

PATENT FOR INVENTION

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Patents are granted in Canada for a term of fifteen years. The first Government fee is \$20, which fee protects the invention for five years, two further fees of \$20 for each succeeding five years being requisite in order to protect the invention for the full term. It is therefore necessary to pay the first fee in order to obtain the patent, and the subsequent fees in order to keep it alive the full term. Two other requisites are necessary in order to keep the patent alive, namely, the article covered by the invention must be manufactured within two years from grant, and it must not be imported for more than a year. Specifications, drawings and model are required to be sent to the Canadian Patent Office before a patent will be granted, and such is the importance of having inventions thoroughly covered in order to protect the inventor from infringement, that special experts are employed by inventors, so that their applications may be presented to a successful issue before the Patent Office. It is essential that men having a legal as well as a mechanical experience should be employed.

Many people are in the habit of not only thinking of, but speaking of inventors as cranks. But when one considers the advantages reaped from the indomitable energy and perseverance of such so-called cranks, it must be confessed that to that class of the community we are more indebted than to any other.

Lord Bacon corroborates this statement in the following :

“The introduction of great inventions appears one of the most distinguished of human actions, and the ancients so considered it : for they assigned divine honors to the authors of inventions; but only heroic honors to those who displayed civil merit, such as the founders of cities and empires, legislators, the deliverers of their country from lasting misfortunes, the quellers of tyrants and the like. And if any one rightly compare them, he will find the judgment of antiquity to be correct ; for the benefits derived from inventions may extend to mankind in general, but civil benefits to particular lands alone ; the latter, moreover, last but for a time, the former forever. Civil reformation seldom is carried on without violence and confusion, while inventions are a blessing and a benefit without injuring or afflicting any.”

