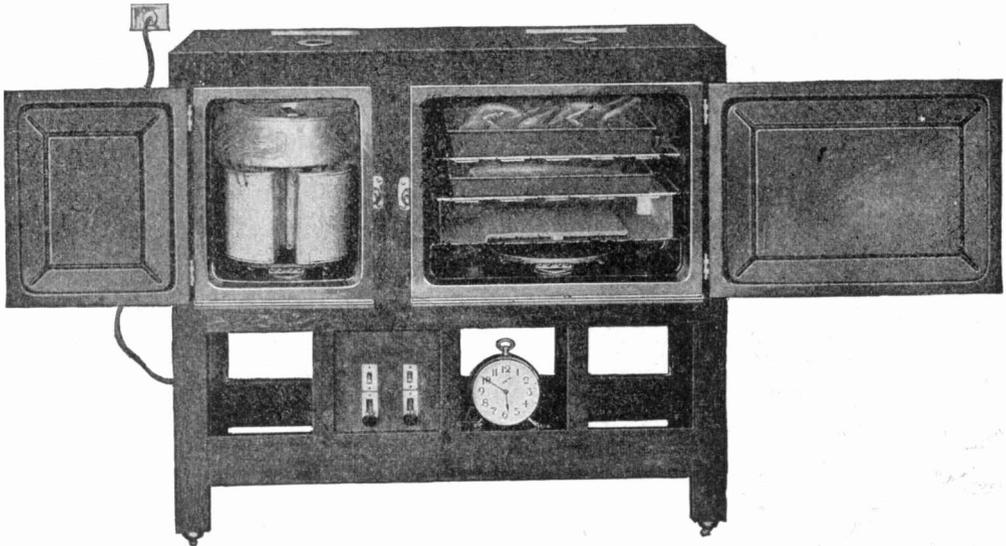
"Do you wonder I like to bake?" asked Mrs. McCanna, with pride, as she took out of the oven chamber four of the most beautiful loaves the visitors had ever looked upon. "The only drawback to the new stove

This Twentieth Century stove, twin companion in science to the wireless telegraph, the aeroplane and the automobile, has come to stay and its use will broaden the activities of the home and lighten the burdens of womankind. The

last and final step in the development of this modern method of cooking is the application of the automatic control feature, an improvement that has eliminated one-half of the labor and drudgery of cooking. Imagine an automatic, silent servant that will get up at any hour that you may predetermine—four, five or six o'clock in the morning—start the cereal, heat the water, cook the coffee in the percolator and prepare everything correctly and keep it in perfect condition,



THE THERMOSTAT DIAL



A MODERN AUTOMATIC COOKSTOVE MADE OF SOLID OAK

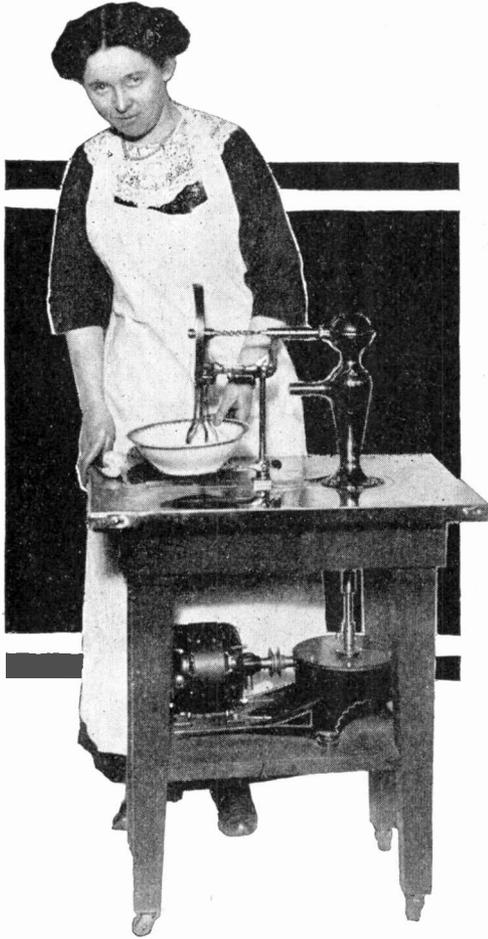
is this: the family eats more than it ever did before, because the things taste better and are so well cooked. I bake three times a week and four loaves each time, besides the pies, biscuit and cup cakes of which every member of the family is so fond."

until such time as you are prepared to eat.

The stove is really a marvelous appliance to free the housewife from the heart-breaking, shriveling heat of the kitchen and preserve her disposition and appetite to grace the daily meal.

The Household Portable Power Table

The Federal household power table is not only a source of power for household machinery but is a veritable little work shop in itself. This compact oak table, standing 30 inches high, can be moved as easily as a chair to any point where it is most convenient for operation. Mounted on a lower shelf is a $\frac{1}{4}$ horsepower electric motor which transmits power directly to an upright shaft or power arm, from which two horizontal shafts with protected couplings give available power at the top of



THE POWER TABLE WILL PERFORM PRACTICALLY ALL THE OPERATIONS IN PREPARING FOOD

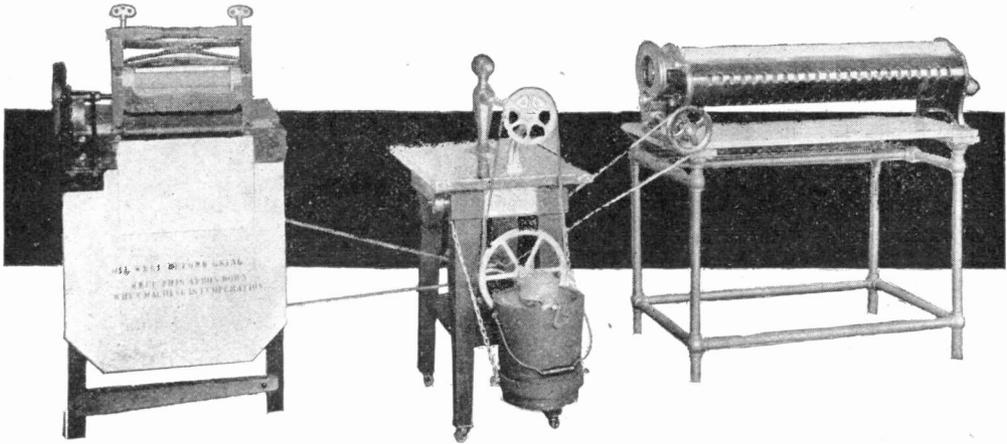
the table. Electricity is supplied through a ten foot connecting cord securely fastened to the table and fitted with a detachable connecting plug for connection with the nearest lamp socket. The current is turned on or off by a snap switch conveniently placed on the right hand side of the front of the table.

In the kitchen, the power table will perform practically all the operations necessary in the preparation of food formerly done by hand. The nickel plated utensils, table top and all are easily kept clean and shining. It is hardly necessary to touch the food with the hands. Think what this means, not only from a sanitary viewpoint, but in the time saved in washing the hands the number of times necessary in handling and mixing the materials for cooking.

In the laundry the power table can be used to run the washing machine, wringer or the mangle and still have one hand free to turn the ice cream freezer, run the knife sharpener, or shave the soap for washing at the same time. The attachments for the power table are a bread mixer, cake mixer, coffee grinder, food chopper, ice cream freezer, egg beater, vegetable slicer, food grater, apple peeler, knife sharpener and knife polisher.

Tools for Housekeeping

In a current magazine, Elizabeth Atwood writes: "It is strange how many very good housekeepers are careless about the tools of their routine work, both in regard to the completeness of the equipment and in the care of them. It is the old story, almost anything will do, as long as it holds together, and is allowed to serve in the average kitchen or in connection with the care of the house. This, however, is far from being true

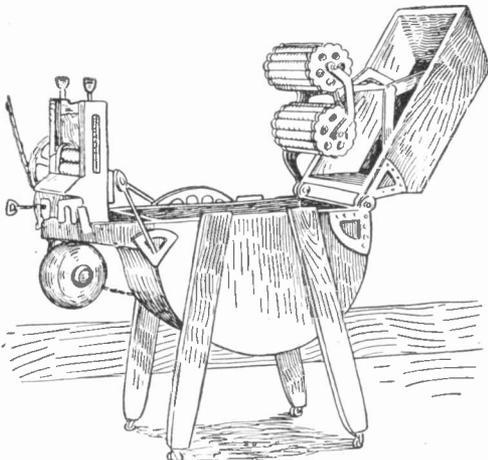


THE POWER TABLE AT WORK IN THE LAUNDRY

economy. The simplest furnishings, the really needful, should be of the best, and it goes without saying they should be kept in perfect order."

Washing Machine with the Washboard Principle

An electric washer that utilizes the principle of the washboard but does away with hand rubbing is a feature of a new washing machine called the "New-



ELECTRIC WASHING MACHINE

disco." It will wash few or many clothes, is very light running and the cost of operation is low. Raising the lid throws the washer out of gear. No clumsy lever is necessary to do this, neither is it necessary to stop the motor

while the machine is running. The clothes can be inspected or more water added while the machine is running. It has a reversible wringer and the washer and wringer can be run at the same time, enabling clothes to be run through from the rinsing water while another lot is being washed.

Electric Cooking Utensils

The individual articles manufactured for electric cooking certainly cost more than ordinary cooking utensils, but there is no necessity for having so many of them. With a little forethought it is surprising how many of the usual cooking pots and pans can be discarded. Once the electric outfit is purchased, it will need renewal only a third as often as the others, owing to its careful manufacture and good material.

In addition to this one of the special features of cooking by electricity is the uniformity of temperature that can be maintained. The heat is not greater in the oven one day than on another, and so, with each of the electric cooking appliances.

Electric plate warmers are convenient and inexpensive to operate and are very useful in the pantry. When dinner is delayed for any cause, plates and food can be kept warm while waiting.



Junior Section

Thorne Elliot's Burglar Alarm

By CLARK DeBALL

The first time I ever saw Thorne Elliot he was preparing to drop a model Bleriot monoplane from the window of what he called his laboratory.

"I knew it," said I looking up at him from the back yard.

"You knew what?" he asked.

"Knew you was about fourteen and had red hair and freckles. We moved into the flat under yours five days ago and we're only just beginning to get used to the racket you make. Nobody but a red-haired guy could make such—"

"Yea," he interrupted, "I've been making an airship."

"Who plays all that rag on the piano?" I asked.

"Oh, that there's only my big sister. I'm an inventor," he said. "Come up to my laboratory and I'll show you some of my inventions."

I went up there. It was a room partitioned off on the back porch of the second flat. On the door was a sign, "Thorne Elliot, Inventor and Electrician—Crimes also ferited. Office Hours After School."

Inside, a person could hardly move, there was so much electrical junk, wires, clock works and things. A white tom cat minus one ear lay blinking on a red cushion on the work bench.

"That's my cat," said Thorne. "His



THORNE ELLIOT—INVENTOR
AND ELECTRICIAN

name's Old Scratch. He's grieving for his lost Lenore."

"He looks it," I said.

"And here's my new burglar alarm."

"Why that looks like one of those little short-horned phonographs."

"Sure," explained Thorne. "That's what it is. It runs by a dry battery. You put it by your bed.

These here wires go to the windows. When Mr. Burglar opens the window, he closes the circuit and—"

"I got you," I broke in. "The phonograph gives the alarm."

"Alarm!" exclaimed Thorne. "She gives a regular battle cry of freedom."

"Let's hear it once," I suggested.

Thorne carefully closed the door.

"Us inventors 've got to be careful," he explained. "I ain't applied for any patent yet. Besides I don't want the folks or any of the neighbors to hear it till I know whether it's going to be a success or not."

Then he started the machine.

Well, I've heard some pretty bum noises, but believe me I never heard anything like the heart-rending screech that came out of that phonograph. That old tom cat tore around and yowled so we had to let him out. After this screech came gurgling groans. Then in ghastly accents the words "Burglars! Burglars! Arise before ye are slaugh-

tered in thy bed! Thy throat will be gashed from ear to ear!" After this came more of those bubbly groans mixed in with wails. Then in graveyard tones the words: "Blood! Blood! Seven buckets of blood! Gore!" It ended with more yells. It was fierce.

Then the machine started to play it all over again.

"Stop that thing," I cried. "How long will it keep playing like that?"

"As long as the window stays up and keeps the circuit closed," said Thorne. "You see," he went on, "when that needle gets to the end of the record that disk hits that little lever and she reverses.

"Tonight'll be a fine time to try it out. Ma's going to spend the night over at Aunt Sadie's and Pa, he's out of town. I'm gona try it on my big sister Maude. I'll hide it under her bed."

"Gee! Won't she know it's there? Say, she'll be scared into fits."

"Not her," said Thorne. "She's got an automatic pistol. I loaded it for her, only I put in blanks so she can't do any damage. Anyhow, if she is startled a little, it'll be good for her. It'll teach her to be on her guard. About two a. m. I'm gona get up and sneak out and burglarize the flat. See? I'll get in the back window. It'll be just like the real thing."

"Say, let me in on that. Will you?"

"Sure," agreed Thorne.

So that night I didn't go to bed when the rest of the family did. I sat up and read "The Fall of the House of Usher."

About two o'clock Thorne scratched on the door. I went out into the hall. He had a black mask on. In one hand he carried a big old army revolver, in the other he had an electric torch and a can opener.

"Ssh," he hissed. "Tread softly, ole pard. Here; you take the dark lantern and the jimmy. I'll carry the barker. I'm Bill Sikes."

"This here is no jimmy," I whispered. "It's a can opener."

"Come on," replied Thorne.

Well, we treaded softly out doors and around the house. It was quite dark and rather chilly for a June night. I was a little sleepy. Thorne in the lead, we sneaked up the back stairs. Half way up Thorne stopped and grabbed hold of me. We listened. Sure as fate some one was up on the porch fooling with a window.

"Dang this thing!" we heard someone mutter.

In a minute we heard another voice say, "Too bad we haven't a jimmy." We could hear the fellow at the window breathe hard and grunt like he was straining at the window. Then the other one whispered: "Let me try a while, brother."

"Well, be careful," came the low reply. "We don't want to wake em up."

One of the men went over to the edge of the porch. We could see him against the sky. He seemed to have a checked cap on, but no mask. When he went back we crept down stairs. My heart was making an awful noise.

"Gimme that gun," I whispered, "and run for the cop."

Thorne nodded and was gone. It was no time for words. At first I thought I would go up there and capture them so I would have my picture in the papers as a hero. But after a while I decided to wait for Thorne and the cop.

Because while we had heard only two men speak, how was I to know there were not more up there who had not spoken? One against seven or eight you know is no cinch. Well, after a while the window suddenly went up.

"Aha!" ejaculated one of the men. I guess he must have started to crawl in, when a terrible shriek rang out. Then, "Burglars! Burglars! Arise before ye are slaughtered—"

It was the phonograph and it was awful. The two men up on the porch began stamping around or fighting or something. "Bang! Bang!" went Thomas' sister's automatic—eight times in all. One of the burglars came down

the stairs about four at a time. He fell at the bottom. Then the other came banging down on top of him. One of them seemed to be clawing at something white on his back. I had gone toward the back fence in order to head them off if they came that way. To intimidate them I began letting off the old army revolver. "Bang! Bang!" answered the automatic upstairs. It sounded like the Monitor and the Merrimac. The burglars jumped up and hiked around the corner of the house.

Windows were going up all over the neighborhood. Between other noises I

of half-dressed neighbors were standing around. One fat fellow had a broom.

The man with the checked cap was shouting, "Leggo my collar. I tell you, officer, I'm no burglar. My name's John Elliot."

"That's my old man, I tell you!" yelled Thorne.

"And this is my friend Rev. W. L. Wharton," continued Thorne's father. "He's a preacher."

"What was ye runnin fer, then?" bawled the cop.

"Listen," said Thorne's father. "We came in unexpectedly on a late train. He



THERE WAS A COP HOLDING TWO MEN BY THE COAT COLLARS

could hear the phonograph. I heard someone screaming, "Gimme the Chicago Avenue Police Station quick." Thorne's sister yelled "Help! Help! Murder!" Some one must have turned in a fire alarm. Oh! it was a glorious mess.

I went around to the front of the house. There in the glow of the electric light was the cop holding two men by the coat collars. Sure enough one of the men had a checked cap on. The cop seemed to be bawling them out. Thorne was there with his mask still on. A lot

was to stay all night with me. I had no key. We were trying to get in the back window so as not to wake up the house."

The preacher broke in, "Brother Murphy put up the back window and must have frightened some member of the family into fits. Some one is in agony up in that flat."

"Look at my face!" cried Thorne's father. "Some furry wild animal jumped out of the window and scratched me!" Sure enough, his face was all bloody.

"That was Old Scratch!" yelled

Thorne. "He was scared of a phonograph."

"Well, what the—" said the cop and stopped.

"Brethren," said the preacher. "I tell you some one is in agony up in that flat. I heard them groan."

Just then the front window went up with a bang. Thorne's sister screamed "Burglars! Help! Help!" And out came a lot of water. It went all over us.

Then a lot more half dressed neighbors came and also a wagon with about ten policemen. Also the fire department. We all went up stairs. When the lights were switched on there was Thorne's sister in her night gown. She had another bucket of water.

"Burglars," she gasped.

"Where?" asked one of the cops.

"There were some down in front of the house a minute ago," she panted, "and there were some in the back yard, and there were several on the back porch. They opened the kitchen window. And oh! there was a crazy one under my bed. He must have escaped when I was out in the kitchen closing the window."

"That was only my burglar alarm under your bed," cried Thorne.

"So!" exclaimed his father, "It was you again, was it? Another one of your fool inventions, I suppose. What are you doing with that mask on?" And he started towards Thorne with a peculiar light in his eye.

Chemical Flasks From Electric Bulbs

Those interested in electricity are frequently also interested in chemistry, and find it necessary to keep on hand a goodly number of flasks. Anyone who possesses some burned out incandescent bulbs can readily transform them into flasks, the various sizes of bulbs making flasks of different dimensions.

The base of the globe should be held in a flame until the binding material has softened sufficiently to allow the brass part to be pushed off. After cleaning

the glass, a sharp file should be used to make a scratch around the glass just back of the place where the little filament tube is sealed in. A sharp glancing blow with the file will then break out the end, leaving a round hole. The edges should be held in a hot flame until they are soft, when they may be smoothed over and formed into a lip. After this has been done, the large end should be held in the flame until it softens, when if it is pressed down on a dry board the bottom will be flattened out so that the flask will stand steadily.

To anneal, the flask should be placed in a pan of strong salt water, gradually allowed to come to a boil, and then set aside to cool.

To Make an Electrophorus

A simple piece of apparatus for experimenting with static electricity is the electrophorus. It may be made as follows: Take an ordinary tin dish and after melting in an iron dish two parts of resin and one part of gum shellac in such a quantity as to nearly fill the tin, pour into the tin and let cool. Next

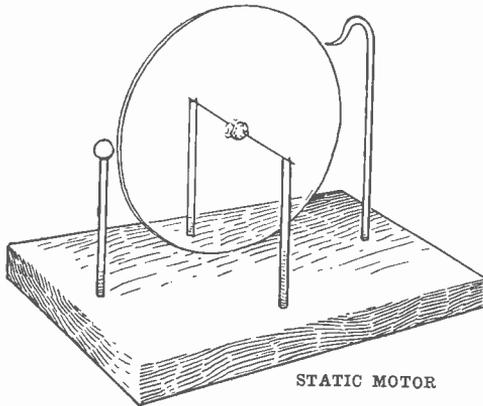


ELECTROPHORUS

make a wooden disk a little smaller in circumference than the dish. Sandpaper well, round off the edges and fit a short wooden handle to the center of the disk. Tinfoil obtainable at a tea or tobacco store should now be smoothly pasted over the entire surface of the disk. Over the wooden handle should be tightly fitted a glass rod or bottle. In using the electrophorus rub the resin with a piece of flannel or fur, then place the disk firmly upon the resin. Touch the tinfoil for an instant with the other hand. Upon removing the disk with one hand and bringing the finger of the other hand close to it, a very good spark will jump to the finger.

A Static Motor

To those interested in electricity, static energy has always had a peculiar fascination, even in spite of the fact that experiments in it are not likely to result in anything that can be placed to mechan-



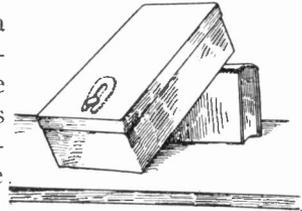
STATIC MOTOR

ical advantage. And yet these experiments are always interesting.

The static motor is a simple instrument, and will well repay the amateur for the slight labor its construction involves. A disk of mica about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter should be secured, with a large needle acting as the axis, the ends of which rest loosely into indentations near the top of two vertical brass rods. Little pieces of wax, or two small wooden disks, will hold the mica securely to the needle. An insulated brass ball placed opposite the horizontal diameter of the mica disk, as closely as possible to its edge, and a pointed conductor at the opposite side, complete the arrangement. The ball and point are then connected, respectively, with the opposite poles of a static machine in operation, when the mica disk will revolve at a speed of about 2,000 revolutions a minute, developing considerable momentum.

