

ELECTRICAL MECHANICAL AND MILLING NEWS

Vol. XIII.—No. II.

TORONTO, CANADA, OCTOBER, 1889.

Price, 10 Cents
\$1.00 PER YEAR.

ELECTRICAL, Mechanical and Milling News,

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH BY

CHAS. H. MORTIMER,

Office, 14 King Street West,

TORONTO, - - CANADA.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertising rates sent promptly upon application. Orders for advertising should reach this office not later than the 25th day of the month immediately preceding our date of issue.

Changes in advertisements will be made whenever desired, without cost to the advertiser, but to insure proper compliance with the instructions of the advertiser, requests for change should reach this office as early as the 22nd day of the month.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL AND MILLING NEWS will be mailed to subscribers in the Dominion, or the United States, post free, for \$1.00 per annum, 50 cents for six months. The price of subscription may be remitted by currency, in registered letter, or by postal order payable to C. H. Mortimer. Please do not send cheques on local banks unless 25 cents is added for cost of discount. Money sent in unregistered letters must be at senders' risk. The sending of the paper may be considered as evidence that we received the money.

Subscriptions from all foreign countries, embraced in the General Postal Union will be accepted at \$1.25 per annum.

Subscribers may have the mailing address changed as often as desirable. When ordering change, always give the old as well as the new address.

The Publisher should be notified of the failure of subscribers to receive their papers promptly and regularly.

EDITOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Correspondence is invited upon all topics pertinent to the electrical, mechanical and milling interests.

WE learn from the *Mail* that some of the Farmers' Institutes are expressing doubt as to the fairness of the wheat testers prescribed by the Millers' Associations to be used in determining the value of wheat. Such doubts are needless. A guarantee of the reliability of these machines is the fact that they must be inspected and approved by Government authority.

THE Dominion Trades and Labor Congress will ask Government to declare that eight hours shall constitute a day's work. One prominent delegate to the recent convention expressed the hope that they would ultimately get the public educated up to the point of recognizing six hours as a fair day's work. If our observation is not astray, there are not a few "labor representatives" who secretly cherish the hope that eventually they will get paid for doing nothing.

THE local paper of a town in Western Ontario says "the combination of millers is likely to seriously affect our grain market. They have, in our opinion, shot too high, and will have to regulate their sight a little lower." If the meaning of the above is that the millers are aiming to pay too high prices for their wheat, we think the advice to "regulate their sight a little lower," is well-timed. Shooting too high was a too common practice last year, which we hope will not be repeated.

IN Boston and other American cities electric street railways are in operation, and are giving the best of satisfaction. They can be operated at a much higher rate of speed than horse cars, and at considerably less expense. We hope to see electricity substituted for horses in our largest Canadian cities at an early date. The charter of the Toronto Street Railway Co. will shortly expire. The new agreement between the company and the city should provide for the use of the improved motive power.

SOME of our American contemporaries are publishing the statements of Prof. Green, of the Minnesota Experimental Farm, regarding the wonderful germinating power of frosted wheat as demonstrated by experiments recently made. Without trying to discredit in any way the results which are said to have been obtained from frosted seed, we desire to express the hope that the publication of them will not induce farmers to try the experiment. We have little fear that such will be the effect among the farmers of our Canadian Northwest, as no doubt a sufficient number of them have already demonstrated to their own satisfaction, and at the expense of their pockets, that it does not pay to sow frosted wheat.

ACCORDING to the *Lumber World*, "Canada wishes, wants, needs, pines for reciprocity with the United States." If our contemporary means "unrestricted reciprocity," we are at liberty to say that Canada wants none of it. The majority of Canadians, we believe, are agreed that reciprocal trade in certain classes of productions would be advantageous for both countries. The evidence given by business men before the Congressional Committee on Trade Relations with Canada, is a strong proof that the desire for some kind of reciprocal trade arrangement is by no means confined to Canada. Michigan saw mill owners, for instance, are "pining" for Canadian pine.

THE people of the United States have decided upon holding a World's Exposition in 1892. Where shall it be held? is the question now to be decided. Chicago and New York both want it, and public opinion seems agreed that the choice lies between these cities. Chicago, with western enterprise, has already raised a guarantee fund of large proportions and is pushing its claims in a way to command admiration. There is force in the argument advanced in a circular received from leading Chicago journalists that the Exposition if held in the heart of the country would be easier of access from every part, and would enable foreigners to see more of the country and form a correct estimate of its development.

