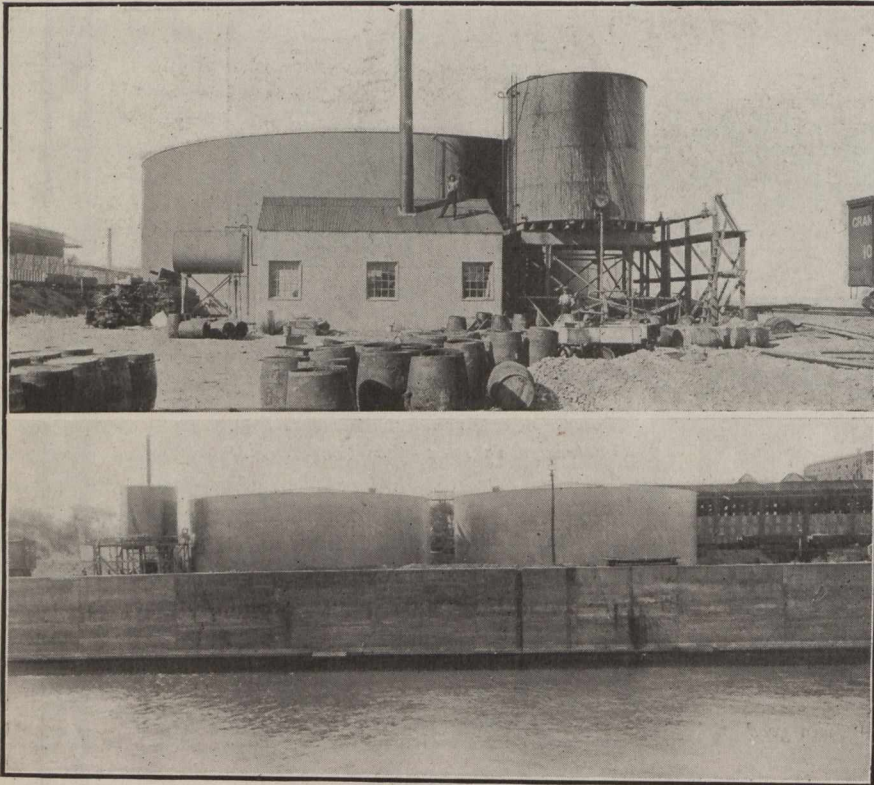


START OF CANADIAN ASPHALT PLANT.

In Montreal there has been completed the erection of an asphalt storage and barreling plant which is the start of what will likely be the first Canadian asphalt refinery. Two 37,500-gallon tanks and one smaller barreling tank have been erected by the Asphalt & Supply Company, Limited, of Montreal, on property that has been leased for a long term of years from the Montreal Harbor Commission.

Lord Cowdray, who is at the head of the Mexican Eagle Oil Company, has long favored the idea of establishing an asphalt refinery in Canada. The Asphalt



Storage Plant at Montreal for Fluxes and Asphaltic Road Oils.

& Supply Company are the Canadian agents for the Mexican Eagle Oil Company.

Asphaltic road oils and fluxes will be brought to Montreal from Mexico by tank steamers and will be stored at the plant, two views of which are shown herewith. Asphalt will also be stored in steel containers.

The provision of storage and barreling facilities is generally considered to be the first step toward the establishment of a refinery, so that in all probability another industry will soon add to the list of Canadian-made products.

M. Beatty & Sons, Limited, announced on July 17th, that the control and management of the company had been changed. According to one of the officials of the company, Mr. H. L. Beatty has been elected President, and Mr. A. O. Beatty, Vice-President and General Manager. Mr. Harris T. Dunbar, of Buffalo, has been elected a member of the Board of Directors. Messrs. V. R. Browning and B. F. Miles, Directors, and R. A. Greene, General Manager, who have had charge of the business for the past three years, have severed their connection with the company.

INSECT BORERS IN PIPES.

Insects so rarely bore into metal and such boring is so altogether surprising that instances that come to the notice of entomologists are likely to be commented on in entomological literature. In a report of the South African Government entomologist, which appears in the Transactions for May, 1915, of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers, such an occurrence is referred to, in which case longicorn beetles had escaped from roof timbers by piercing zinc plates at nail holes plugged with solder. The metal penetrated had a hardness of 3 as compared with lead 1.5.

The report refers also to a note in Scientific American of 13th June, 1891, translated from Gesundheits Ingenieur of 15th January, 1891. A lead pipe, which on a previous occasion had been found similarly injured, was found to be bored by a "wood wasp," the culprit being discovered with its head in the hole. The note then refers to an insect-bored lead bullet preserved in the U.S. National Museum. The bullet was found (in 1877) embedded in an oak tree, and when split out was discovered to have a hole bored through it by a longicorn larva, the bullet having laid in the track of the borer's tunnel in the wood. The larva was found in the tunnel. The other reference is to a borehole made through a lead pipe, also by a longicorn larva that found the lead in its path after boring through wood. The lead in this case was 2½ mm. thick.

SASKATCHEWAN TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS.

The report of the superintendent of rural lines in the province of Saskatchewan shows that during the year ended April 30, 1915, there has been a pronounced development of telephone service throughout

the rural districts, and the increase, both in mileage and number of subscribers, was greater than in any previous fiscal year since the organization of the department. This is due to the fact that the methods of financing authorized under the new Rural Telephone Act met with general approbation, and were in consequence largely taken advantage of.

The following summary of the work of the branch during the past year will be found interesting:

Number of companies organized	151
Number of companies incorporated	126
Number of debenture applications approved amounting to \$904,800	157
Number of debentures issued amounting to \$970,100	176
Increase in number of rural and private telephone systems in operation	152
Increase in mileage of rural private systems	4,783
Increase in number of rural and private telephones in operation	4,743