The Magic Toboggan Slide

Much wonderment and fun may be created with the magic toboggan slide. The slide consists of an ordinary pasteboard shoe box and a small horseshoe magnet fast-

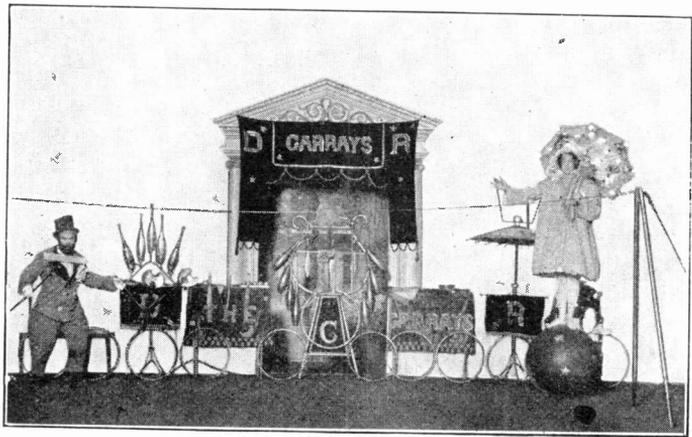


MAGIC TOBOGGAN SLIDE

ened with a little glue upon the inside of the cover as in the illustration. A piece of tin cut in the form of a circle to avoid sharp corners and with edges carefully smoothed serves as the toboggan. With the box set on a slant the disk when started at the top will slide down until it nearly reaches the lower edge of the cover and there stop, much to the surprise of those not in the secret.

Electricity Introduces Juggling Act

The use of pleasing electrical effects to introduce a novelty juggling act is presented in the accompanying illustration. The Carrays open their act with Mrs. Carray upon a large rolling globe, where she is as much at home as upon the floor. In her hand she carries a parasol attractively trimmed with numerous electric lights. This rather unexpected in-

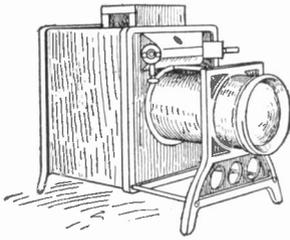


A NOVEL JUGGLING ACT

production gains attention and is followed by clever slack wire, club and hoop work.

Projecting Postcard Pictures

In using photographs, postcards, newspaper and magazine clippings in a projecting apparatus to produce enlarged images on a wall or screen, the difficulty

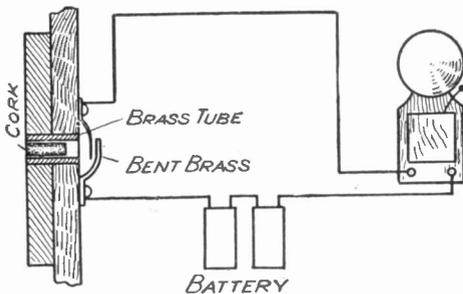


POSTCARD PROJECTOR

has been in obtaining a very bright white light. This difficulty is overcome in the Victor postcard projector by using an arc light. The arc is hand fed and arranged to keep the arc automatically where it belongs. Five feet from the screen a 2½ foot image is made, while 30 feet from the screen a fifteen foot image is produced. The machine is only 9 by 12 inches and is finished in nickel plated trimmings.

Electric Bell Attachment for Dart Board

In playing the game of darts arguments arise as to whether the person playing is entitled to the number limited by hitting the cork center. To settle this question secure a piece of brass tubing about ½ inch in diameter and long enough to go through the board. Force the brass tube through the board, making it to fit firmly. File the ends off



ARRANGEMENT OF DART BOARD ALARM

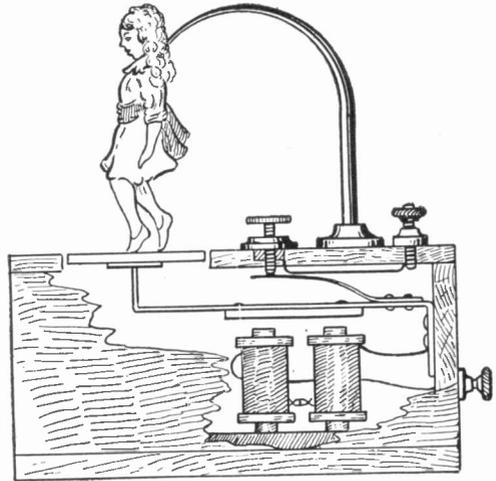
the tube even with both surfaces of the board.

Secure a cork which will fit the tube, but be loose enough to move readily. On the back of the board across the hole fasten strips of brass slightly bent as shown. These two strips form contact points to which are fastened the copper wires of a bell and battery. Hitting the cork forces it through the tube with enough momentum to push the contacts together, thus ringing the bell.

STANLEY HELVERSON.

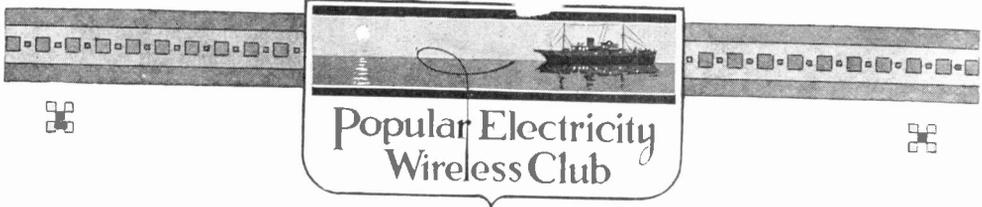
The Dancing Doll

The dancing doll and apparatus shown in the accompanying illustration may be readily constructed from the mechanism



THE DANCING DOLL

of an ordinary electric bell and a neatly made wooden box. The magnets, contacts, armature and hammer arm should be placed as shown. A small circular or square platform is cut from the box and fastened to the bell hammer arm. Upon the top of the box is fastened a curved spring supporting the figure. The joints of the hips and knees should be quite loosely fastened and the figure suspended so that the feet just touch the movable platform. With one or two dry cells the platform will vibrate rapidly, causing the doll to do many fantastic steps.

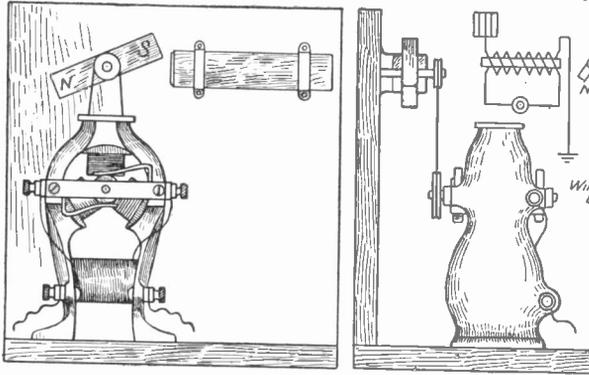


Popular Electricity Wireless Club

The Magnetic Detector

The magnetic detector, invented by Marconi and much used by his stations, is unlike all other detectors and possesses many good points. It has been little used by experimenters, perhaps for the reason that it is necessary to have a motor, clockworks or other motive

An "L" shaped base should be constructed, and the coil mounted. Just opposite the end of the coil a bar magnet about one inch long is mounted on an axis and connected to a small pulley with both free to rotate just in front of the core. Below and connected by a belt to this magnet is placed a small battery motor. The remaining space is occupied by a rheostat switch with which to regulate the motor.



MAGNETIC DETECTOR

power to run it. But the main point in its favor is that it needs no adjustment and that if a message is within its range it will pick it up at once. No adjustment which may result in a partial loss of the message is necessary. The following directions will explain construction of a simple form of this detector.

A core about $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in diameter and two inches long should be constructed of small iron wires. Bind tight and insulate with a layer of paraffin paper. On this wind about eight feet of No. 23 copper wire and insulate with paraffin paper. Then over this wind another layer of the same amount and size of wire. Leaving the four terminals free, the whole may be covered for mounting. The figure shows a good arrangement of this detector.

The connections are shown in the diagram, one layer of the coil being connected direct to the phones and the other to the aerial and ground. Any tuning apparatus may be inserted between the aerial and coil. One battery is sufficient to run the motor and should give

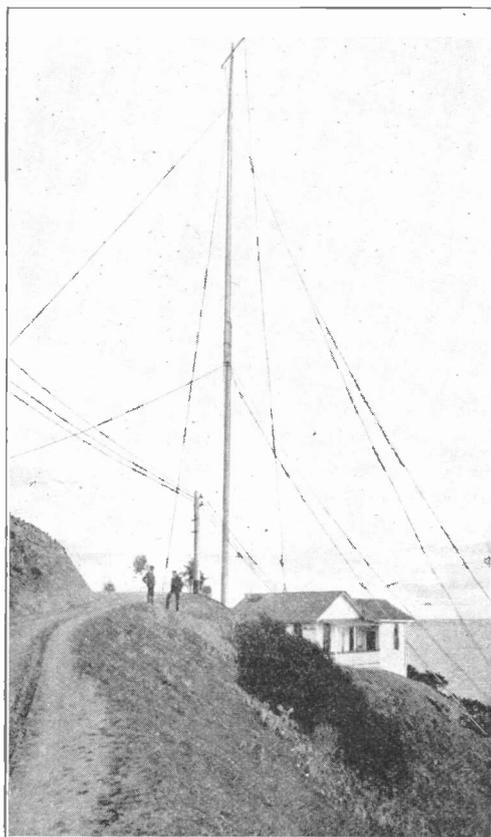
the magnet a speed of about 30 revolutions per minute.

A few words as to the theory may be well. The slowly revolving magnet before the soft iron core causes magnetic changes within the core. But these changes, due to a peculiar property of the iron, lag behind, thus not causing much current in the coil. But if this iron be subjected to electrical oscillations the effects of this magnetic hysteresis are reduced. So when the message is sent the oscillations travel down the aerial to the coil and have the above explained effect upon the core. Under this influence the core is readily affected by the revolving magnet and these changes of magnetism in the core produce a current in the coil, and is heard in the receiver.

M. MILLER.

Wireless at Catalina Island

As the steamer slowly rounds a point and into the beautiful bay at Avalon, Catalina Island, Cal., the first thing to catch the visitor's eye is the tall mast and aerial system of the Avalon wireless station. This is wonderfully placed on a steep, rocky bluff, overlooking the city and ocean, and seeming to come up directly over the clear blue water of the bay. At the foot of the mast a neat



WIRELESS STATION ON CATALINA ISLAND

white cottage is seen, and perhaps the crash of the transmitting spark is carried faintly over the water to the incoming steamer.

Catalina Island—well termed "The Magic Isle"—is situated 22 miles off the coast of Southern California, making an enjoyable two hours' trip by steamer from Los Angeles. This island

is the permanent home of several hundred people and is visited each year by thousands of tourists.

One of the most interesting points about this lovely resort is that its only means of communicating quickly with the mainland is by wireless telegraph. No submarine telephone or telegraph cables connect it with Los Angeles—all messages are transmitted by wireless.

The wireless company maintains an office in the city which is connected with the station by telegraph and telephone. Commercial messages are taken here and sent by wire to the operator far up on the hill.

The station is a standard two kilowatt, 60 cycle set, and on account of its exceptionally good location above the city and bay, has a range of about 500 miles. However, practically all of the Island's wireless business is with the Los Angeles stations and the two steamers which run between Avalon and the mainland.

Wireless Hints

Two small strips of brass across the aerial and ground binding posts of your receiving set, forming a lightning gap, may be the means of saving your condenser or phones or perhaps both in case of a hard thunderstorm.

A telephone cam makes an excellent quick action short circuit switch for your detector.

When wiring your receiving set use No. 20 green silk lamp cord. It makes a neat and well insulated job.

A rotary spark gap would increase your radius fully 20 per cent. Why not make one?

To break or cut off a piece of wire when no pliers are at hand lay the wire upon the sharp edge of a piece of iron and hammer lightly. After a V-shaped dent is made in the wire it can be readily broken off.

Don't take your wireless down in the summer time, but ground your aerial outside the building. N. E. HOLT.



THE LAYOUT AT A DESERT STATION

Testing Wireless in the Desert

By JESSE H. BUFFUM

A forward step in portable wireless telegraphy is signalized in the recent remarkable automobile tour conducted by the Buffum brothers, who recently won national recognition by their notable pedestrian trip from Boston to Los Angeles, one walking on meat diet, the other subsisting on vegetables only.

Shortly after reaching the Pacific coast at the termination of their long hike, the two brothers, Warren H. and the writer, organized a unique enterprise based on an automobile tour carrying a wireless telegraph set of exceptional power. Their intention was to penetrate the desert regions of southern California in the direction of the Salton Sea, endeavoring to keep in communication, direct or by relay, with their starting point.

For this purpose two automobiles were employed, one a seven passenger 45 horsepower car, principally for the conveyance of the personnel of the party; the other equipped with the wireless apparatus and carrying, besides the driver, the wireless operator. In the forward part of this car was the dynamo, or alternator, while in the tonneau beside the operator the transmitting and receiving sets were permanently secured.

The party consisted of the two Buffum brothers, projectors of the idea and

organizers of the tour; J. B. Walker, a wireless apparatus expert and operator; Darwin B. Hull, factory expert in charge of the two automobiles; Geo. Meehans, mechanic, and Warren Vance, agent for the make of cars used.

The party left Los Angeles on February 28, returning eleven days later, having covered about 900 miles on a most remarkable tour over bad roads and through desert sands, including in the itinerary the crossing of the border into Old Mexico, where the advent of the wireless in troublous times gave rise to speedy suspicion.

What at its inception promised to be a very important experiment was unfortunately entirely misrepresented by a scare-head, false report advertising campaign built up about the trip, and through no fault of the Buffum brothers. But in spite of this the trip bore scientific fruit important enough to give to the world.

A rather new feature in portable wireless, an interest in which it is hoped will be stimulated by what we achieved, is the use of kites for elevating the aerials. Two Bluehill type box kites, labeled No. 8 in size, were carried along. Only once on the tour were both employed at the same time. Twice the kite attained a



PREPARING A SET-UP BY THE OCEAN SIDE

height of 600 to 800 feet, remaining at that altitude five hours steadily. Throughout, a No. 6 stranded picture wire served as kite string and antennæ in one.

Desert conditions were found usually bad for kite flying. Radiation seriously interfered with sustaining the kite in the air currents prevailing at a given height. Once the effort was made to raise the kite to this strata, on the desert, by attaching the kite string to the automobile and speeding along until 1,000 feet of wire was played out. The experiment was unsuccessful.

The equipment in detail as carried on the tour is of interest as throwing light on practical field work.

Transmitting: The spark system of transmission was employed. The transformer, which was of the closed core type, developed one-half k.w. This stepped up the 110 volts to 22,000 volts. The energy supplied to the transformer was 60 cycle, 110-volt alternating current, supplied by a generator mounted on the car, belt-driven from the engine of the automobile. The high tension condensers were the Murdock molded type, which were chosen on account of their compactness, ease of handling and great efficiency.

It was easy to see that an ordinary helix would be out of the question on account of space economy, so the "pancake" type was used, invented by Dr. DeForest several years ago, and built by J. B. Walker, of Los Angeles, who him-

self is originator of several improved pieces of wireless apparatus.

Receiving Circuit: No wireless receiving outfit is stronger than its detector. Special care was taken to have the best possible instrument of its kind, which was the crystal rectifying type, the mechanical design and application of the principle being the work of our operator, Mr. Walker.

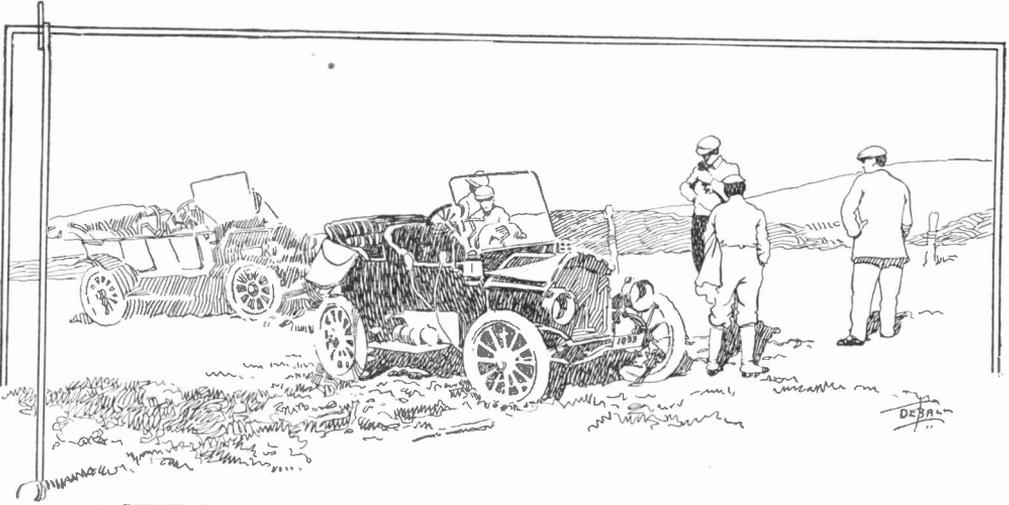
The receivers were a 3,000 ohm Murdock head set, with the variable and fixed condensers of the same make.

The standard loose-coupled receiving transformer was employed.

The full power of the generator was never utilized. The alternator, a 1¼ k. w. special design, built in Los Angeles, was intended to develop 70 volts at 1,750 revolutions. It was often run, however, at 2,100 revolutions and developed 110 volts. This current was passed through a 400 watt transformer that therefore had to carry at times 700 watts. The condensers were so overloaded that on one occasion several sections were "shot."

A sectional pole, carried on special brackets on the smaller car, made of 1½ inch material, soft wood, spliced roughly by bolting together when erecting. Five ten-foot sections gave an approximate height of 48 feet. Rope guys from the middle and top gave ample stability.

One of the discoveries of the trip was that frost can give surprising annoy-



A SET-UP WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT THE ROADSIDE IN LESS THAN AN HOUR

ance. It was one night in particular so heavy as to cause, finally, suspension of operations. One effect that frost can have and that may not be generally known is to create trouble in the receiving apparatus by coating the silicon, as happened in this case. The remedy was to use two pieces of the crystal, warming one while the other was in use.

Moisture as well as frost, and of course more frequently, is a fruitful cause of trouble in the open, and characterizes portable difficulty. With the air full of moisture the leakage from the high voltage circuit of the transformer was so great that a person touching the metal parts of the car would receive at any time a severe but harmless shock. This leakage took place in the form of invisible brush discharge.

It was found that the variable climatic conditions encountered by the car in its travels rendered it difficult to keep the belt driving the generator at proper tension. It was found that as a remedy for this an idler is invaluable.

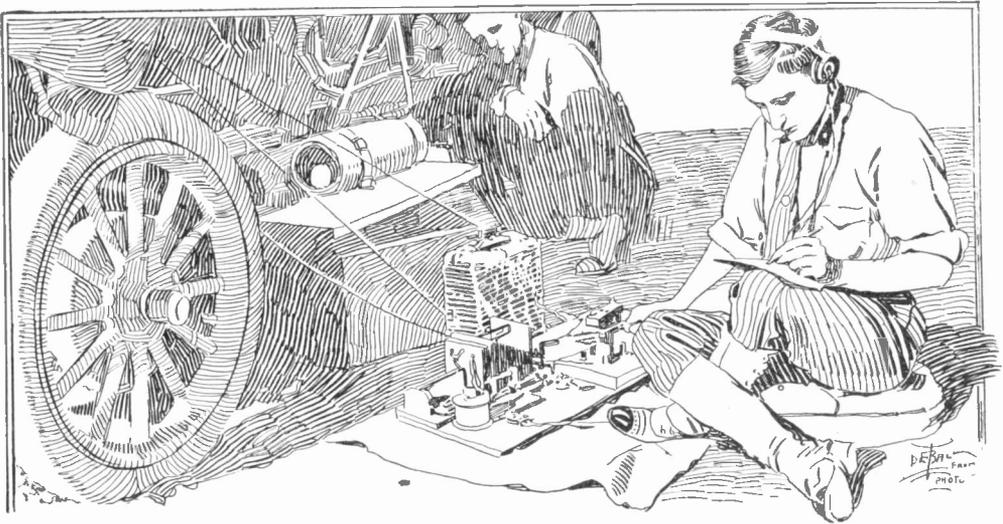
Anent the position taken by numerous experts, particularly government operators, we found that the whistling spark, and next to that the rotary gap, is heard with a pronounced clearness compared with the 60 cycle spark. The latter cannot be read well over desert and mountainous country, on account, largely, of

static, which is very troublesome in such places. The whistling spark proved its great superiority. It alone can be read through excessive static.

Careful observation led to the conclusion that a spark operating at 600 cycles would be far better for cross country transmission, particularly where mountainous and desert in character.

What has been largely a mathematical theory, not much proven in practice, we checked up on to our entire satisfaction, viz., that long wave lengths across dry (desert) country reach more effectively than short wave lengths.

The total distance traveled on the trip approximated 900 miles. Six set-ups were made, varying in distance from each other from 50 to 100 miles. Most of the trip was made, much against the wish of the Buffum brothers, outside the distance the set carried, and but few messages were picked up that we sent. A few ships at sea and one or two government stations picked us up, as did an amateur or two, but never when we were more than 100 miles distant. On our part, we picked up messages from almost unbelievable distances, including San Francisco; and we listened in on one three-cornered conversation between Point Loma, San Francisco, and a third party so far away that I guess I'll not hazard a guess, publicly, at its identity.



IN OLD MEXICO LISTENING TO MARE ISLAND NAVY YARD NEARLY 800 MILES AWAY

Once, on the desert, we heard San Francisco when we had no ground, but were using at the moment our kite.

Unique in automobiling was our equipment for lighting and cooking by electricity. Generating our own current wherever we went, we strung our electric lights out over the sage brush

and cacti, startling the natives who flocked around awed by the sight; and, to add to the wonder of it all, with our little electric stove prepared hot suppers on dreary deserts and amid the vast silences of the majestic hills. The little $1\frac{1}{4}$ k. w. generator gave abundance of power.