WE wonder how many members of the Central Millers' Association, or of the Local Associations, have taken the trouble to talk to the farmers doing business at their mills on the subject of the injustice imposed by the tariff on the farmers as well as the millers? "I haven't any time to waste," said a miller who called on us the other day, "but I never lose an opportunity of getting two or three farmers around me in the mill and of making clear to them the identity of the farmer's interest with that of the miller in respect to the operation of the duties on flour and grain. If the facts are properly presented to them, they see it at once, and are then prepared to work with us for the removal of our mutual disabilities." It is of the utmost importance that the farmers should be enlightened on this subject, in order that through lack of knowledge they may not cast their influence against the millers, and by so doing also stand in the way of their own interests. It is as clear as anything can be, that the importation into Canada of 265,000 barrels of American flour every year destroys the Canadian farmer's market for upwards of a million and a quarter bushels of wheat. The millers are perfectly content that the farmers should continue to enjoy the protection of 15 cents per bushel on their wheat. What they ask is that American flour shall not be allowed to come in to displace the product of the Canadian farm and the Canadian mill. Upon this common ground Canadian farmers and millers should stand, and unite their efforts for a readjustment of the tariff.

The millers should see to it that the farmers obtain a correct understanding of the situation.

THE opening day of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition of 1889 was fixed nearly a week later than in previous years. The change proved not to be a profitable one. Bad weather was encountered this year, whereas formerly "Old Probs" almost invariably smiled on the big show. After the second week in September the weather is usually uncertain, and the management of the Industrial would do well in future to open the Fair a week earlier. Under the present system exhibitors are given nearly the whole of the first week to get their exhibits in position. The public have found this out, and accordingly stay away until the close of the first week or until the second week, when they can see everything that is to be seen. Thus the attendance, instead of being distributed over two weeks, is crowded into one. Should a couple of days of that one week be rainy, as happened this year, there is a shortage in the receipts. If every exhibitor was compelled to have his goods in position on the day fixed for the formal opening, a fair proportion of the visitors would attend during the first week, and thus the receipts would not be likely to suffer should a day or two of wet weather be encountered the second week. Wednesday of the second week of the fair this year was marked by the largest attendance which has ever been witnessed on the grounds, and it is fair to assume that if the weather throughout had proved propitious, the total receipts would have been considerably in excess of any former year. Taken as a whole, we believe the exhibition was about on a par with that of 1888. In some departments, such as that of carriages, for instance, the display was better than ever before. In other departments, among which may be included Machinery Hall, the exhibits fell short in number, if not in quality, of those of former years. Dissatisfaction was expressed by manufacturers at the "fakes" introduced into the horse ring, in the shape of ballet dancers, female gymnasts, etc., which occupied the attention of thousands of people who would otherwise have inspected the exhibits. Indeed this feeling of dissatisfaction was so intense that a number of manufacturers talked of signing a paper pledging themselves not to exhibit again until something should be done to remedy the grievance. There is this much to be said on behalf of the manufacturers, that they exhibit at the cost of a very large outlay of time and money, and they have a right to expect that their interests shall receive proper consideration. The argument is heard that the "fakes" referred to are a necessary feature in order to draw the crowd. This may or may not be the case. One thing however is certain, which is, that if the "fake" business be carried much farther, the name "Industrial Exhibition," will justly be regarded as a misnomer, and those who must be depended upon to contribute to the interest of the "industrial" departments, will be likely to be conspicuous by their absence. In the long run these "fakes" must fail to supply the place of more legitimate exhibits, and the management therefore should be careful in future not to give them a prominence which they do not deserve.

THE Dominion Trades and Labor Congress at its recent meeting in Montreal, discussed the subject of technical education. Its views thereon are embodied in the following resolution: "That this congress, while favoring a judicious system of technical education, considers that the system of manual training in our schools, such as proposed by the Minister of Education in Ontario, is prejudicial to the interest and welfare of mechanics and wage earners generally." The discussion which took place on the above resolution shows that the