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Correspondence is invited upon all topics coming legitimately within the scope of this journal.

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ON October 15th, two boilers in a rolling mill at Portsmouth, Ohio, exploded, wrecking the mill and injuring nine men. Four hundred men were at work in the mills at the time, and it is a wonder that not more were injured.

WE understand that the Bill which is proposed to be introduced in the Dominion Parliament at its next session, relating to the electrical interests, will cover the testing of electric light meters, an insulation test of the consumers' wires and regulations in regard to a constant supply of energy at the consumers' terminals.

A TELEPHONE circuit one thousand miles long has just been completed, establishing connection between New York and Chicago. The line has been tested and is said to work satisfactorily. There was used in its construction 50,000 poles,—fifty poles to the mile—on which are strung two lines of No. 8 copper wire.

BOILERS used for heating purposes are very liable to suffer from internal corrosion of the tubes. The use of the same water returning from the heating coils has much to do with it. The remedy is to change the water during the winter by occasionally blowing some off, and filling up with fresh water. A boiler should not be allowed to stand idle with the same water in it that has been used in making steam. If the water is to be idle, it is better to empty the boiler and fill up with fresh water.

WE referred recently to the fact that the advocates of the storage battery system of street car propulsion were endeavoring to create opposition to the trolley system in Montreal, in the same manner as was done in Toronto, and that the president of the Street Railway Company had offered to stake the sum of \$5,000 on the result of the finding of an impartial committee of experts, if the storage battery advocates would deposit a similar amount. This offer does not appear to have met with any response, but to satisfy the citizens, the City Engineer was commissioned to visit Boston, and report on the merits of the storage battery system. In his report he publicly states his opinion that the storage battery as applied to the operation of street railways, does not fulfil the requirements. He believes that the trolley has come to stay, and that it will be found to work well even under the severe conditions imposed by winter in the Province of Quebec.

THE high rate of speed at which the electric cars have been run in Hamilton, has been the subject of remark by visitors to that city. Whether from this cause or otherwise, a number of accidents more or less serious have taken place. In the case of the last of these accidents, the coroner's jury, while attaching no blame to the mortorman or conductor of the car, recommended that the City Council should pass a by-law, to regulate the speed of cars to six miles per hour. In Toronto and elsewhere a similar suggestion has been made. It is one which in some respects, is open to objection. It might be made to apply to the smaller cities, where only short distances have to be covered, and to the central parts of large cities. In the case of the latter, it should not be forgotten, that one of the chief advantages of the electric system over horse cars, is its ability to carry passengers to their destination in less time, and if an arbitrary rule is to be applied which will regulate the speed of electric cars to that of horse cars, this great advantage of the electric system will prove valueless.

WE referred to the fact recently that the experience of the town of Toronto Junction with the operation of its own electric lighting plant, had proved to be unsatisfactory, the cost having been far in excess of what it would have been had the light been supplied under contract. The Town Council appears to have carried the experiment as far as is considered desirable, with the result that negotiations are now in progress for disposing of the plant to a private company. It is understood that an agreement for the purchase of the plant by the local street railway company, at the price of \$18,000, under a 19 years' franchise had been almost concluded, when some additional privileges, such as the free use of water for condensing purposes and exemption from taxes, were demanded, which has been the