San Francisco Hears Wireless from Korea

On February 28th last, Operator Kessler in the Hillcrest station of the United Wireless Telegraph Company, San Francisco, was checking up some messages he had dispatched and received. Suddenly, at 1:30 a. m., he detected in his wireless receivers a faint and strange call for a station. Listening intently, and carefully adjusting his tuning instruments, he made out the call to be "J O I." Realizing that he was in touch with far distant Korea, he pressed the receivers closely to his ears and very shortly the dots and dashes resounded as clearly and distinctly as if they were being transmitted by a station only a few hundred miles away. When the sounds had ceased, he looked back over his sheet and read the following message: "English consul sends greetings to operator

and says that the new wireless is a great success. (Signed) J. O. C."

Hardly believing that this message came from far away Asia, the matter was reported to the main office of the United Wireless Telegraph Company. In order to have the occurrence authenticated, a cablegram going fully into details was forwarded to the Japanese authorities. They responded the same day, verifying the accuracy word for word of the entire message.

The Japanese government had just completed the erection and installation of a powerful wireless station on the peninsula of Korea, and it was on the occasion of the opening of this that the message was dispatched to the station at Hakodate in the northern part of Japan.

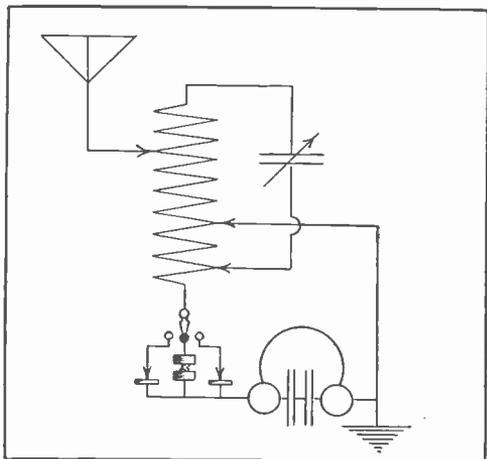
Several months ago Mr. Kessler made a record by "picking up" signals transmitted by the Hakodate station. The

new Korean station is 5,390 miles from San Francisco, whereas Hakodate is 600 miles nearer.

Hillcrest station in San Francisco is finely situated. It is located on the top of a hill 300 feet above sea level, close to the southwesterly limits of the city, and although several miles inland from the beach it has an unobstructed view of the ocean. The station is equipped with the standard sending and receiving apparatus of the United Wireless Telegraph Company. The power used in transmitting is either five or ten k.w., as occasion requires. The masts for supporting the aerial are 200 feet high, being equal in height to the standard masts adopted by the Navy Department for its coast stations. W. ZACHERT.

Hook-up for Long Distance Work

A comparison of the long distance receiving accomplished by the amateur several years ago and the amateur of



WIRELESS HOOK-UP

today will in every case show a marked increase in range. It was but a short time ago that the majority of the experimenters in and around Chicago believed themselves to be obtaining good results upon hearing the commercial stations at various ports on the Great Lakes, but now it is not an unheard of

occurrence for them to pick up commercial stations on the Atlantic Coast.

The hook-up illustrated in this article is identical with the one which I have used all winter and has given excellent results in long distance work and in selectivity. My receiving set consists of a large triple slide, bare wire, tuner, a Murdock silicon detector, a Ferron detector, a galena detector, a rotary variable condenser, a fixed condenser in steps and a pair of Brandes navy type phones shunted around a fixed condenser. My aerial is 84 feet high, being suspended from a pole 44 feet high, and consists of six No. 12 aluminum wires on eight foot bamboo spreaders and is 175 feet long. Running in the opposite direction I have one long wire 400 feet in length which has proved of great value for long distance work.—JESSE JAY.

High Power Navy Equipment

The high powered Navy wireless station now building at Arlington, outside of Washington, which will be in operation next month, uses a power of 100 kilowatts and has a range of 3,000 miles with a wave length of 4,000 meters.

WIRELESS ON FISHING BOATS

Small wireless telegraph outfits are being fitted on several fishing boats in the French waters about the Channel, and what is needed here is a simple apparatus which is not expensive and above all to have it operated by the men on board so that a special man need not be employed, as this would be too great an addition to the boats' expenses. An apparatus of the kind is designed by Engineer Bethenod which works for 200 miles in the daytime or 500 at night, and uses a mast running to 60 feet above the water line. At Boulogne, one of the fishing centers on the Channel, there are wireless and mechanical courses organized for the fishermen, and after three months the student has his diploma and engages on board with a slight raise of salary.

Directory of Wireless Clubs

This directory of amateur wireless clubs and associations will be published each month. When a new club is formed the names of the officers, also the street address of the secretary, should be forwarded to us at once. Any changes that should be made in the directory, when designated by an official of a club, will be made in the next issue after receipt of such advice.

Aerogram Club.—J. Stedman, President; A. Hayward Carr, Chairman Board of Directors; Albert S. Hayward, Treasurer; Donald P. Thurston, Secretary; Walter B. Clarke, 17 May St., Newport, R. I., Corresponding Secretary.

Aerograph Club of Richmond, Ind.—H. J. Trueblood, President; Richard Gatzek, Vice President; James Pardieck, 320 South 8th St., Richmond, Ind., Secretary.

Aero Wireless Club.—A. Garland, President; W. Ladley, Vice President; D. Beard, Napa, Calif., Secretary and treasurer.

Allegheny County (Pa.) Wireless Association.—Arthur O. Davis, President; Theodore D. Richards, Vice President; James Seaman, Leetsdale, Pa., Secretary and Treasurer.

Alpha Wireless Association.—L. L. Martin, President; F. A. Schaeffer, Vice President; G. F. Gilton, Box 57, Valparaiso, Ind., Secretary and Treasurer.

Amateur Wireless Association of Schenectady, N. Y.—D. F. Crawford, President; L. Beebe, Vice President; C. Wright, Treasurer; L. S. Uphoff, 122 Ave. "B," Schenectady, N. Y., Secretary.

Amateur Wireless Club of Geneva (N. Y.).—H. B. Graves, Jr., President; C. Hartman, Vice President; L. Reid, Treasurer; Benj. Merry, 148 William St., Geneva, N. Y., Secretary.

Berkshire Wireless Club.—Warren A. Ford, President; William Jarke, Vice President; Charles Hodecker, Treasurer; Jas. H. Ferguson, 18 Dean St., Adams, Mass., Secretary.

Canadian Central Wireless Club.—Alexander Polson, President; Stuart Scorer, Vice President; Benj. Lazarus, P. O. Box 1115, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Can., Secretary and Treasurer.

Cardinal Wireless Club.—K. Walthers, President; F. Dannenfeler, Vice President; Miss A. Peterson, South Division High School, Milwaukee, Wis., Secretary.

Chicago Wireless Association.—John Walters, Jr., President; E. J. Stien, Vice President; C. Stone, Treasurer; F. D. Northland, Secretary; R. P. Bradley, 4418 South Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill., Corresponding Secretary.

Fargo Wireless Association.—Kenneth Hance, President; John Bathrick, Vice President; Earl C. Reineke, 518 9th St., Fargo, N. D., Secretary.

Forest Park School Wireless Club.—W. S. Robinson, Jr., President; William Crawford, R. F. D. No. 1, Springfield, Mass., Secretary.

Frontier Wireless Club.—Chas. B. Coxhead, President; John D. Camp, Vice President; Franklin J. Kidd, Jr., Treasurer; Herbert M. Graves, 458 Potomac Ave., Buffalo, N. Y., Secretary.

Gramercy Wireless Club.—James Platt, President; John Gebhard, Vice President; John Diehl, Treasurer; John Jordan, 219 East 23d St., New York, N. Y., Secretary.

Northwestern Wireless Association of Chicago.—Rolf Rolfsen, President; H. Kunde, Treasurer; Edw. G. Egloff, 2729 Noble Ave., Chicago, Ill., Recording Secretary.

Hannibal (Mo.) Amateur Wireless Club.—Charles A. Cruickshank, President; J. C. Rowland, Vice President; William Youse, Treasurer; G. G. Owens, 1306 Hill St., Hannibal, Mo., Secretary.

Haverhill (Mass.) Wireless Association.—Riodel G. Sprague, President; Charles Farrington, Vice President; Leon R. Westbrook, Haverhill, Mass., Secretary and Treasurer.

Independence Wireless Association.—Boyce Miller, President; Ralph Elliott, Secretary; Joseph Mahan, 214 South Sixth St., Independence, Kan., Vice President.

Jonesville Wireless Association.—Frederic Wetmore, President; Webb Virmylia, Vice President; Richard Hawkins, Treasurer; Merritt Green, Lock Box 82, Jonesville, Mich., Secretary.

Lake View Wireless Club.—E. M. Fickott, President; R. Ludwig, Treasurer; R. F. Becker, 1439 Winona Ave., Chicago, Ill., Secretary.

Long Beach Radio Research Club.—Bernard Williams, 555 E. Seaside Blvd., Long Beach, Calif., Secretary.

Manchester, (N. H.) Radio Club.—Homer B. Lincoln, President; Clarence Campbell, Vice President; Elmer Cutts, Treasurer; Earle Freeman, 759 Pine St., Manchester, N. H., Secretary.

New Haven Wireless Association.—Roy E. Wilmot, President; Arthur P. Seeley, Vice President; Russell O'Connor, 27 Vernon St., New Haven, Conn., Secretary and Treasurer.

Oakland Wireless Club.—H. Montag, President; W. L. Walker, Treasurer; W. R. Sibbert, 916 Chester St., Oakland, Calif., Secretary.

Oregon State Wireless Association.—Charles Austin, President; Joyce Kelly, Recording Secretary; Edward Murray, Sergeant-at-Arms; Clarence Bischoff, Lents, Ore., Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary.

Pacific States Wireless Association.—Howard W. Lewis, President; W. N. Hickman, Vice President; Earl C. Hanson, Recording Secretary; Stanley McClatchie, 288 Wilcox Ave., Los Angeles, Cal., Corresponding Secretary.

Peterboro Wireless Club.—G. B. Powell, President; C. V. Miller, Vice President; E. W. Oke, 263 Engleburn Ave., Peterboro, Ontario, Can., Secretary and Treasurer.

Plaza Wireless Club.—Paul Elliott, President; Myron Hanover, 156 E. 66th St., New York, N. Y., Secretary and Treasurer.

Rockland County (N. Y.) Wireless Association.—W. F. Crosby, President; Tracey Sherman, Vice President; Marquis Bryant, Secretary; Erskine Van Houten, 24 De Pew Ave., Nyack, N. Y., Corresponding Secretary.

Rosindale (Mass.) Wireless Association.—O. Gilus, President; E. T. McKay, Treasurer; Fred C. Fruth, 962 South St., Rosindale, Mass., Secretary.

Sacramento Wireless Signal Club.—E. Rackliff, President; J. Murray, Vice President; G. Barnard, Treasurer; W. E. Totten, 1524 "M" St., Sacramento, Calif., Secretary.

Santa Cruz Wireless Association.—Orville Johnson, President; Harold Senter, Vice President; Harrison Lane, 23 Riverside Ave., Santa Cruz, Calif., Secretary.

Southern Wireless Association.—B. Oppenheim, President; P. Gernsbacher, 1435 Henry Clay Ave., New Orleans, La., Secretary and Treasurer.

Springfield (Mass.) Wireless Association.—A. C. Gravel, President; C. K. Seely, Vice President and Treasurer; D. W. Martenson, Secretary; Club Rooms, 323 King St., Springfield, Mass.

St. Paul Wireless Club.—Thos. Taylor, President; L. R. Moore, Vice President; E. C. Estes, Treasurer; R. H. Milton, 217 Dayton Ave., St. Paul, Minn., Secretary.

Tri-State Wireless Association.—C. B. DeLahunt, President; O. F. Lyons, Vice President; T. J. M. Daly, Treasurer; C. J. Cowan, Memphis, Tenn., Secretary.

Waterbury Wireless Association.—Weston Jenks, President; Alfred Upham, Treasurer; H. M. Rogers, Jr., 26 Linden St., Waterbury, Conn., Secretary.

Wireless Association of British Columbia.—Clifford C. Watson, President; J. Arnott, Vice President; E. Kelly, Treasurer; H. J. Bothel, 300 Fourteenth Ave. E., Vancouver, B. C., Corresponding Secretary.

Wireless Association of Canada.—W. Fowler, President; E. G. Lunn, Vice President; W. C. Schuur, Secretary and Treasurer.

Wireless Association of Montana.—Roy Tysel, President; Elliot Gillie, Vice President; Harold Satter, 309 South Ohio St., Butte, Mont., Secretary.

Wireless Club of Baltimore.—Harry Richards, President; William Pules, Vice President; Curtis Garret, Treasurer; Winters Jones, 728 North Monroe St. Baltimore, Md., Secretary.



Transformer Construction

By WESLEY G. PAULSON

The step-down transformer here described is of the "Ferranti" shell type and its efficiency is high. The design is for a capacity of 50 watts with the primary connected to a 110 volt, 60 cycle circuit. Taps from the secondary winding as planned will give 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 volts.

For the core special transformer iron, or steel if available, should be used.

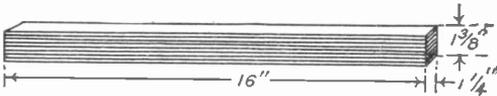


FIG. 1. CORE

However, the thinner gauges of stove-pipe iron will serve. In the following discussion, where dimensions are given in the diagrams they will not be repeated in the text.

The core, Fig. 1, consists of a pile of iron strips about 1 3/8 inches high when compressed. Sheet iron will be much improved by annealing, but special transformer iron need not be subjected to that process. To anneal sheet iron, wrap the iron strips in several thicknesses of sheet asbestos and bind with a few turns of heavy wire. Place the iron in the stove at night and allow it to reach a red heat, then gradually cool as the fire dies out.

After the iron is thoroughly cool, mix up some thin shellac (by dissolving in alcohol shellac gum obtainable at a drug store). Dip half of the iron strips in the shellac and set them up to dry. In

assembling the core, one of these shellac coated strips is interposed between each two bare iron laminations.

The spool or bobbin for the windings is made of fiber or heavy cardboard, in the preparation of which a wooden block or form will be required. Cut a block of wood as in Fig. 2. Wind a strip of paper around the block four or five times, which will compensate for any little inaccuracy in cutting the laminations. It will also facilitate removal of the bobbin from the form after the windings are in place. Cut a piece of 1-16 inch fiber or heavy cardboard as in Fig. 2. Soften

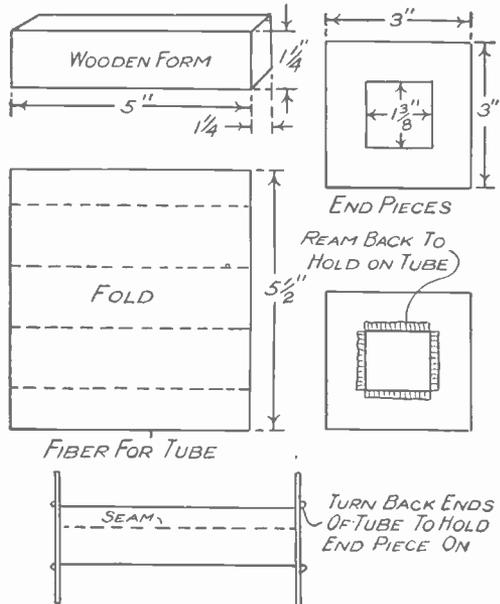


FIG. 2. SPOOL OR BOBBIN

by soaking in warm water for a moment or two and then bend tightly around the wooden form, starting so that the lap seam will be in the middle of one of the sides of the form. Secure the joint

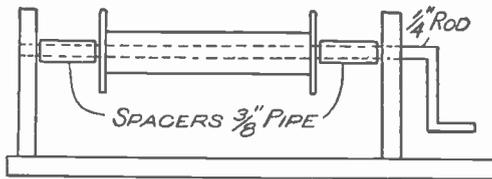


FIG. 3. COIL WINDER

with glue or thick shellac and slip on one or two rubber bands.

Two fiber pieces are now cut to the dimensions shown in Fig. 2, to slip on each end of the bobbin tube. Slip the two end pieces in place on the tube and make a large number of small cuts in the ends of the tube with a sharp knife and ream or turn back against the end pieces, securing with thick shellac or glue.

If a lathe is available the winding process will be greatly facilitated. Otherwise a very satisfactory arrangement can be improvised as shown in Fig. 3.

The secondary coil is first wound in place and consists of 246 turns of No. 14 gauge, double cotton covered copper wire. Nearly two pounds will be required.

Make a hole in one of the end pieces as shown at (A), Fig. 4, through which pass about eight inches of the No. 14 secondary wire. Cut also six pieces, each about ten inches long for taps. Proceed to wind the wire carefully and evenly up to the seventeenth turn. A tap is brought out here for two volts through a hole in the end piece at (B), Fig. 4. At the seventeenth turn, mark where the tap is to be attached, then unwind two turns and bare the insulation for half an inch. Push back the insulation at the end of one of the taps, and hammer the copper flat for an inch or so from the end, then twist this flattened end tightly around the bare copper of main winding and

solder in place. Bind carefully with tape, which should be varnished over with shellac. Be careful that the joint is thoroughly insulated.

At the 41st turn, another tap is brought out in the same manner for five volts, excepting that it is to pass out through the hole (C) in the end piece. At the 82nd turn another tap is brought out for ten volts, through the hole (D). At the 123rd, 164th and 205th turns taps are brought out through the holes (E), (F) and (G) in the opposite end piece, for 15, 20 and 25 volts. On the end piece should be marked above the taps the different voltages so there will be no confusion as to which tap is which. At the 246th turn, which will give a voltage

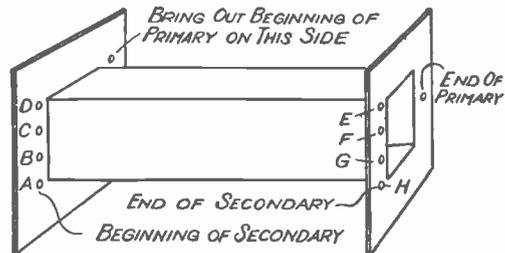


FIG. 4. BOBBIN READY FOR WINDING

of 30, the wire is then cut and about a foot brought out through the hole (H).

Each layer as completed should be varnished over with shellac. The insulation in the secondary must be thorough and without a break at any point.

As the primary winding is placed over the secondary, adequate insulation must be provided between the two windings. After shellacking the secondary, wrap a layer of cardboard or heavy wrapping paper around it, securing it with a couple of layers of tape well varnished over with shellac.

The primary winding is next applied, and may be wound in the same direction as the secondary. The primary consists of 900 turns of No. 23 gauge, double cotton covered wire which will weigh about a pound. Each layer as completed is to be varnished over with shellac. Make a hole in the bobbin end piece on the side just opposite to that on which

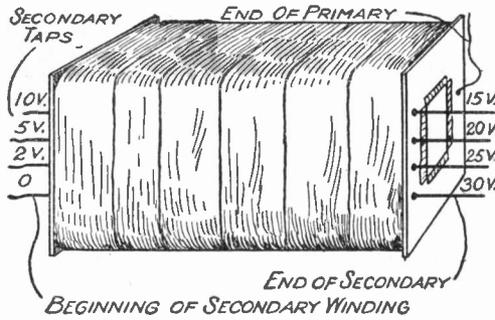


FIG. 5. WINDINGS COMPLETED

the hole (A), Fig. 4, was made. This is shown in Fig. 5. The end of the primary winding is brought out of the same side of the opposite bobbin end. Varnish over the last layer in the primary well with shellac, wind around two thicknesses of heavy wrapping paper and bind in place with a layer of tape well shellacked.

In mounting prepare a baseboard preferably of slate or asbestos of the dimensions given in Fig. 6, and a yoke by means of which the transformer is bolted down on the base and a switch. For the latter a piece of 1-16 inch phosphor bronze will serve best. For contact

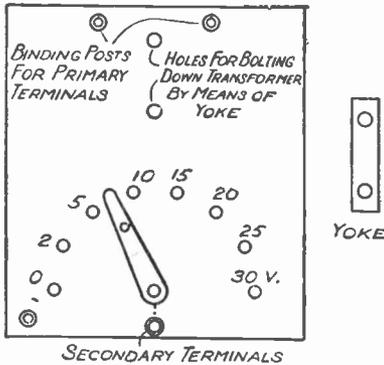


FIG. 6. SWITCH AND CONTACT POINTS

points the writer used brass headed paper fasteners to which the ends of the taps were soldered, on the under side of the baseboard. Four binding posts are placed on the baseboard, two for the primary and two for the secondary terminals. The switch and contact points are also shown in place in Fig. 6.

Now slide the bobbin on the core, with the taps on the side, as shown in Fig. 7. The ends of the laminations are bent half over, and half underneath the bobbin as shown in Fig. 8. Bend the strips one at a time, lapping the ends to make a good magnetic joint. Make sure and wedge the bobbin so it fits tightly on the core. The transformer is now bolted down tightly on the base, as in Fig. 9. Bore holes and cut grooves in the under side of the board for the connections.

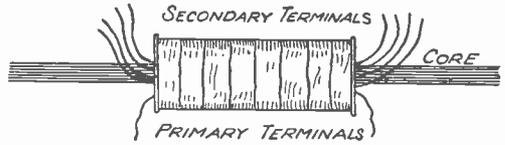


FIG. 7. BOBBIN MOUNTED ON CORE

The wiring scheme is shown in Fig. 10. Sliding the switch over the contact points will give a range of from 2 to 30 volts. The switch must not touch two contact points at the same time.

For service on a 220 volt circuit, the primary should consist of twice as many turns of smaller wire; that is, 1800 turns of No. 25 gauge with the same secondary. For 52 volts, with the same secondary windings, use 450 turns of No. 20 wire.

The writer has built and operated with complete success this 50 watt unit as de-

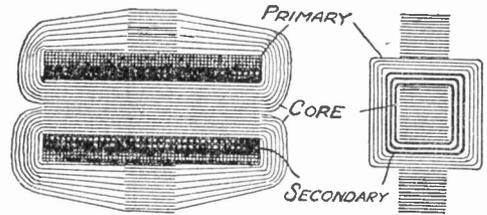


FIG. 8. CORE LAMINATIONS BENT OVER

scribed. The design is liberal and the transformer will stand a considerable overload. The primary connections are to be made direct to the supply mains without the use of any resistance or impedance. Possibly, some may desire other secondary voltages than those given. In this connection it should be

noted that about every eight turns in the secondary windings will give an electromotive force of one volt. Therefore any voltages may be arranged for by bringing out taps from the secondary at any desired multiple of eight turns.

Some may desire a larger transformer, and data is here given for a 100

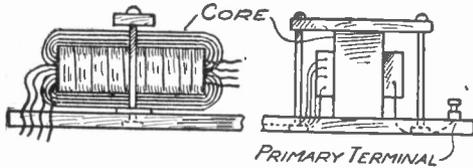


FIG. 9. TRANSFORMER BOLTED TO BASE

watt unit of the same type, the method of building being the same as already described.

The core laminations are to be cut 18 by 2 inches, and enough provided for a pile $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches high when pressed tightly together.

The bobbin should be six inches long. Make a wooden form six inches by two inches wide by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, on which the bobbin is constructed. Cut

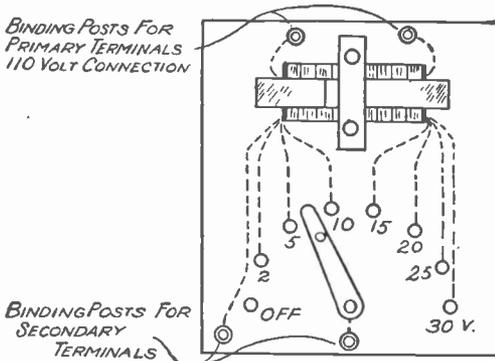


FIG. 10. WIRING SCHEME

the fiber or cardboard for the tube, $7\frac{1}{2}$ by 6 inches, making the lap or seam in the middle of one of the sides. The end pieces should be about $3\frac{3}{4}$ by $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The hole in the center of the end pieces, for the tube, is cut $1\frac{5}{8}$ by $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

The secondary consists of 138 turns of No. 10 double cotton covered wire, of which between two and three pounds

will be required. The No. 10 wire is very heavy and stiff, and it would be much easier to use two strands of No. 13 wire wound side by side. This will have practically the same carrying capacity as one strand of No. 10.

Taps should be soldered to both of the No. 13 wires and be brought out as follows:

At the 9th turn for two volts, at the 23rd turn for five volts, at the 46th turn for ten volts, at the 69th turn for fifteen volts, at the 92nd turn for 20 volts, at the 115th turn for 25 volts, at the 138th turn for 30 volts. About every five turns will give a secondary e. m. f. of one volt.

The primary winding consists of 500 turns of No. 20 double cotton covered wire wound over the secondary with adequate insulation between the two windings. Each layer of the primary as well as the secondary should be varnished over with shellac as wound. For other supply voltages, retaining the same secondary winding, the primary should consist of 260 turns of No. 17 gauge for a 52 volt circuit, 1,000 turns of No. 23 gauge for a 220 volt circuit.

A low voltage transformer is very convenient to operate small electrical toys and to ring bells. A late application is to have a small low voltage light mounted on the door casing so as to cast its rays on the keyhole. Such a light can be connected in parallel on the regular door bell circuit with a separate push button if a small step-down transformer is used on the bell circuit. A lamp of the same voltage as that supplied by the transformer must be used. The full arrangement is shown in Fig. 11.

Last Christmas the writer made a small switchboard with separate switches for lamps of each color, by means of which all the red lamps could be lighted at once, then the blue, the white, the green and the yellow, and finally any combination or all together. The effect was very pleasing. The wiring scheme is shown in Fig. 12. Regular fourteen

volt lamps connected together in parallel and supplied by a fourteen volt tap from a step-down transformer, were used. A separate line was run into the tree from each switch for the lamps of each color, and one common or neutral line was pro-

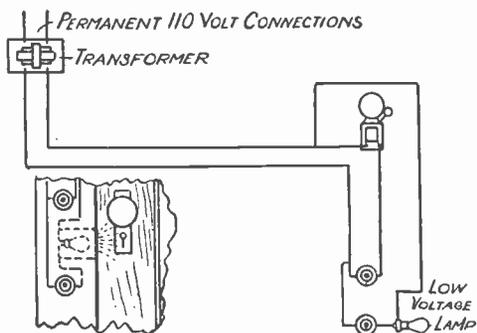


FIG. 11. TRANSFORMER USED AS BELL RINGER AND FOR LOW VOLTAGE LAMPS

vided to which the other terminals of all the lamps were connected.

Low voltage lamps will be found very convenient about the home, as in the dark room, the pantry, the closets, the cupboard, the refrigerator, in front of the alarm clock in the bedroom and on the sewing machine. If desired, a switch can be very easily arranged to switch on the light when a door is opened.

Bare the thick lead for about an inch at the ends of two drawing pencils. At the other ends cut two notches through

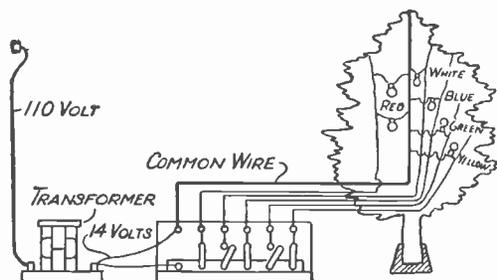


FIG. 12. TRANSFORMER USED FOR CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

the wood to the lead, attaching two pieces of bare copper wire about No. 16 gauge, being sure there is good contact between the copper and the graphite. Applying ten or fifteen volts pressure bring the points of the pencils together

and then withdraw them slightly. A dazzling arc will result. Twenty or 25 volts will consume the pencils rapidly.

Charges of powder, flashlight mixtures or explosive gases may be fired very safely with low voltage current. Use No. 32 iron wire, a spool of which may be obtained at any five or ten cent store. Run two No. 16 gauge wires from the transformer over to the powder, between the ends of which connect a piece of the iron wire two or three inches long. Imbed this in the powder to be fired, then move the switch over to the five or ten volt tap on the transformer and the small piece of iron wire will instantly fuse, igniting the powder.

Twist about two feet of No. 28 Calido wire around a piece of glass tubing, Fig. 13, to be bent, winding the coils close

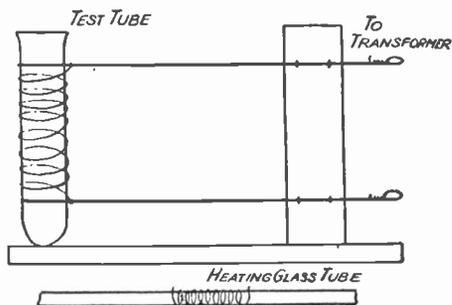


FIG. 13. HEATING A GLASS TUBE AND THE CONTENTS OF A TEST TUBE

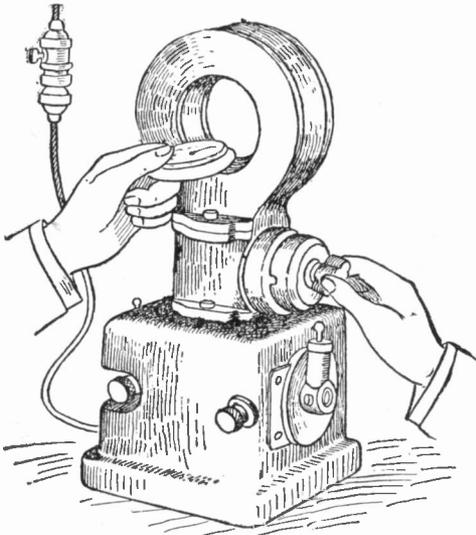
together. Apply about 25 volts, and if the glass does not become soft enough shortly, use the 30 volt tap, and if this does not do the work, shorten the heating element a turn or two. However, if the temperature is raised too high, the wire will simply fuse and melt at some point.

Take a test tube, Fig. 13, and twist around the top of it one end of a piece of bare No. 16 gauge copper wire about a foot long. Twist another piece around the bottom. Measure off about two feet of No. 28 Calido wire. Attach one end securely to one of the copper wires by twisting tightly several times. Then wind the Calido wire around the test tube, in a helix up to the other copper

wire to which the end is to be secured as shown in Fig. 13. Fill the tube with the fluid it is desired to heat, and connect to the transformer terminals. Twenty-five or 30 volts will soon bring the fluid up to the boiling point.

Watch Demagnetizers

Those who carry a watch while working about dynamos, motors or in electrical laboratories soon find their time-keeper inaccurate. The steel of the watch has been magnetized. To demagnetize it, the watch must be placed in a field of magnetic lines produced by alternating current and withdrawn

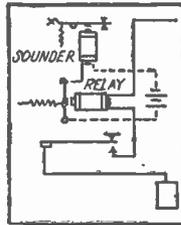


WATCH DEMAGNETIZER

slowly. The Green automatic demagnetizer shown in the accompanying illustration consists of a motor driven alternator that sends current back and forth around the coil at the top. The circular opening is thus filled with lines of force that change direction as often as the current alternates in the coil. By placing the watch at the center of the coil, starting the motor and slowly withdrawing the watch, it becomes demagnetized. The device is powerful enough to demagnetize a steel bar 4 by 2 by 2 inches.

Motor Operated Bell

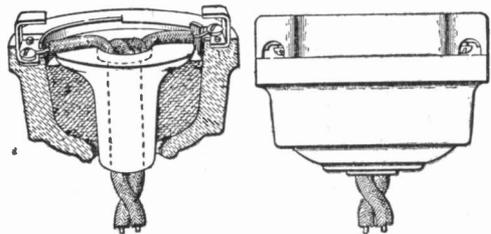
The Adnil Company of London is making an electric motor driven bell. It is intended to be used where a very loud sound is needed, as in factories, mines or rail-ways, and it is very useful as a fire alarm bell since the sound can be heard above the noise of the machinery. It is operated by the small ironclad motor



which is placed under the gong and the motor is very well protected from injury in this position. The "gigantic" bell, as it is called, is made to run either on direct or alternating current. The size of the gong is listed up to 20 inches diameter, but very large ones of a yard diameter are also made for special cases. The same firm has a gas and water tight bell in which the hammer rod is connected to the armature by means of a ball joint embedded in gasoline. This makes the connection quite tight and at the same time allows of an easy movement of the hammer. Such bells give a very loud sound.

Shock Absorber in a Rosette

A shock absorber as a part of an ordinary ceiling rosette from which incandescent lamps are suspended by drop cord is the subject of a patent issued to

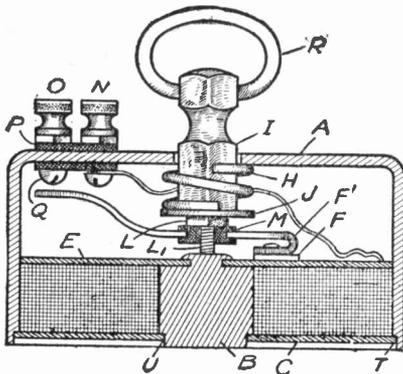


SHOCK ABSORBER

S. B. Paine, Newton, Mass. The cord from the circuit is tied in a knot in the top of a tubular plug which rests upon some elastic material, preferably felt, thus forming a cushion.

Electro-Magnet with Automatic Switch

The magnet here described consists of essentially two parts which when completely assembled form a very neat and practical instrument. The cut is actual size. The outside portion—cover and attachments—consists of a cup shaped shell (A) and a ring (R) fitted into a hexagonal shank (I), which can move up and down slightly, due to the elasticity of spring (H) surrounding (I). The spring is held in place by washer



SMALL ELECTRO-MAGNET

(J) and screw (L) which has a shank (L'). Two binding posts are arranged on the cup for connections as shown.

The electro-magnet is composed of a soft iron core (B) having a brass washer (C) riveted at (U) and a soft iron washer (E) riveted at (L'), the opposite end of core (B). The soft iron washer (F) supports a spring (F') which is insulated therefrom and has a hole pierced at (M). The tendency of this spring is upward. The space on core (B) between the brass washer (C) and the iron washer (E) is wound with No. 22 s.c.c. wire. Core (B) should be insulated by winding on a thickness of good wrapping paper before winding with the magnet wire. Paint the washers on the inside with a good insulating varnish or line with paper. Spring (H) is slightly more powerful than spring (F). The brass washer (C) is riveted to cup (A) at (T), which seals the de-

vice. The soft iron washer conducts the magnetism from core (B) to shell (A), which acts as one pole of the magnet, the core acting as the other pole.

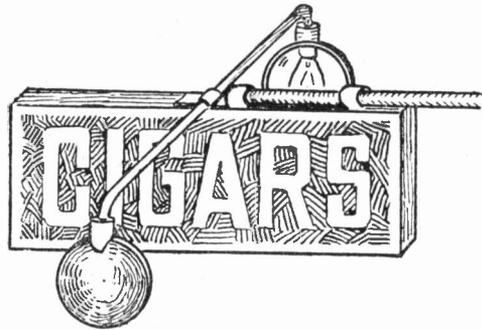
When the binding posts are connected to a suitable battery no action takes place until the device is lifted by handle (R), when the weight of the device acts against the spiral spring (H). At the same time spring (F) rises and makes contact at point (Q). This allows the current to pass from binding post (N), through connecting wire (G) to the coil and out of the coil at (S), through spring (F) and binding post (O).

The device thus acts as its own switch. If the experimenter wishes to lay it aside now and then while experimenting, it is not necessary to disconnect the batteries each time. The act of laying it aside breaks connections at (Q) and saves the batteries from useless discharging.

This device will lift several pounds on one dry cell.—CLARENCE HURLBUT.

A Homemade Electric Sign

A merchant in a small town, who was confronted with the problem of making his sign luminous without the expense

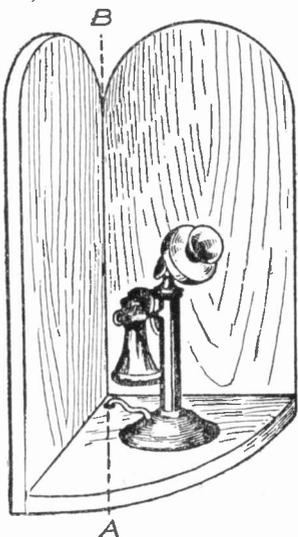


HOMEMADE ELECTRIC SIGN

of buying an electric one, solved the problem by fastening a piece of pipe crosswise over his sidewalk signboard and rigging up an electric bulb in a parabolic shade on either end of it. The light was thus directed upon his business announcement, which was rendered quite prominent.

Increasing a Telephone's Range of Usefulness

It sometimes happens that two people in adjoining offices desire to use the same telephone. If the partition be a light wooden one, this can be accomplished very easily by making use of a swinging shelf as illustrated in the cut. A small opening similar to a cashier's window is cut through, and the shelf is equipped with two sides which just fit into the opening. Both parties thus have the use of the same telephone, while at the same time both offices are entirely private and shut off from each other.

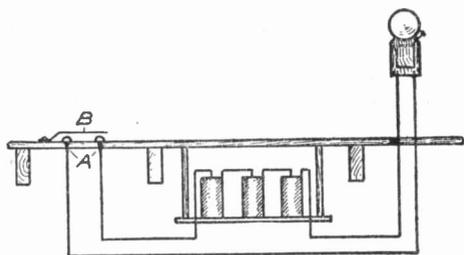


SWINGING TELEPHONE SHELF AND DOOR

A Floor Tread Switch

A simple and effective floor tread switch may be made cheaply in the following manner:

Bore two holes through the floor about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart, at a point where there



FLOOR TREAD SWITCH

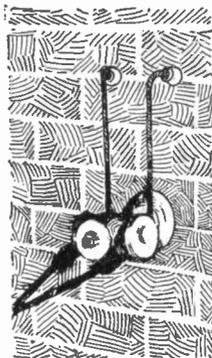
is the most wear from constant treading of persons coming in or going out the door. Next secure two flat headed brass

screws (A) long enough to go through the floor. To each of these fasten an end of copper wire. Tack a piece of tin (B) about 8 by 6 inches directly over the two screws, securing it only at one end as shown. Lay a light rug over the tin, place the bell in any desired position and the alarm is finished. Anyone opening the door and stepping into the hallway will readily be detected.

STANLEY HELVERSON.

Neat Fastening for Entrance Wires

Two porcelain insulators on wooden brackets are often provided to anchor a pair of wires where they enter a building. A deviation from this method is presented in the Universal insulator, consisting of a single piece of molded porcelain. Grooved knobs at right angles to the main body form a support for each wire and present a pleasing appearance.



ANCHOR FOR ENTRANCE WIRES

Electro-Plating on Glass and Porcelain

A new method of electro-plating upon glass, porcelain and the like, which is said to give very good results, is the invention of an Italian engineer, Q. Marino, and he obtains an adherent deposit of different metals on such surfaces.

In the first place, the surface of the glass is roughened in the sand blast, then it is covered with a paste made with dyrofluoric acid and a chloride or other salt of the metal which is to be deposited on the surface. Then the object is put in an electro-plating bath in order to receive a coating of the metal, the deposit taking place on the adhesive conductive paste.

Improvement in Moving Picture Machines

A very ingenious arrangement of a number of tungsten lamps of a special type has been proposed by a French investigator to replace the arc lamp for use with moving picture machines. The arc lamp is objectionable owing to the enormous amount of heat developed which

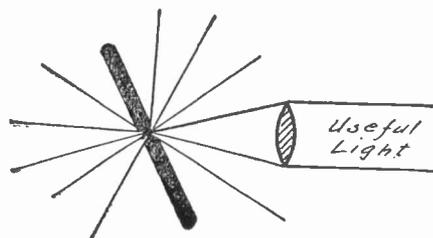


FIG. 1

often sets fire to the inflammable films, causing fatal panics in several cases. Aside from this danger there is a further objection, owing to the discomfort of the operator from the excessive heat. In order to clearly describe this proposed arrangement a brief outline of the optics of the subject must be indulged in.

With every arc lamp used in connection with moving picture machines there are a number of lenses. To us only one lens—the condenser—is of interest. This lens gathers the light rays and sends them in a bundle to the other lenses, as shown in Fig. 1 by the parallel lines. The amount of the total light depends on the solid angle subtended by the lens. Owing to the excessive heat, the lens must be kept at a considerable distance from the arc in order to avoid cracking the lens. It will be noted that the further away from the arc the lens is placed the smaller is the angle subtended, and therefore the less is the amount of light gathered by the condensing lens. In other words, a large amount of the total light is not made use of when the lens is at a considerable distance from the light source. In Fig. 2 is shown a special tungsten lamp of high candlepower, arranged with the condensing lens very

close to it. The lamp has a small spiral filament and has a bulb only a half-inch in diameter. It is at once evident that a much greater percentage of the total light is made use of in this case. There is no danger of the lens cracking because there is but little heat developed by the lamp.

The arrangement actually proposed is to place a large number of these special



FIG. 2

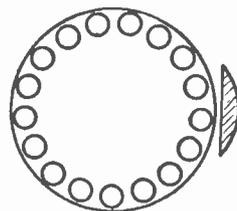


FIG. 3

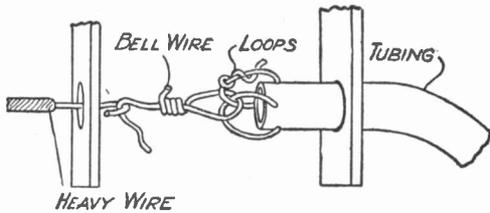
lamps on a wheel with the condenser located as shown in Fig. 3. The wheel is revolved so that a lamp is opposite the lens when a picture on the film is in proper position to be projected on the screen. The lamps are connected so that only the lamp in front of the lens is lighted. In order that the lamps will give a high candlepower they are burned at an excessively high voltage. Being burned only for very short intervals, the life of the lamps will be sufficiently long to warrant their use in this manner. A proper reflector behind the lamp increases the amount of useful light obtained from the lamp.

In ordinary moving picture machines about sixteen pictures are thrown on the screen per second, hence if there are sixteen lamps on the wheel, the latter must revolve once per second. While the arrangement has not yet been adopted, it shows great possibilities. It would decrease bills and add to the comfort of the operator and safety of the audience.

To straighten short wires lay one or two at a time upon a flat board and place another board upon them. Roll the top board back and forth, pressing down upon it.

For the Amateur Wireman

In wiring a house it is frequently necessary to run tubing through two consecutive timbers and sometimes these may be quite a distance apart. It may be easy to get at either side to bore the holes for the tubing, but if a hand hole



METHOD OF DRAWING TUBING THROUGH CONSECUTIVE TIMBERS

is not made, it is impossible to get the tubing started through the second hole. The illustration shows a very simple method by which it may be quickly done without tearing up boards or making unnecessary holes.

Two holes are made through the tubing at right angles to each other and just far enough from the end to prevent pulling out. Now thread a small piece of cleaned bell wire in one pair of holes, then through the other two and splice the two ends, leaving two small loops at right angles. Take another piece of wire of more than sufficient length to reach the second hole and stick through the two loops. Splice to itself, turning all ends backward so they will not catch on the hole. With the aid of a piece of heavy copper wire with its end cleaned and bent in a hook, the bell wire may readily be caught and pulled through. When the tubing reaches the hole, the small bell wire loops guide it into the hole.

Pliers Made from Fiber

For anyone that is called upon to remove "blown" cartridge fuses from circuits in difficult places, as from the back of switchboards or from any other live circuits where there is no switch to open the circuit while replacing a fuse, I

have found a pair of gas pliers made of fiber 5-16 inch thick just the thing. Such a tool is easily made after examining an ordinary pair of pliers, and the two parts may be riveted together with the rivet-holes countersunk and filled with shellac, sealing wax, etc.

The pliers come in handy around all live circuit work and their use in replacing a fuse in a circuit that has a "short" on it may save the owner a pair of burned fingers. ANTON PERTLE.

A Cheap Mellow Light

When the tungsten lamp appeared it was hailed as the beautiful white light. The efficiency of the tungsten lamp is about three times that of the old carbon lamp. In fact, the latest tungsten lamps give us one candlepower with an expenditure of only 1.2 watts, while the carbon lamp produces the same amount of light for an expenditure of over three watts. In order to produce certain æsthetic effects a more yellowish light is sometimes desired. Often there is a desire for a soft mellow light of a color approximating that of the inefficient carbon lamp. It is a mistake to install carbon lamps for this purpose, however, on account of their inefficiency.

Take a tungsten lamp and dip it into a coloring solution of the proper hue. A soft mellow light is thus obtained with an efficiency as high as 1.5 watts per candle. Lamps are easily colored by the use of gelatine. A small amount of gelatine is soaked in cold water, then boiled and strained through a cloth. An aniline dye of the desired color is now mixed in water and added to the solution and the lamp is dipped and allowed to cool.

A more satisfactory method is to use a celluloid solution. Take old photographic films and dissolve them in ether and alcohol of equal parts. The coloring solution is then added and the lamp is dipped. This latter method produces a coating which has the advantage of being impervious to water.

SCIENCE EXTRACTS FROM FOREIGN JOURNALS

REFINEMENT OF ELECTRICAL MEASUREMENTS

It would not be thought that a solution of 1-200,000,000th part of any substance in water would give any kind of an effect which could be measured, but even this exceedingly minute quantity was noted by M. Grumbach in some recent experiments which he made at Paris, according to his report to the Academy of Sciences. He made use of bichromate of potash in this case, and in order to detect it in the solution he devised an apparatus somewhat like a battery cell, with a pair of plates dipping in a liquid, but using two separate vessels connected together by a short tube, with a plate in each vessel. Both were filled with acid solution, and the bichromate in very small quantity was added to one vessel. By using a very sensitive instrument to measure the electrical effect, he found that he could still observe an action when the amount of bichromate was not more than above stated. From this it will be seen that our modern methods of measurement are becoming more exact than ever.—*Report of the Académie des Sciences, Paris.*

AGING CHEESE ELECTRICALLY

We have already heard of aging wines by electricity, but the newest idea is the aging of cheese. M. Gokkes of Rotterdam claims to be able to do this, and he takes fresh cheese and applies alternating current to it, using a high voltage of about 10,000 volts. The cheese is put in a receptacle which corresponds to its shape, but it is not tightly enclosed as it is found that the air should act on the cheese at the same time that the current is passing. It takes only a short time, about 24 hours, to carry out the process, and the cheese is said to have all the properties of naturally-aged cheese.—*La Nature, Paris.*

POWER FROM THE OCEAN WAVES

Every now and then we hear of projects for getting electricity from the sea, that is of using the waves so as to operate plants for producing current. There is nothing impossible of course in the idea of using the great force of the waves, and it only remains to find a happy idea for doing this. An Italian officer, Col. Agostino Ravelli, claims to have done this, and his patents are to be put in practice by a Milan company which was formed not long since. The idea is to make some experimental machines on a large enough scale to prove that the plan is a feasible one and then it will not be hard to get capital engaged in the scheme.—*Industrial Italian.*

PROPOSED LONDON POSTAL SUBWAY

An interesting project is the new postal subway for London, and it seems likely that it will be carried out, as an official commission has been looking up the matter and made a favorable report on the question not long ago. The engineers think that a small subway tunnel with trains of cars for carrying only the sacks of mail matter can be run without trouble, and this will take a good part of the mail traffic off the streets, which are already overcrowded. A tube will be laid, six or seven feet in diameter, so as to hold two tracks of two-foot gauge for the small mail cars. These are to be small motor cars built like a subway car in miniature, and will run at 40 miles an hour. But they are to run automatically without needing a motorman. It is claimed that 36,000 mail bags an hour can be transported in this way. Probably a line of some length will be run in the first place in order to try it, and then if all works well the different postoffices throughout the city will be connected in this way.—*Industrie Electrique, Paris.*

NAPLES DEEP RUNNING SUBWAY

Naples is to have a line of electric subway, according to the present plans. It will run across the city and thus bring the different quarters within easy reach of each other. What will make the new subway unique in some places is that it is to run about 500 feet below ground, especially when under the elevated heights of Vomero, overlooking the sea. Electric elevators will be needed in quite a number of the stations in this part of town so as to bring passengers to the surface. Near the city limits, the subway will make connection with the electric line which is now running in the neighborhood of Vesuvius, and at the other end it will be continued by a suburban tramway line which runs for some distance into the country. Laid out on about the same lines as the Paris Metropolitan, the Naples subway will have a double track tunnel, with trains of four cars in general. The cost of the work is estimated at \$6,000,000.—*Genie Civil, Paris.*

ELECTRIC CARS OF ALUMINUM

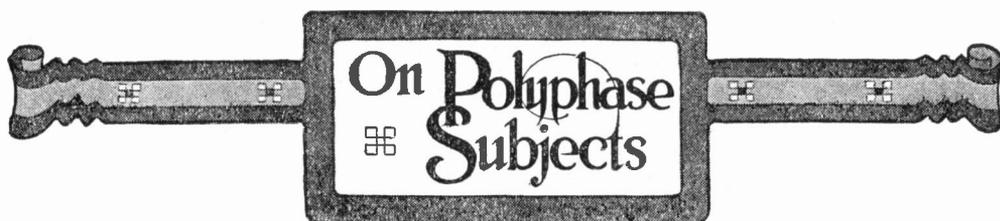
One of the Swiss electric tramway companies is commencing to build its cars of aluminum, at least a good part. One reason for using this metal is that the weight of the car is much lessened and another point is that the painting of the car lasts much longer. It was found that cars built with iron plates soon showed rusting, and the paint suffered much from this. In Zurich, where the new method is being tried, this is an important point, as the cars are painted in a light color. In the first place the metal was used for the roofs of the cars, and the result was so good from the absence of rust that it was decided to go further and to use it for the body covering of the car and part of the flooring. A metal known as dura-aluminum is used here, and it has a small amount of copper added so as to make it harder.—*L' Electricien, Paris.*

CENTRAL STATION POWER IN TIME OF STRIKES

A somewhat curious point about the English coal strike is that it is likely to have a good effect on the electrical industry, and this in an indirect way. Factories in several of the large centers had to shut down for want of coal, but on the other hand the factories which were fitted with electric motors were able to keep on running as usual. This is due to the large coal supplies which the electric stations took care to store up before the strike, so that they had enough coal to keep them running for three months. As a result, it is very likely that the other manufacturers will be led to subscribe for a current supply and this will naturally benefit the central stations and the electrical industry in general.—*Industrie Electrique, Paris.*

WIRELESS FROM AIRSHIPS

Considerable progress is being made in sending wireless messages from airships in Germany. Among the leading workers is F. Eckelmann, chief engineer of the "Albatros" aeronautic establishment, and he is now able to send and receive at distances up to 100 miles. Instead of his first storage battery, which proved to be very heavy, he now uses a small dynamo which is run by the airship motor. It was found that the heavy copper wire of 300 feet length hanging down from the airship caused a bad effect from its swinging, and rocked the airship, so that now he uses an antenna made up of jointed sections of 30 feet each and finds this to be much better. It is hung down from the fore end and has a lead ball fastened below so as to weight it. Using his wireless apparatus, he is able to work with the land stations when flying as high as 2,000 feet and claims that he can go much higher without any trouble. The whole of the wireless outfit is made very light, and does not go above 70 pounds.—*L' Electricien, Paris.*



On Polyphase Subjects

The Dignity of the Wireless

Whatever may have been the status of wireless telegraphy before the Titanic disaster, its place is now clearly and definitely marked. Every ship upon the sea and upon the lakes should be compelled by governmental authority to carry duplicate sets of high efficiency. These should be upon the topmost part of the boat, one forward and one aft, and provided with an adequate storage battery reserve to furnish current to the last. Trained and reliable men—not youths—should be the operators, and at least one of them should be constantly on watch day and night. To these men salaries should be paid commensurate with one of the most important duties on board. The wireless equipment on a ship is no longer to be considered as a convenience to business men and as a means of getting out a chatty newspaper for the entertainment of the passengers. It takes its place at once with the elaborate and costly systems of railroad signaling—a lifesaving proposition.

It is true that hundreds went down with the Titanic. But hundreds were also saved and the wireless deserves the credit. Only by the merest chance could a passing ship have saved the shivering, water-soaked passengers on the lifeboats, before the terrible exposure had made an end of them. Wireless brought the help. Thanks to wireless, the lifeboat must once more be considered a necessity on the great ocean liner, instead of a matter of sentiment assumed by steamship companies, who thought their floating palaces unsinkable.

Another instance, demonstrating the great practical value of wireless telegraphy to maritime interests, recently oc-

curred on the Pacific. On March 23, the S. S. Enterprise sailed from San Francisco, bound for Hilo in the Hawaiian Islands. Two days out, the sudden breaking of the tailshaft, at one o'clock in the morning, rendered the steamer helpless. This happened when she was 300 miles from land, and no ship was in sight, with bad storms prevalent.

The Enterprise is equipped with a Marconi wireless system, and Operator J. B. Taylor immediately began to flash the wireless distress signal, "S. O. S." He soon got a response from the Marconi wireless station in San Francisco.

The president of the steamship company was at once communicated with, and, from the information given him regarding the position of the Enterprise, he knew that the liner Lurline, homeward bound from Hawaii, 300 miles from the Enterprise, could reach her more quickly than a tug sent from San Francisco. Operator Taylor was advised and began calling for the Lurline. He very shortly picked her up, and she immediately started at full speed to the rescue of the distressed steamer. At three o'clock in the afternoon of March 27, the Lurline, proudly leading her captive, safely reached the harbor of San Francisco.

Before the day of the wireless, the accident to the Enterprise would have resulted very seriously. About eleven or twelve days would have elapsed before the non-arrival of the liner attracted attention. Furthermore, a month or two would possibly have gone by before steamers sent in search would be able to locate her. In the meantime, those on board the drifting steamer would suffer severe hardships, while underwriters and

owners, shippers and consignees, as well as the relatives and friends of the missing ones, would be put to much expense and be burdened with extreme worry.

With instances such as these, and that of the "Republic," wireless telegraphy has assumed a position of dignity—of downright necessity—in navigation.

There is fuss and worry and talk about legislation restricting amateur operators—congressional committees, half a dozen pending bills, visiting delegations to Washington and all that. Such legislation is trivial compared with real legislation regarding this broader and far more vital aspect of the wireless question. Legislative bodies of this and other countries should see to it that laws are passed requiring not simply a wireless set on every ship, but one that will work well enough, reach out far enough and be sufficiently well manned to accomplish everything that such a method of signaling and receiving signals can be made to accomplish.

At Gothenburg, Sweden, the coal for household use costs the consumer about

Electric Heating in Swedish Homes	\$5.22 per ton delivered and
	firewood sawed and split,
	delivered and piled in the wood cellar, costs roughly

	\$10.00 per cord, and wood
--	----------------------------

is the fuel most generally used for heating, despite its high cost. Most of the city's population of 170,000 live in apartment houses and tenements and in all these buildings tile stoves designed to burn wood have been built into almost every room.

It is said that the heat that these tile stoves give off is pleasant and the economy of fuel consumption is surprising. They require a minimum of care and attention. A wood fire is started in the morning and allowed to burn down to coals, whereupon all the dampers are tightly closed, confining the heated air and gases to the long winding flues that fill the interior of the stove and bringing the whole to a temperature such that it

radiates no small amount of heat. The radiating surface is large, as the stoves usually extend from floor to ceiling and the heat from a single firing is retained for twelve to fifteen hours.

Now that electricity is becoming so cheap in that country owing to the great development of water power, electric heaters are used in these porcelain stoves in order to take advantage of their heat-retaining properties. Portable electric heating elements are inserted in the ordinary combustion chamber and produce during the night sufficient heat to last throughout the following day.

It is stated that the total water power of Sweden is 10,000,000 horsepower for six to nine months of the year, and 2,500,000 horsepower for three months, during the low water period. Of this total 75 per cent is in North Sweden. About 1,000,000 horsepower is now being utilized in Sweden, half of which is hydro-electric power. In some cities the rates range as low as 1.07 to 1.61 cents a kilowatt hour day use and even as low as .54 cent for electric heating current used at night.

Some recent experiments on the light emitted by a firefly which is found in India seemed to show that the light was of the nature of X-rays. Three of the insects were placed on top of a photographic plate-

The Firefly's "X-Ray" Light

holder which contained a sensitized plate. Although there was interposed between the insects and the plate the plateholder slide of hard rubber, there was a photographic action on the plate. The action not only showed immediately under the insects, but affected the whole plate. While there may be some error in the experiments, the evidence points to the radiation from fireflies of that species at least as being of a penetrating nature like X-rays. All other experiments seem to show that the radiation from the firefly is no different than ordinary yellow-green light.



Teacher—Who was the first electrician?
 Pupil—Noah. He made the arc light on Mount Ararat.

* * *

On one of the most prominent street corners of Victoria, B. C., two Englishmen were deeply engrossed in conversation.

A trolley car had turned the corner, stopped for some passengers to alight, and started off again, when a man turned the corner on the run and boarded the moving car.

The Englishmen looked at each other in amazement.

“My word! Did you see him run?” one remarked.

“The blooming ass!” replied his companion. “I wonder if he didn’t know there was another car in 20 minutes.”

* * *

Rook—Taylor was always a fortunate man, but doesn’t it seem wonderful that his luck should stay with him to the very last?

Raleigh—How was that?

Rook—Why, he was operated on for the removal of a pearl which he had accidentally swallowed while eating oysters, and when the pearl was examined it was found to be valuable enough to pay for both the operation and the funeral.

* * *

A Yankee clinched his heated argument with an Englishman as to the relative size of the Thames and Mississippi by saying:

“Why, look here, mister, there ain’t enough water in the whole of the Thames to make a gargle for the mouth of the Mississippi.”

* * *

Corporal (to soldier reporting sick)—What’s the matter with you?

Tommy—Pain in my abdomen.

Corporal—Abdomen! Abdomen, indeed! You don’t ’ave no abdomen; you ’ave a stomach. It’s only orficers what ’as abdomens.

* * *

“Here’s a nickel,” said a thrifty housewife to a tramp at the door. “Now, what are you going to do with it?”

“Well, mum,” replied the hungry man, “if I buy a touring car, I sha’n’t have enough left to pay my chauffeur; if I purchase a steam yacht, there won’t be enough left to defray the cost of manning her; so I guess, mum, I’ll get a schooner and handle her myself.”

One day in a crowded New York car—mostly all women—a man gave up his seat in due and ancient form, whereat the pretty maiden exclaimed, “You’re a jewel.” “No, madam,” cried the man, “I’m a jeweler. I set jewels.” The incident is now famous among the wise in Gotham.

* * *

Standing in the middle of the car tracks at the corner of Broadway and Twenty-ninth street, a much frustrated lady asked the traffic policeman where she could get a car to South Ferry. “Stand still, madam,” was the reply.

* * *

Fond Mother—To be quite frank, doctor, the poor girl has been eating her heart out.

Doctor—Ah, that’s very imprudent. I’ll have to order a change of diet.

* * *

Dugan, the roofer, was sent to a millionaire’s palatial home, to try to find a leak in the roof. As he entered the front hall, the butler whispered to Dugan:

“You are requested to be careful of the hardwood floors as you go upstairs, they’ve just been polished.”

“Sure, there’s no danger av me slippin’ on thim,” Dugan replied. “Oi hov spikes in me shoes.”

* * *

An Irishman was called upon to give evidence in a shooting affray.

“Did you see that shot fired?” asked the magistrate.

“No, sor; but I heard it,” replied the witness.

“That is not satisfactory. Step down.”

As the Irishman turned to go, he laughed, and was rebuked by the magistrate, who told him it was contempt of court.

“Did yez see me laugh?”

“No; but I heard you.”

“That is not satisfactory.”

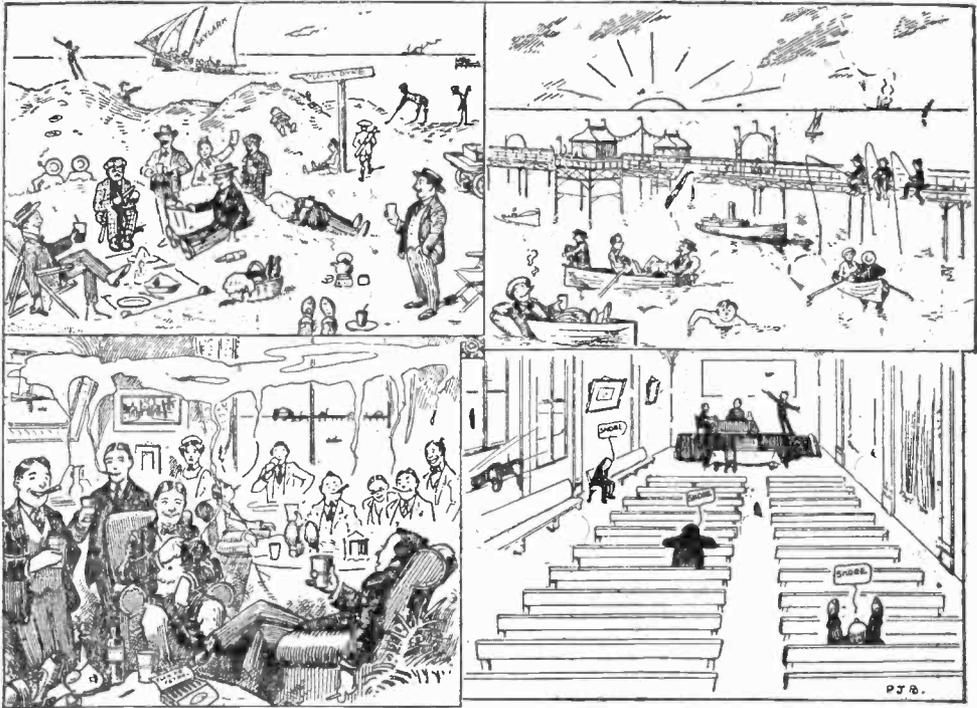
And then the court laughed.

* * *

The teacher had asked the children to write their autobiographies, and the essays were very materialistic.

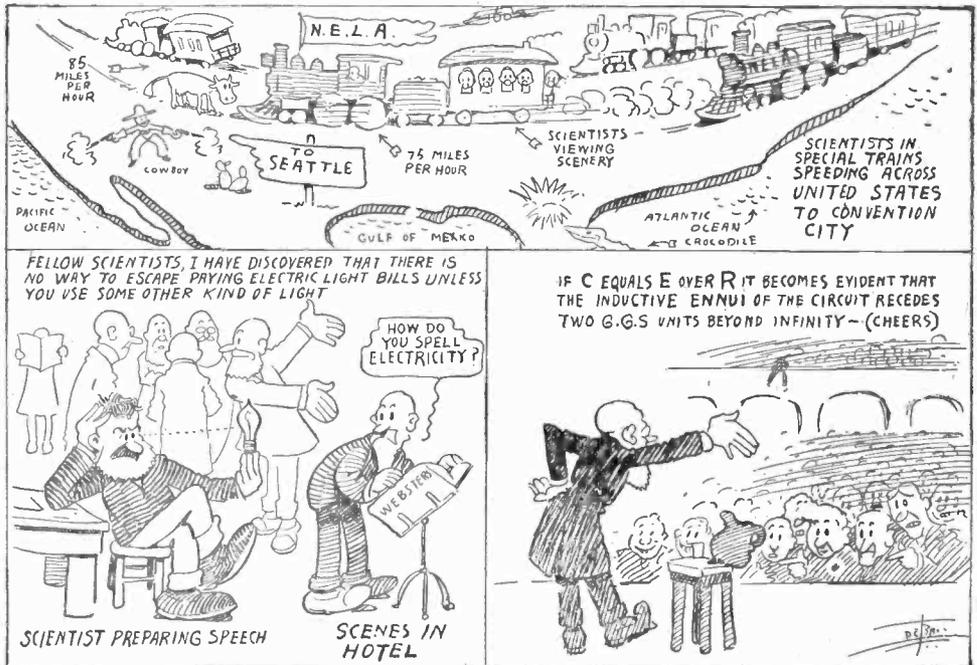
“Now, children,” she said, “I don’t want you simply to write the happenings of your life; write what you really feel inside.”

Little Willie, in his second attempt, wrote: “Inside I feel a heart, liver, lungs and stomach, and inside the stomach I feel an apple, a corn ball, a pickle and a glass of milk.”



From *Electrical Industries*, London

Above is a London cartoonist's idea of an electrical convention and below is our cartoonist's conception. Neither one claims ever to have been at an electrical convention.



Common Electrical Terms Defined

In this age of electricity everyone should be versed in its phraseology. By studying this page from month to month a working knowledge of the most commonly employed electrical terms may be obtained.

PARAFFINE.—A wax used in condensers and other electrical apparatus as an insulator. It is made by distillation from cannel coal, coal tar, or petroleum.

PEAK OF LOAD.—The greatest load an electric power plant is called upon to carry during any given period.

PENDANT PULL SWITCH.—A switch usually installed in a fixture or upon the ceiling and operated by successive pulls of a cord.

PERMANENT MAGNET.—A bar of steel which has been magnetized and which retains its magnetism after the magnetizing force has been removed.

PERMEABILITY.—A term applied to the ease with which a magnetizing force such as a magnet or a coil of wire carrying current can impart magnetism to another material or body, which accordingly is said to be more or less permeable.

PERMEAMETER.—An apparatus invented by Silvanus P. Thompson for roughly measuring permeability.

PHASE.—In alternating current the electromotive force and current each pass many times a second from a zero value (O_1) to maximum (+), then back to zero (O_2), then to the negative maximum value (—) and thence back to zero (O_3), as shown by the diagram. This complete set of values is called a cycle and the time taken to complete a cycle is a period. When a cycle is taken as a unit, the phase is the portion of the cycle completed, as expressed by the time elapsed of the part of a cycle completed, divided by the total time of the cycle or a period. Thus assuming any given point in these changing values, as (O_1), the illustration shows the portions of a period which may be designated as $\frac{1}{4}$ phase, $\frac{1}{2}$ phase, $\frac{3}{4}$ phase, etc.

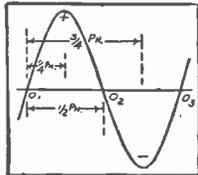


Diagram of an Alternating Current Wave

PHASE DETECTOR.—An instrument for determining when two alternators running in parallel are producing currents of the same phase.

PHOTOMETER.—An apparatus for finding the intensity of light given by a luminous source.

PILOT LAMP.—An incandescent lamp connected to the circuit of a dynamo so as to show the building up of the voltage by its brightness when the machine is started.

PLATE CONDENSER.—A condenser in which glass upon which tinfoil is pasted is used.

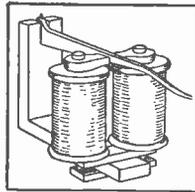
PLATING BATH.—The solution from which by

electricity metal is taken and deposited upon articles suspended in it. (See Electroplating.)

PLUNGER.—A movable iron rod or bundle of soft iron wires within a solenoid or coil of wire. When current is passed through the wire the plunger is drawn into the coil.

POLARIZATION.—When a cell or battery of cells is connected to produce current it is found that the strength of the current falls off after a few minutes and may even stop. This effect is due to the collection of hydrogen bubbles on the plate to which the current is flowing in the cell. The hydrogen bubbles are electro-positive and set up a counter electromotive force and are also bad conductors and offer resistance. This action of the cell is termed polarization, for which various remedies are applied.

POLARIZED RELAY.—A relay in which the two coils are mounted on one pole of a permanent magnet. When no current flows through the two coils their cores have the same polarity as the pole of the magnet to which they are attached. The tongue between has an opposite polarity and is attracted to one or the other of the coil cores. If a current is passed through the coils their cores immediately become of opposite polarity and the tongue is repelled by one core and attracted by the other. If now a current be sent through the coils in the opposite direction the tongue flies to the other side. A properly made polarized relay is highly sensitive. (See cut.)



Polarized Relay

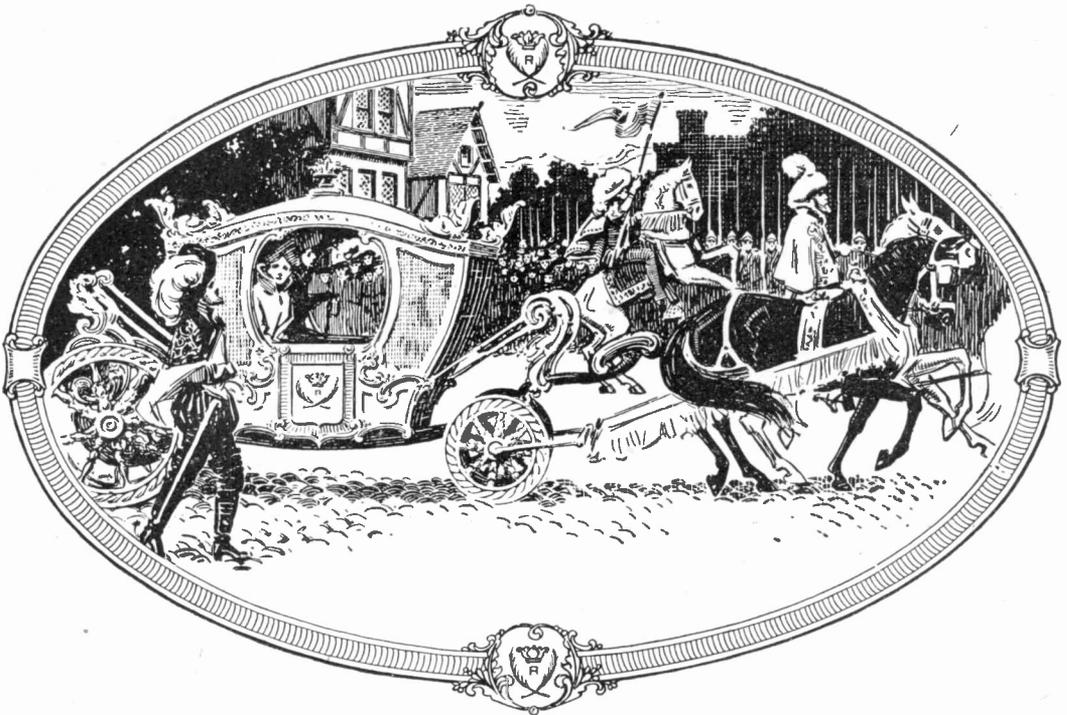
POLE PIECES.—The extension of the cores of the magnets of a dynamo, motor or other device depending upon the lines of force from the pole extensions for operation. Pole pieces are so shaped as to give proper distribution of the lines of force.

POLE TIPS.—The extreme ends of the pole pieces of a field magnet.

POROUS CUP.—A cup of unglazed earthenware used in voltaic cells to separate two liquids and yet allow action. The Daniell and the Grove cells are examples of this type of cell.

POSITIVE ELECTRICITY.—An arbitrary name applied to the kind of electricity with which a piece of glass is charged when rubbed with silk.

POSITIVE PLATE.—In a voltaic cell having a zinc and copper plate it is the zinc plate. The plate from which current flows in the cell.



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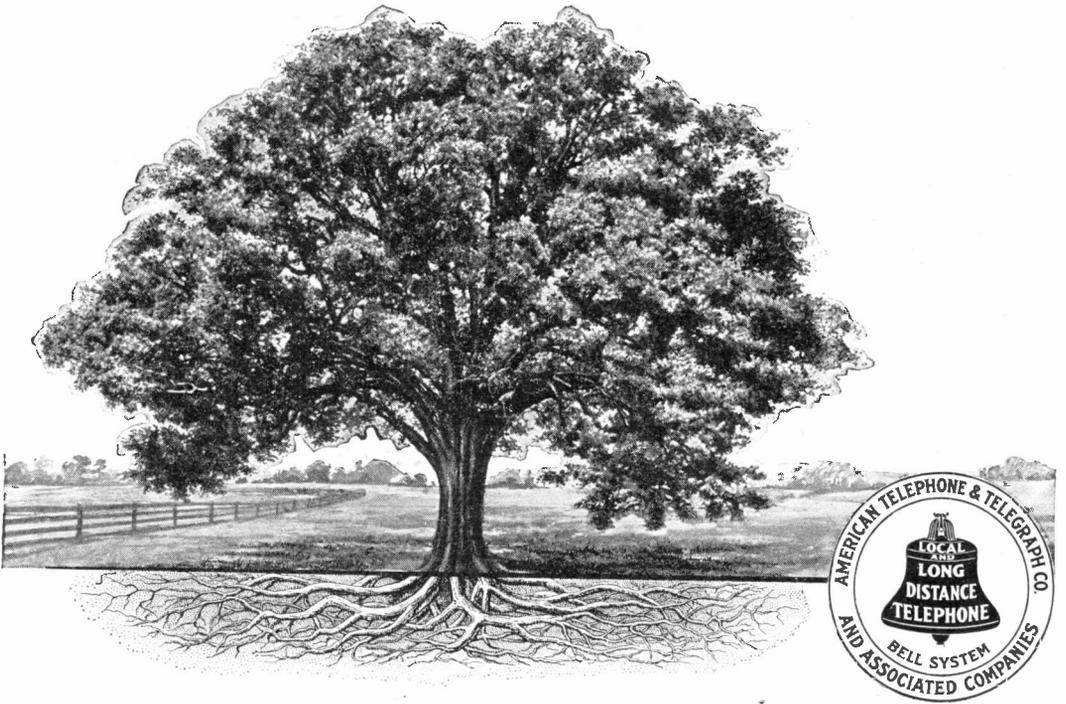
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It is more than the vast machinery of communication, covering the country from ocean to ocean. Every part is alive, and each gives additional usefulness to every other part.

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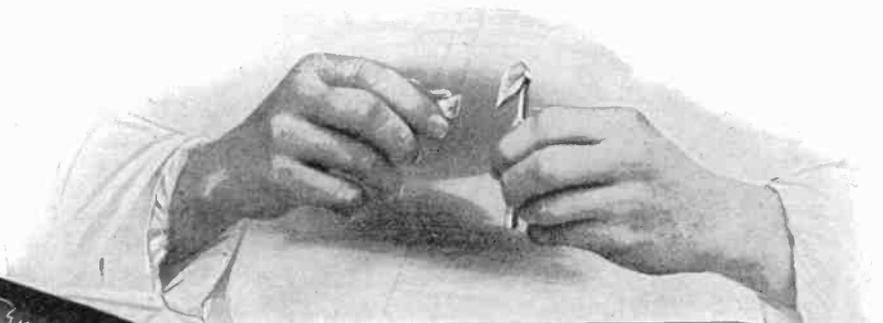
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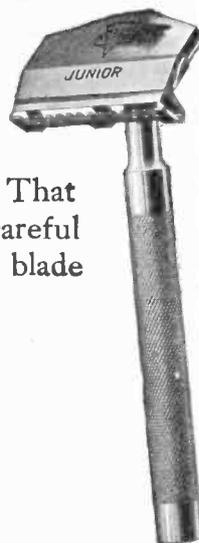
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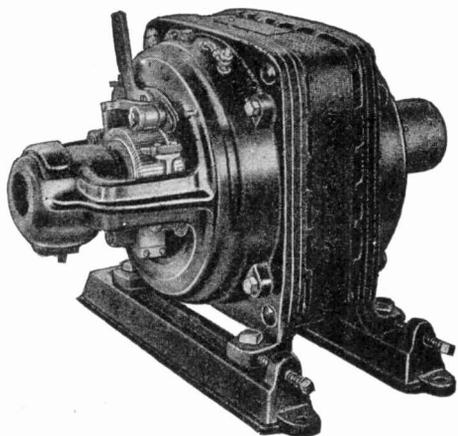
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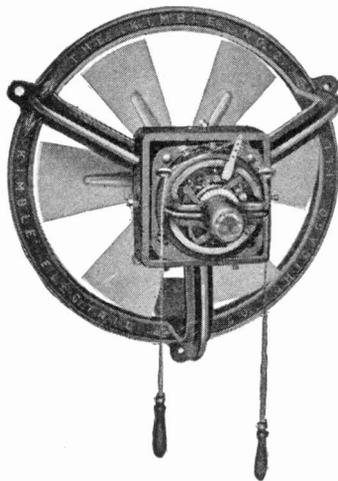
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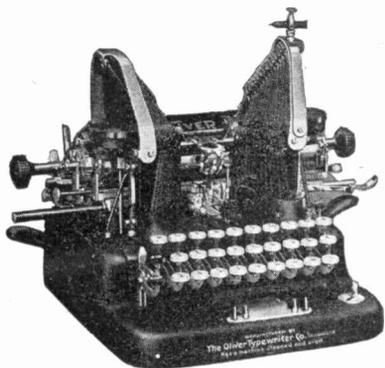
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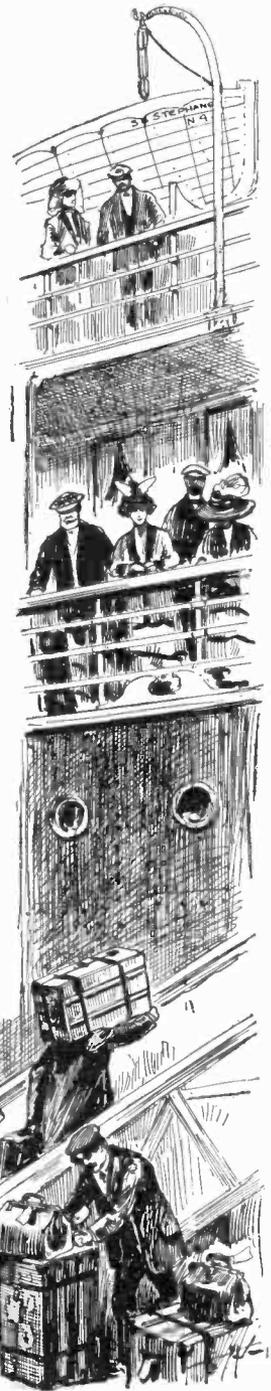
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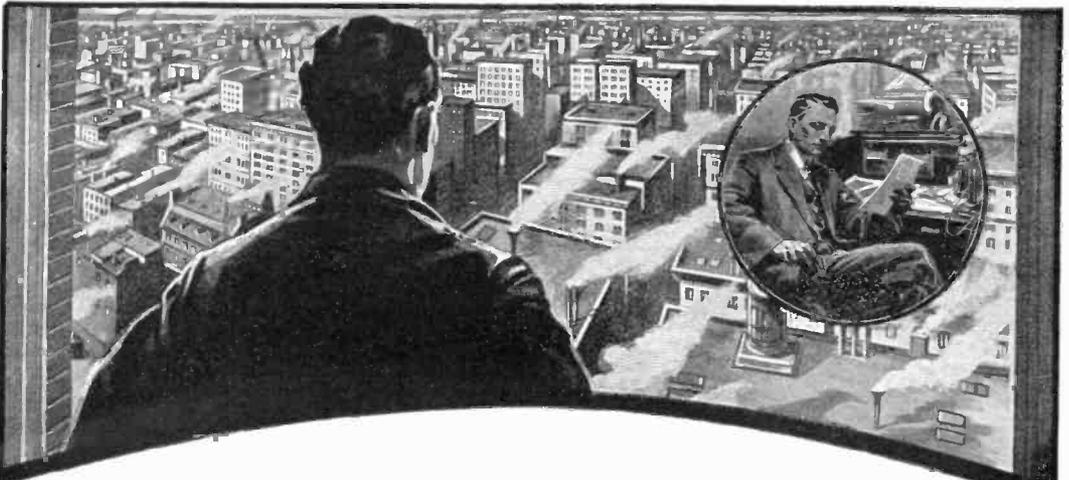
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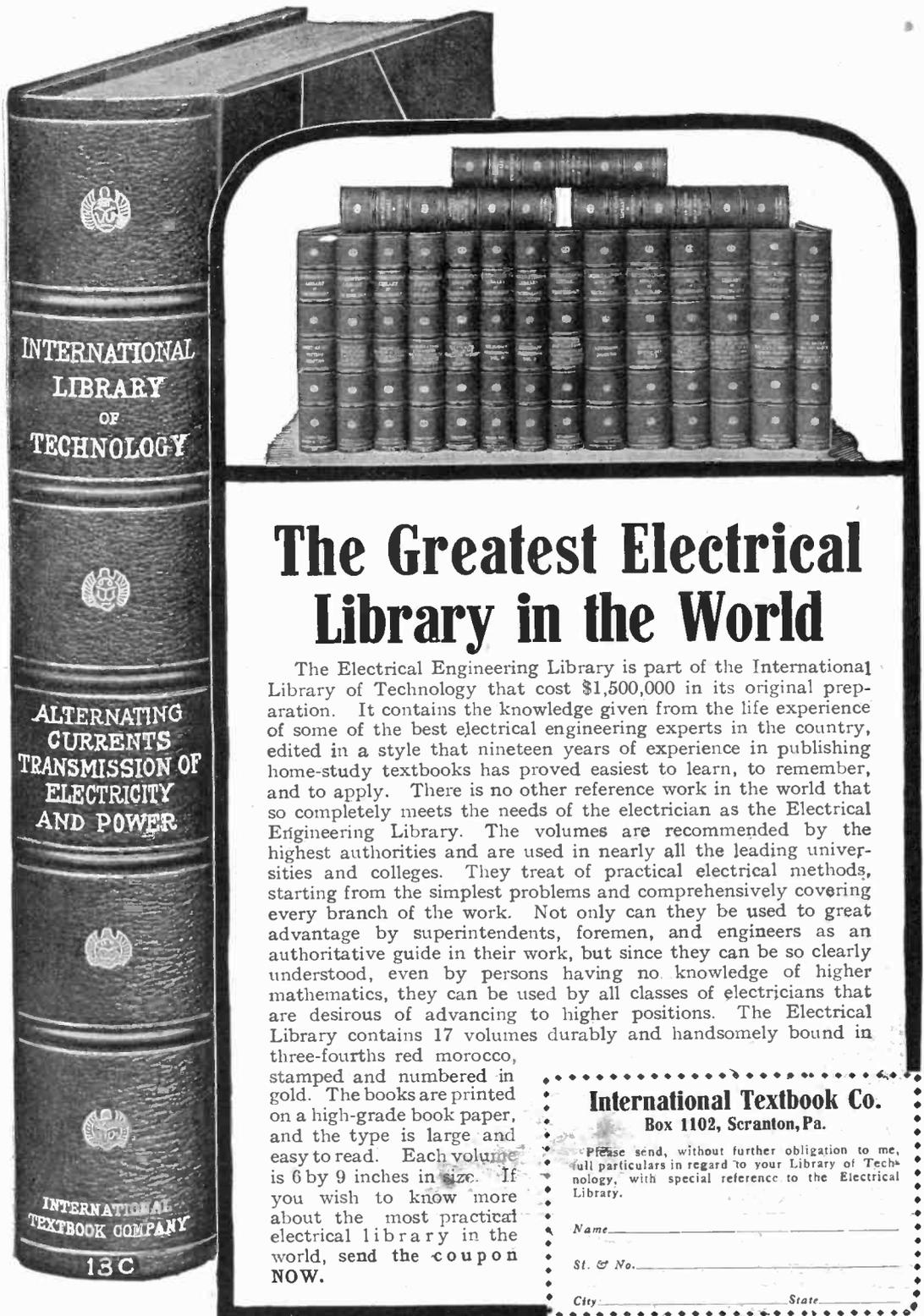
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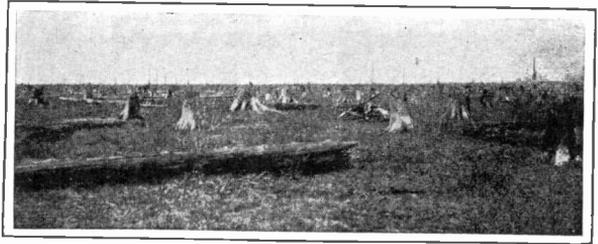
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This land is surely going to increase wonderfully in value. The 37th Annual State Board Report says it's the natural home of the cherry—a superb apple country—and so perfectly adapted to berries and grapes they grow RANK. I'll send you a copy and let you read the SCIENTIFIC reasons why our soil and climate combine to produce "better growth of vegetation" than land you'd be glad to pay five times as much for—if you could get it.

DON'T RESIST—WRITE

Get the details—and get them now—while my terms on twenty to forty acres are as low as \$10 down and 12½c an acre, monthly. Find out from my references, including banks and governors, I am a man you can do business with safely—a man who does not exaggerate—who in fourteen years has never foreclosed a mortgage—a real estate owner who does not take advantage of the law's consent to gouge or grind, but who plays fair, practices the Golden Rule—and makes it pay.

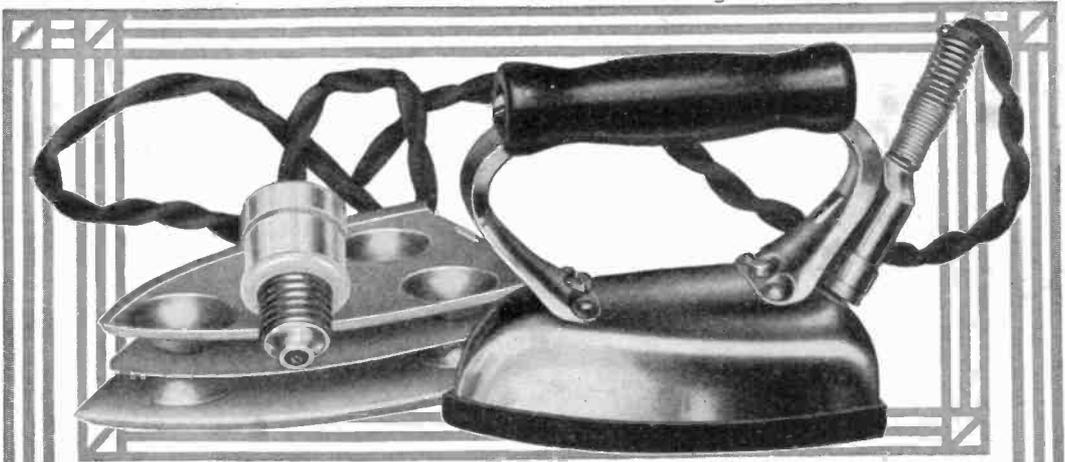
Let me show you the road to Independence—write me NOW. Agents wanted.



The Result—Independence

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For our Mutual Advantage mention Popular Electricity when writing to Advertisers.



You Cannot Judge the Westinghouse Electric Iron By the Use of Any Other Electric Iron

MANY women who have discarded other electric irons make the mistake of putting all electric irons in the same class.

The Westinghouse Electric Iron is the one absolutely dependable electric iron. You get an iron-clad guarantee with it. If anything whatever happens to it you get a new iron without question.

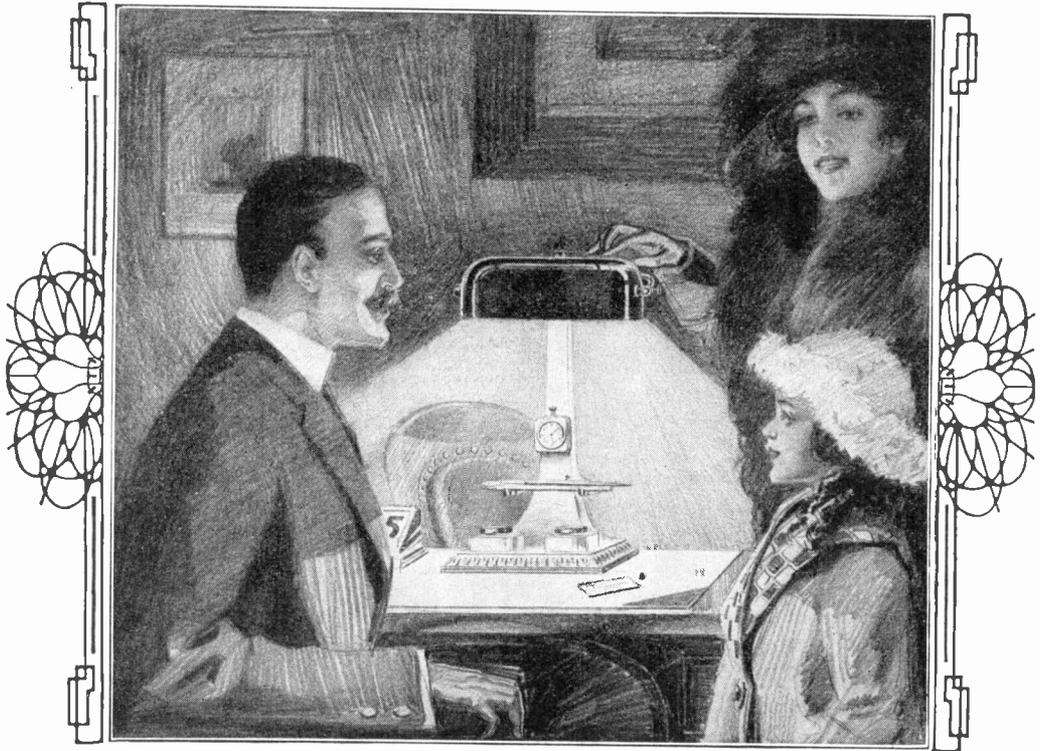
Experienced laundresses will tell you that the smooth, *natural* ironing surface is by far the best. That is what you get in the Westinghouse Iron. No imperfections that have to be covered by nickel plating.

We want your name if you have electricity in your home. We want to tell you all the good points of the Westinghouse Iron and tell you how we protect each purchaser of the iron. Write "Westinghouse Household Dept. F, East Pittsburgh, Pa."

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Here Is Just the Desk Lamp You Have Wished for

This rich and substantial looking Desk Lamp will add not only to the attractive appearance of your desk, but it will help you to do your work better. The soft emerald green glass of the shade relieves the eyes from strain, while the opal lining concentrates the maximum of light just where it is most needed, leaving the eyes in restful shadow. The lamp is equipped with a watch, an inkstand base, two covered ink wells and a pen rack.

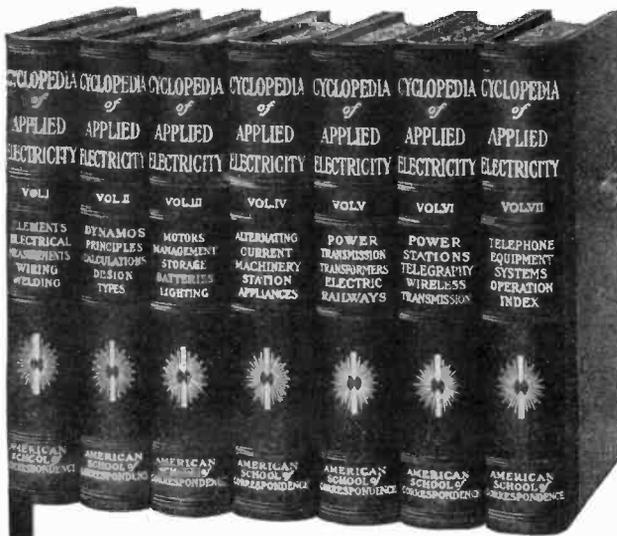
Save Your Eyes from Strain

Most desk lamps are very tiring on the eyes—this Desk Lamp is a protection to your eyes. It is equally desirable on your office desk or in your study at home. Beautiful in design and staunch in construction, it will last indefinitely.

This lamp stands 17 inches high and is finished either in Old Brass with green relief, or in Statuary Bronze with green relief. The shade is adjustable by a simple and efficient clamp at the right end, which holds it securely at any desired angle.

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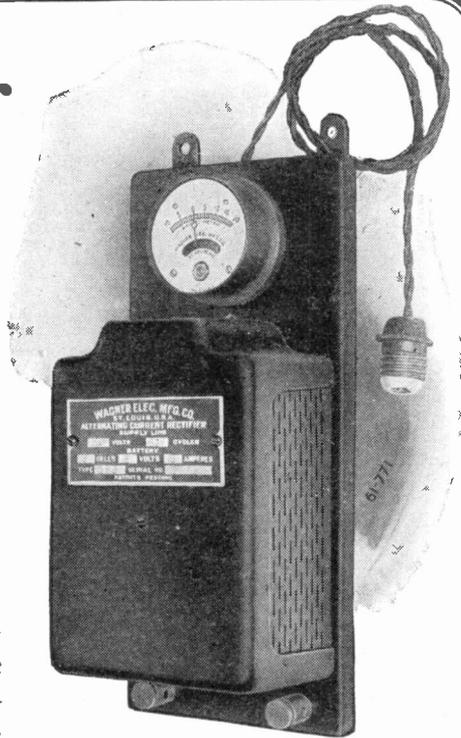
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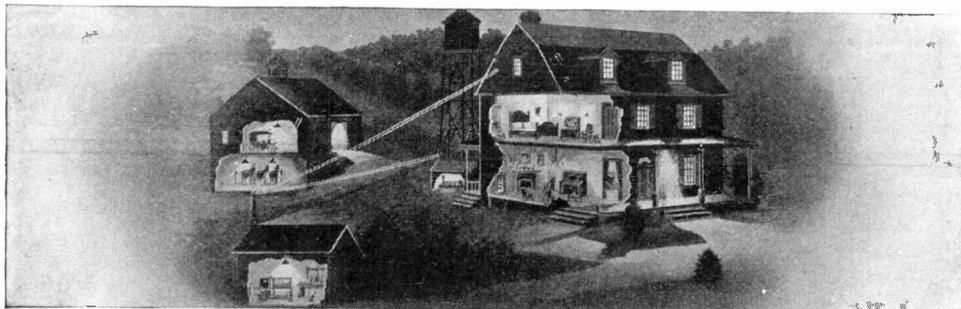
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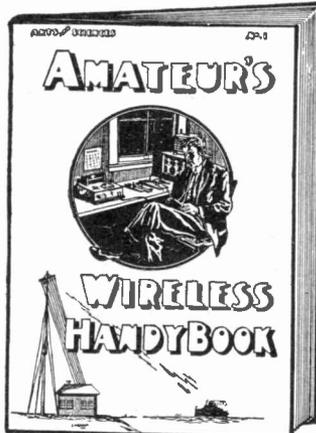
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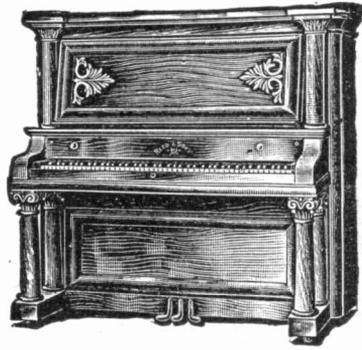
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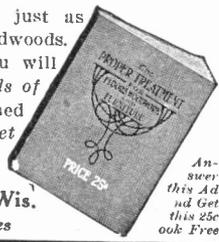
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THIS shirt is made to serve two purposes. It gives you the neatness that you want in shop, office or home—it gives *long wear* for your money. Made of close-woven shrunk percale, light or dark colors, with double strength seams. Soft collar attached or two detached four-ply collars—as desired. Extra buttonholes for attaching white cuffs.

Cut Coat Style—for your comfort

Open all the way down. Slips on and off as easy as your glove. A three-inch overlap and an extra button at the waist keeps the flap in place. Sleeves are slit in the side—this protects your underwear.

Order two from us—no money required

Ask your clothing man first. If he hasn't Signal Coat Shirts tell us his name, your size and we'll express you a couple C.O.D. If you like them pay expressman \$1.00 per garment (\$1.25 west of Missouri River). Write for folder showing styles. Also makers of Signal Work Shirts and Overalls.



Trade Mark
"The Mark of QUALITY"

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PRICE
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Send to Big Mail Co., Q-120 W. North Ave., Chicago, Ill.



AGENTS AMAZING INVENTION!

An entirely new lamp burner. Changes ordinary kerosene illumination into beautiful large white light. Rivals gas or electricity. Scientifically made. Beats the old style lamp. Not a mantle. Can't break.

Big Profits Easy to show; quick to sell. \$8 to \$10 daily for you. Experience unnecessary. Sample outfit 35c. postpaid. Particulars free.
The Radliolite Co., Dept. "FF," Toledo, Ohio

"AN EDEN"

(ELECTRIC)

Home Laundry Machine

THE WORLD'S BEST

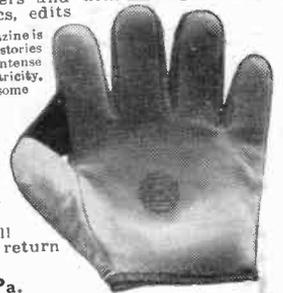
Brokaw Eden Mfg. Co., St. Louis, Chicago



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Amperes

Figures That Count

In purchasing a dry battery, everyone wants a battery which will not have to be replaced every week or so. This can be avoided by the selecting of

THE 1900 DRY BATTERY

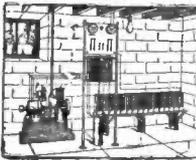
which by actual test has proven its efficiency for all kinds of work.

Send for Booklet which contains full particulars.

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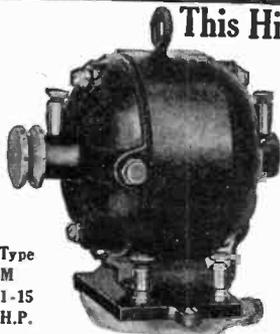
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The most complete, reliable equipment ever offered at this price. We want a representative in every county.
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Polishers, Grinders, Blowers
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This High Class Motor
Unassembled
\$3.50

Runs on a. c. and d. c. current, 110 volts. Includes complete set of blue prints showing how to assemble. Has laminated field and armature, mica insulated commutator 3-16 carbon brushes, bronze bearings, brass grease cups, pulley and terminals. Assembled complete ready to run

\$5.50

Set of blue prints showing motor in detail 12c. Catalogue 4c.

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1-15
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THE brightest and most interesting "plain English" electrical monthly magazine published, nearly five years old. 112 to 144 pages monthly. New departments on aeronautics and "with the inventor."

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THE magazine to read if you want to keep up to date on wireless and progress in electricity. With one year's subscription to Modern Electrics for a limited time only we are making the following:

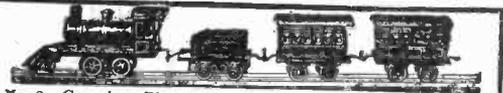
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KNOWN AS LASALLE LIGHT STORE
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Will Not Burn Out

An important feature of these motors is that they will not heat under any circumstances 1/12 and 1/4 H. P. for A.C. and D.C. Finished in Black Enamel



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Variable Speed and Reversible
Are especially adapted for
Washing Machines, Printing Presses,
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There are these five features to look for: First, a *Powerful Machine* that will take up all the dirt and dust, even that deeply imbedded in the very texture of heavy floor coverings.

SECOND, A *Simple Machine*.
THIRD, A *Durable Machine*.

FOURTH, A *Vibrationless Machine*.
FIFTH, A *Silent-Running Machine*.

Buy your Vacuum Cleaner as you would buy a watch—look for the “works”. It isn’t the *appearance* alone that counts—it’s what is *inside*. Vacuum cleaning is a misnomer if there is not a powerful suction such as you find in

The Silent Running

Federal Vacuum Cleaner

The *Rotary Pump* makes the FEDERAL excel other vacuum cleaners. It is the *Rotary Pump* that gives it powerful suction—that takes up all dirt and dust, no matter how deeply imbedded. It is the *Rotary Pump* that makes the FEDERAL a simple machine, a durable, vibrationless and silent running vacuum cleaner.

This is only a small part of the FEDERAL story. Now really aren’t you interested? Let us give you all the facts. Just send the coupon today for our complete descriptive booklet, “The Purity of Home”—our offer of 10 days’ trial in your home—our monthly payment plan—our broad Guarantee. *Be sure to send the coupon right away.*

Vacuum Cleaner Department

Federal Sign System (Electric)
597 Home Insurance Bldg., Chicago

CUT OUT, SIGN AND MAIL TODAY

P. E.
June '12

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Sign System**
(Electric)

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Kindly send me your illustrated booklet, “The Purity of Home,” and further particulars concerning the FEDERAL. It is understood that this places me under no obligation whatsoever.

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It is no longer necessary for districts not within the reach of the wires of a public lighting station to be deprived of all the advantages of electricity.

Small low voltage electric lighting plants can now be furnished which occupy little spaces, are easily installed, inexpensive, and can be operated by anyone. A few hours operation of a small gas engine and dynamo will charge a storage battery, thus giving a full 24-hour service.

With these plants various sizes of storage batteries can be furnished, so that the engine can be run each day, every other day or only once a week.

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furnished with these plants is exactly the same style of battery as is used by the large electric lighting companies, electric railways, telephone and telegraph companies and the U. S. Government. In order to have continuous and reliable service, the very highest grade of battery is necessary.

Our book "How to have Your Own Electric Lighting Plant" gives full information. Send to the nearest office for a copy.

THE ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERY CO.

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For Gas Engine Ignition, the "Exide" Battery will give you the very best service



Don't Use Batteries To Ring Electric Bells

The Thordarson Junior Bell-Ringing Transformer eliminates battery troubles forever. Can't get out of order. Lasts a lifetime when properly installed. Rings bells up to 4 inches in diameter. Fine for buzzers and light signal work.

Thordarson Junior Bell-Ringing Transformer

has a larger output than any other small capacity transformer and the current it consumes does not register on an ordinary wattmeter. For alternating current only. Weight 3 lbs. Price..... **\$3.00**

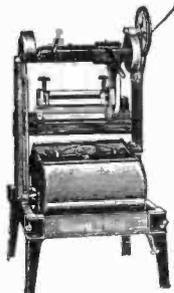
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THORDARSON ELECTRICAL MFG. CO.
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Not a Terror with a

"Domestic" Electric Washer and Wringer



Washes clean anything washable, in from 3 to 10 minutes, without injury to the most delicate fabric. In an average family will save its cost every year. Cost of Electricity is about 2c an hour or 5c for the average family wash. The tub is made of metal; no wood to warp, shrink, leak or smell. Can be cleaned in 15 seconds. All the working parts are enclosed. Equipped with a quickly reversible metal frame electric wringer.

SIMPLE EFFICIENT DURABLE

Washing Machines, Hand, Belt and Motor Driven \$15 to \$125. Send for Catalogue, and our easy payment plan.

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A PERFECT ELECTRIC FAN \$6.50

SIX-INCH, SUITABLE FOR INDIVIDUAL OFFICE, HOUSE OR HOSPITAL USE



8 inch fan, three speeds and 8 switch..... **\$8.50** 8 5/8 inch fan, 3 speeds and 8 switch..... **\$8.85**

110 VOLT ALTERNATING OR DIRECT CURRENT

FINISH: Fine black enamel; guards and blades heavily nickelled on brass. All absolutely of the finest quality, noiseless, and no competition. Desk or bracket. Every conceivable adjustment. Price refunded if not satisfactory.

We prepay express and include free a 75c double-covered silk cord with plug, if you mention dealer's name and voltage desired.

Also **SIX VOLT BATTERY FANS, 6 AND 8 INCH (NOT TOYS)** at same price and with such small current consumption that they can be run economically on any wet, dry or storage batteries. Fine for boat cabins, sick rooms, and all places which lack lighting current. Special voltages wound to order.



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Also an exclusive line of **SMALL MOTORS, ORIGINAL "IMP" TORCHES, TOASTERS, IRONS, BELL RINGERS, ETC.**

178 Summer Street

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For our Mutual Advantage mention Popular Electricity when writing to Advertisers.

2c a Week Pays Wash Bill!

Write for
FREE Book

Electricity or Water-Power Does the Work

Just a "Twist of the Wrist" Starts or Stops the Machine!

The 1900 Motor Washers are now at work in thousands of homes. They are doing the work formerly done by women, at a cost of 2c a week for power! Saving thousands upon thousands of dollars in wash bills. Saving worlds of wash-day troubles. Leaving the women free to do other work while the machines are doing the washing.

The 1900 Motor Washer

Washes a Tubful in Six Minutes!

1900 Water Motor Washer
Can be connected with
any water tap instantly



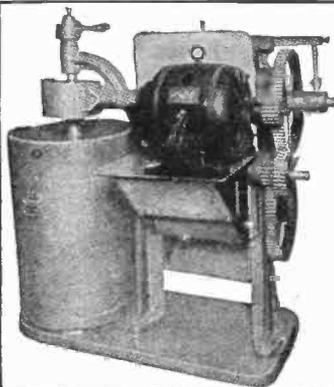
Handles Heavy Blankets or Dainty Laces
The outfit consists of the famous 1900 Washer with either Electric Motor or Water Motor. You turn on the power as easily as you turn on the light, and back and forth goes the tub, washing the clothes for dear life. Then, turn a lever, and the washer does the wringing. All so simple and easy that it is mere child's play.

A Self-Working Wringer Free With Every Washer!

The motor runs Wash or and Wringer. We guarantee the perfect working of both. No extra charge for Wringer, which is one of the finest made. Write for FREE BOOK and 30 Days' FREE TRIAL OFFER! Don't doubt! Don't say it can't be done. The free book proves that it can. But we do not ask you to take our word for it. We offer to send a 1900 Motor Washer on absolute Free Trial for an entire month to any responsible person. Not a cent of security—nor a promise to buy. Just your word that you will give it a test. We even agree to pay the freight, and will take it back if it fails to do all we claim for it. A postal card with your name and address sent to us today will bring you the book free by return mail. All correspondence should be addressed to 1900 WASHER CO., 5076 Court St., Binghamton, N. Y. Or, if you live in Canada, write to the Canadian Washer Co., 355 Yonge St., Toronto, Canada. (23)



Doing the wringing with
1900 Electric Motor Washer



The Dewsberry ELECTRIC Power Freezer

Will enable you to produce a better grade of ice cream at a lower price and in less time than by any other method. These machines are built unusually substantial, and are guaranteed to give satisfaction. Made in 20 and 40 quart sizes. The 40 quart size runs both fast and slow on A.C. current. Write to-day for circular.

R. A. Dewsberry
216 N. Morgan St.
CHICAGO.

"Pelouze" Electric Iron

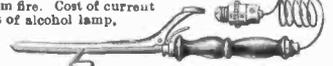
Has Heat Control at Finger Tip

No need to reach up to the chandelier switch—nor disconnect the cord at iron. Heats quickly—about half usual time. Has hot point and edges.—consumes less current than any other iron. 4 or 6 1/2 lb. size \$5. For sale by all leading dealers. Send for booklet.



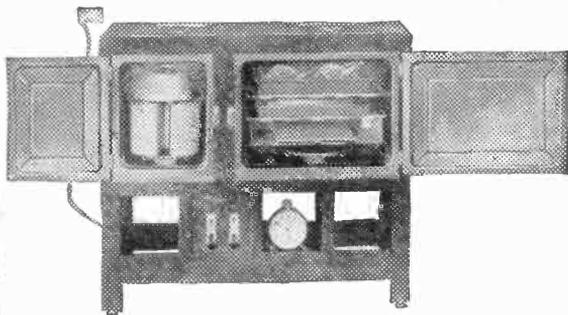
You Can't Burn Your Hair

with a Pelouze Electric Curling Iron. Never gets too hot. Handle revolves. Cord can't kink. Shield is removable. No flame, no danger from fire. Cost of current less than one-third cost of alcohol lamp. Iron always bright and clean. Complete with nickel plated stand. \$3.50. For sale by all leading dealers. Send for booklet.



PELOUZE MANUFACTURING COMPANY
242 East Ohio Street, Chicago, Ill.

COOK BY ELECTRICITY



THE SILENT SERVANT

The COPEMAN AUTOMATIC ELECTRIC COOK STOVE

which has Revolutionized the Art of Cooking, is a Conservator of Time, Labor, Health and Dollars. The operation of the stove is very simple—the current being turned on at a predetermined time, and cut off at a predetermined temperature—all absolutely automatically, the stove taking on the fireless cooker principle after the desired heat has been obtained in the compartment.

The Copeman Stove will perform all the functions of any gas, coal or wood stove, and the food tastes better. These stoves are made in three sizes to accommodate families ranging in size from two to twenty people.

Write for literature and prices
COPEMAN ELECTRIC STOVE CO.
424 North Saginaw Street, Flint, Michigan

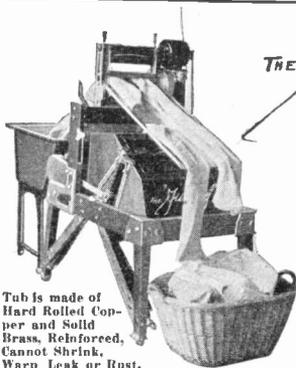


Auto-Electric Refrigerating Plant

This is a miniature refrigerating and ice-making plant and it can be attached to any ice box. It is suitable for stores, meat shops, hotels, homes and hospitals, where pure, clean ice is required. It insures a dry cold ice box free from germs, with a refrigeration in 24 hours equal to that obtained by 200 lbs. of ice, and in larger sizes up to three tons. It maintains an even temperature, never varying more than 2 degrees. Makes from 10 to 50 lbs. of ice a day. Motor requires no special wiring for small machine, can be connected to any electric light socket. No unnecessary plumbing. Machines are made in all sizes, to fit any ice box.

Write today for full particulars

Auto-Electric Refrigerating Company
Suite A243, Railway Exchange, CHICAGO, ILL.



THE *Judd*

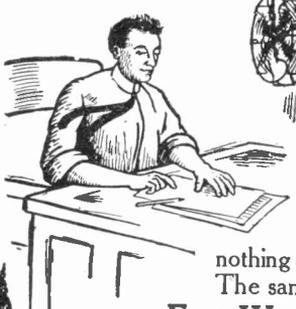
Won't Wear Out the Clothes

The Reason Why? It's Perfectly Smooth Inside

Blankets and finest fabrics are all the same to THE JUDD, for the water is forced through the clothes a hundred times per minute. Ten or fifteen minutes will thoroughly cleanse a tub full. Two hours to do a family washing! The electricity from any light socket will do the work at a cost of about four cents. The special motor operates the reversible wringer and washer at the same time. Let us show you how THE JUDD works. Descriptive literature for the asking.

Tub is made of Hard Rolled Copper and Solid Brass, Reinforced. Cannot Shrink, Warp, Leak or Rust.

JUDD LAUNDRY MACHINE COMPANY
Room 335 People's Gas Building, CHICAGO



Which Would You Rather Be?

If you were one of these two men would you change places with the other for a difference of half a cent an hour?

The comfort alone is worth many times that amount, to say nothing of the difference it makes with your disposition and the work you can do. The same thing is true of those who work for you and

Fort Wayne Electric Fans Are A Good Investment

because they increase the efficiency of your help.

They are the best means of supplying refreshing, cooling breezes during the hot sultry weather, and it costs only half as much to run one as a 16 candle power incandescent lamp.

We make a size and type for every use and there's enough difference in quality to make it well worth while asking for a "Fort Wayne" when you buy a fan. If your dealer does not carry them—write us.

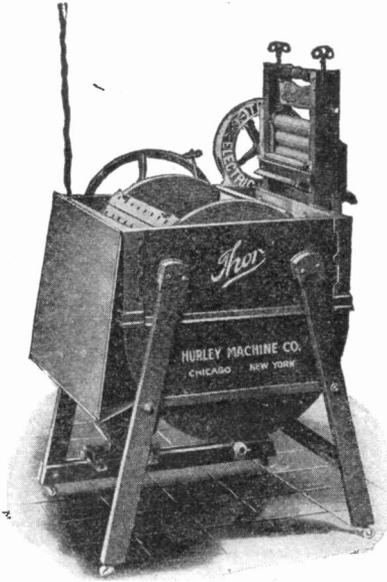
FORT WAYNE ELECTRIC WORKS

OF GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
1603 Broadway, Fort Wayne, Ind.
"WOOD" SYSTEMS
Branch offices most large cities



72

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THOR ELECTRIC
Home Laundry Machine

THE HURLEY LINE

OF
ELECTRIC LAUNDRY MACHINES

29 Sizes and Styles
to Select From

\$50 to \$500

Think of it. Your entire week's washing and wringing done in 90 minutes, without any laborious work and at a cost of only 3 cents for electricity.

THE THOR

is used and appreciated in more than 36,000 homes. We gave them a two weeks'

FREE TRIAL

to prove its merits. Why cling to drudgery and excess expense in YOUR home. Don't be skeptical. Select the machine you want and try it. We pay all freight charges if you don't wish to keep it. Sold on easy payments.

Write today, now, for Free Catalog F and name of dealer in your city.

HURLEY MACHINE COMPANY

27 SOUTH CLINTON STREET, CHICAGO

NEW YORK: 1011 Flatiron Building

LOS ANGELES: Third and Main Streets



A 30 Day Free Trial

in your home will demonstrate to your satisfaction how necessary the

SIMPLEX IRONER

is for economical management.

It saves your strength, health, beauty, time and money. It irons five times as fast, better and makes it easier. Servants are better contented, more efficient. Heats by gas or electricity. Operates by hand or small motor at small expense. It really costs nothing because it saves its cost every six months. Write for booklet and "Ironing Hints." Both free.

AMERICAN IRONING MACHINE COMPANY
55 East Lake Street Chicago, Ill.

Would you prefer in your Electric Iron one that has

- ? The heat in the bottom only ?
- ? A cool, comfortable handle ?
- ? A permanent nickel finish ?
- ? A really practical stand ?
- ? A positive certainty of durability ?
- ? The lowest cost for running ?
- ? The Upside-down-rack ?

Then insist on the

SIMPLEX ELECTRIC IRON



Send for descriptive folder

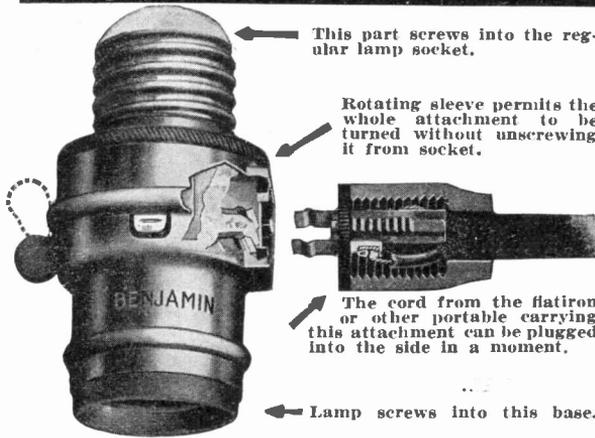
Simplex Electric Heating Company
Cambridge, Mass.

Chicago, 15-21 S. Desplaines St.
New York, 25 W. 42d St.

San Francisco, 612 Howard St.
Belleville, Ont.



For our Mutual Advantage mention Popular Electricity when writing to Advertisers.



BENJAMIN PLUG CURRENT TAP

← This part screws into the regular lamp socket.

Rotating sleeve permits the whole attachment to be turned without unscrewing it from socket.

← The cord from the flatiron or other portable carrying this attachment can be plugged into the side in a moment.

← Lamp screws into this base.

THE Benjamin Plug Current Tap enables you easily to attach a portable device, such as a flatiron, electric curling iron, etc., to the electric circuit without bothering to take out the regular lamp. A special attachment on the end of cord from the portable carries two little spring clips which are thrust into an opening in the side of the plug making connection in an instant. A rotating sleeve permits the plug, with its cord in any position without unscrewing it from the ordinary socket.

If you desire to use a two to four candlepower lamp with an extension cord in connection with the ordinary lamp of the same voltage, the smaller lamp becomes a good night lamp and can be placed in any desired location. The Benjamin current tap permits this to be done without burning out the smaller lamp, which would happen if it were connected direct to the circuit.

This and other Benjamin specialties are no doubt carried by your electrical supply dealer. If not we will make you a special introductory price for a single sample. Write for descriptive folder.

BENJAMIN ELECTRIC MFG. CO., 126 S. Sangamon St., Chicago, Ill.



Hot Wire Ammeters

We are pleased to offer a hot wire ammeter at a lower price and of a quality equalled only in instruments selling for many times its price. The bearings are of Oriental sapphires; the rotating shaft of specially hardened steel. The mechanism mounted on a compensating plate made from carefully tested alloy. The case is non-reflecting black with raised parts nickelled, is 4 1/2 in. dia. and weighs 2 lbs. The scale is calibrated 0-3, 0-10, 0-25 as desired. Price, \$5, for a limited time. Send 2c stamp for Catalog. F. B. Chambers & Co., 217 N. 9th St., Phila., Pa.

DETECTORS

Perikon, Silicon and all other mineral and solid rectifier detectors, are covered by patents owned by this company, and all infringements will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, including makers, users and sellers of such detectors, or supply and repair parts thereof.

WIRELESS SPECIALTY APPARATUS COMPANY
126 State Street, Boston, Mass.

VOLTAMP

ELECTRICAL APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES

Are sold on their merits and under the Voltamp guarantee of quality. Write today for our complete, fully illustrated catalog of Voltamp Products, which includes everything for experimental and general electrical work—motors, dynamos, induction coils, transformers; telephone, telegraph and lighting equipment; miniature railways, tools, toys, etc. (Send 6c in stamps or coin for catalog, which will be refunded on your first order of 50c or over. No postals answered.)

Voltamp Electric Mfg. Co., Park Bldg., Baltimore, Md.

DROP US A POSTAL CARD

for our new book catalog and pamphlet, "18 Ways to Make Money." Do it now.
Popular Electricity—Book Dept.

ELECTRIC Goods for Everybody.

House Lighting
Plants, Lamps, Engines, Dynamos, Fan, Sewing Machine and Power Motors, Heating Pads, Laundry Irons, Toasters, Transformers, Meters, Telephones, Hand Lanterns, Submarine, Cap, Bicycle, Carriage, Automobile and Flash Lights, Storage and Primary Batteries, Belts, Bells, Books. Fortune for agents. Big Catalog, 4 cents.

OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, Cleveland, Ohio

Electricians

are you up-to-date in house-wiring, if not, study our 75 genuine blue print drawings, of all up-to-date labor saving diagrams and connections for wiring bells, lights, annunciators, gas lights, burglar alarms, telephones, fire alarms, etc.—everything known in house-wiring to date, for saving time and material. These drawings are bound in the form of a flexible book (7x3) for convenience in using on the job. No one interested in house-wiring can afford to be without these drawings as they're a house-wiring education in themselves. Send for them, and if they don't make you more efficient as a wireman and save you a hundred times their cost as a contractor, return them and money will be refunded. 50 cents, Postpaid.

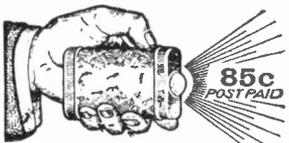
PATENT SPECIALTY COMPANY
462 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, Cal.

CALIDO

FOR

HEATING APPARATUS

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250 PAGES

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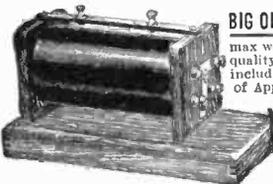
WHAT THIS BIG CATALOG CONTAINS:

- 75 pp. Wireless Instruments
- 20 pp. Telegraph Instruments
- 30 pp. Motors and Dynamos
- 15 pp. Flashlights and Miniature Lamps
- 25 pp. Miniature Trains
- 70 pp. General Electrical Supplies
- 10 pp. Mirrorscopes (will project pictures of all sizes in natural colors greatly enlarged)
- 10 pp. Launch Lighting Outfits

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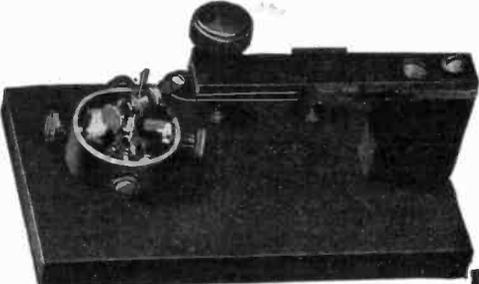
Send 3c for catalog. Thomas M. St. John, 846-S 9th Ave., New York

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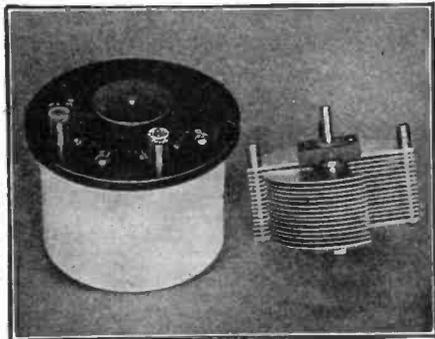
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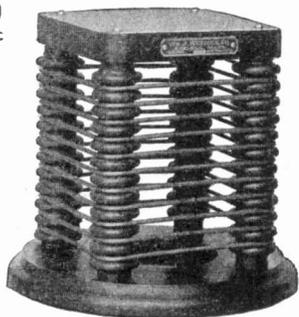
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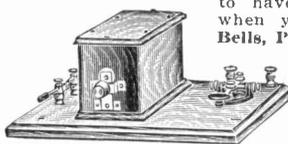
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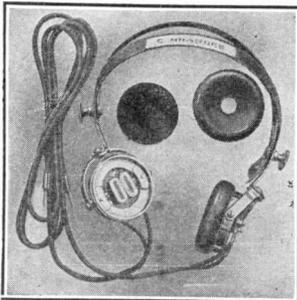


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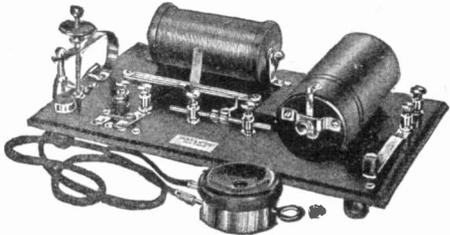
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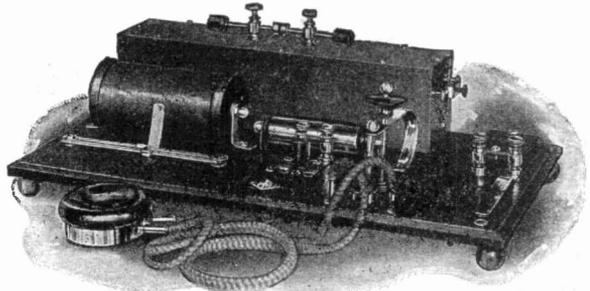
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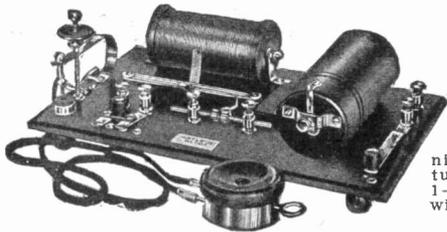
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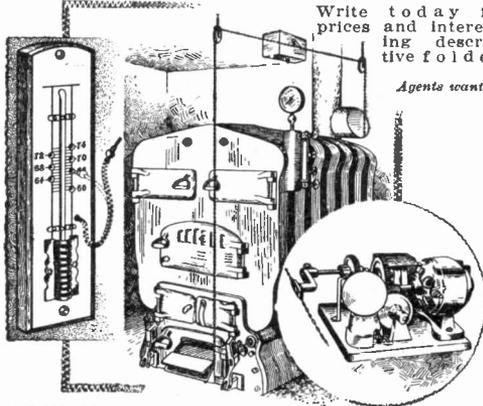
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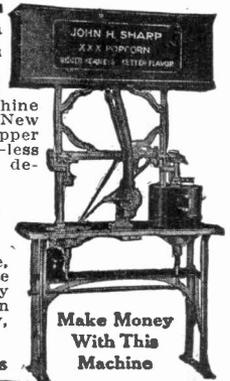
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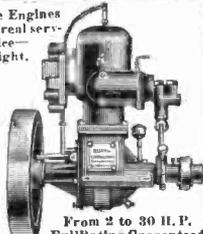
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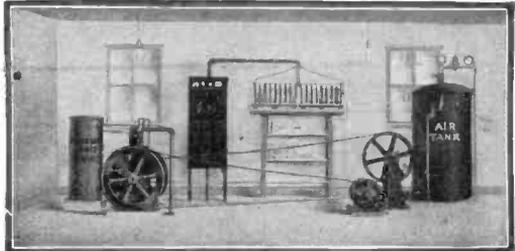
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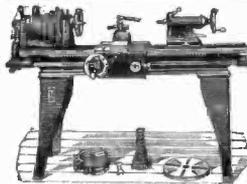
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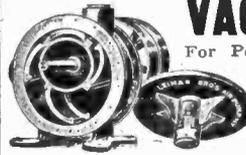


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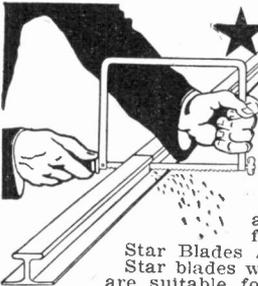
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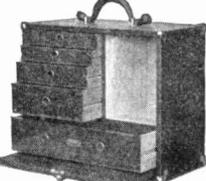
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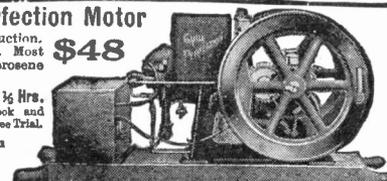
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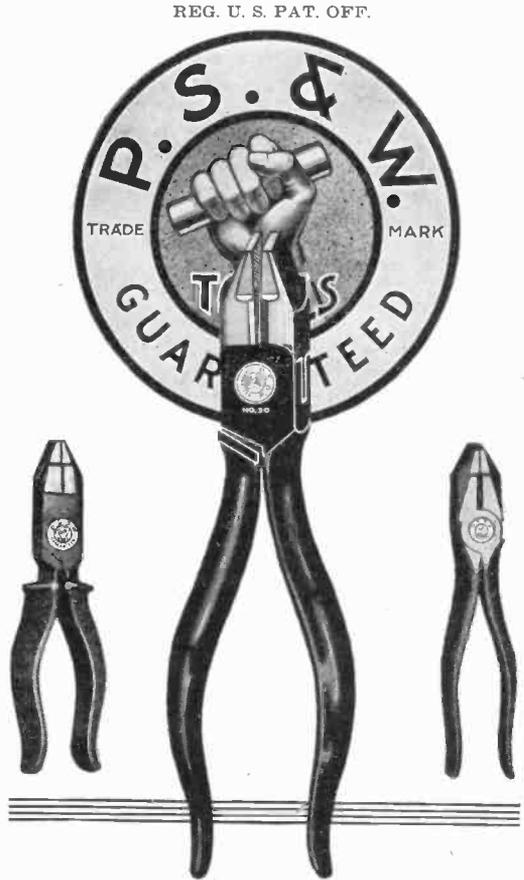
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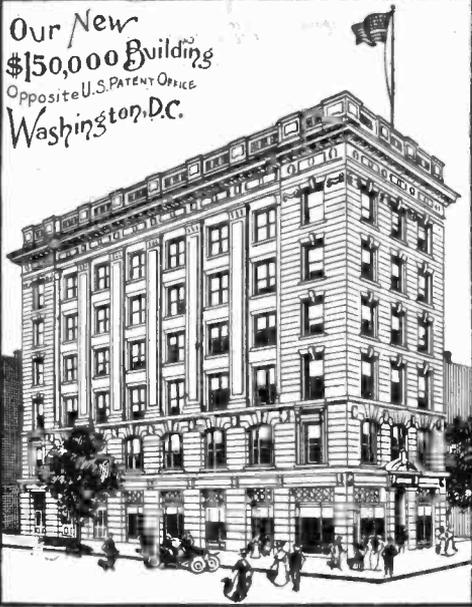
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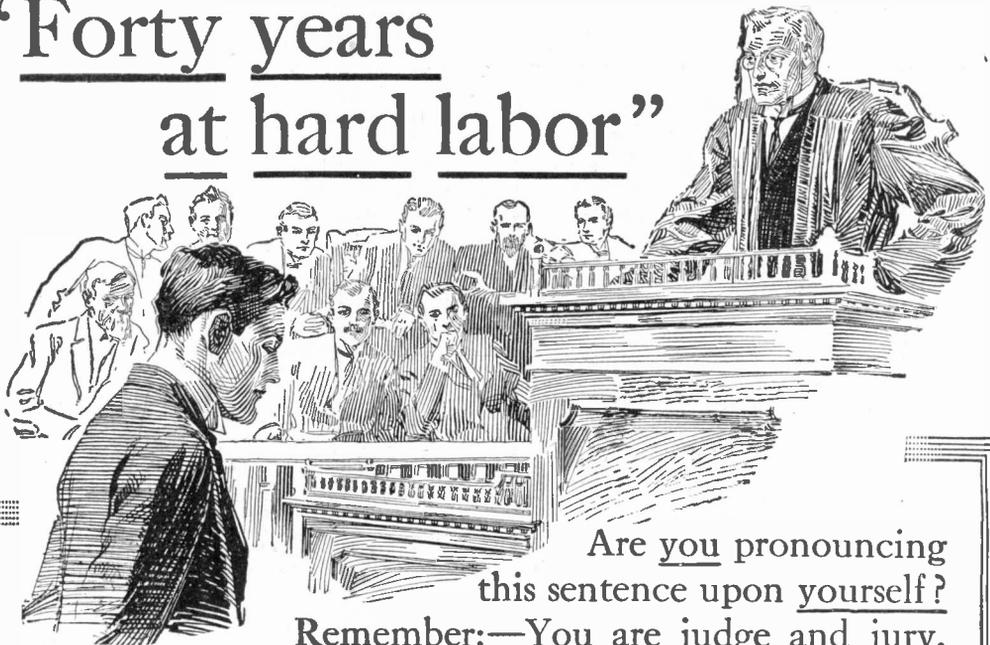
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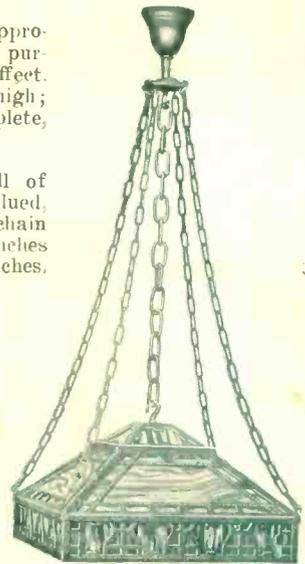


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