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immensity, it seems that they are merged in the eyes of Uncle Sam, who has gone all the railroad magnates in the country one point better by installing at the Navy Yard in this city, one of the largest pair of Fairbank's scales in the country.

"This machine can outweigh the largest railroad weighing machines by fifty tons, and when it is considered that its results must be accurate to the weight of a pound, while railroad scales are considered good if they approach anywhere near fifty pounds of being correct, it is to be marvelled at the advances that have been made in scale manufacture in recent years.

"The new scales are located on the track going south from the great gun shops and just opposite the forge shop, being about ten feet to the eastward from its entrance. Work has been progressing on them for a considerable length of time, but they were only completed last week, and turned over to the authorities of the yard last Monday. At a hurried glance they are not unlike the ordinary platform of hay scales.

"Closer investigation reveals the fact that they are forty-eight feet long and twelve feet wide, and that they rest upon a cement base built upon long piles. The ground is somewhat low, and it was necessary to utilize the services of pile-drivers to secure a stable foundation, which is one of the requisites of an accurate weighing machine.

"Much of its fine and sensitive balancing apparatus was manufactured for special use in the new machine, and the completed structure is considered a model and marvel of mechanism and American ingenuity.

"In order to illustrate the accuracy of the counterpoise of the machine to a reporter for the 'Times' yesterday afternoon, the superintendent of yards and docks picked up a half brick which was lying on the ground near by, and tossed it on the huge platform of the machine. He then consulted the long brass lever in the reading box along the side of the scales, and found that the record of the brickbat was just a pound.

"Turning to the reporter, he said that the machine is so sensitive that it can weigh anything from a pound of sugar to a trio of 13-inch naval guns, and weigh them accu-

ately, though it will probably take out a long existence at the famous gun shop without having the chance to weigh an ounce of the former. The capacity of the new scales is 150 tons, or double the capacity of the old scales, which have just been replaced by the new ones. A 13-inch gun weighs about 55 tons, and it may be readily seen that the new scales can weigh two of the monsters, reclining on a 48-foot car truck, and not tax its capacity to any great extent. All the big guns of the new navy will be weighed upon these colossal scales."

A NEW SMELTER AT TRAIL, B.C.

According to the *Cascade, B.C., Record*, the Trail Smelter Company will shortly erect a smelter in that place. Negotiations have been going on for some time between Manager Stocker, of the Town Site Company, and the land department of the C.P.R., and Mr. W. H. Aldridge, manager of the Trail Smelter Company, has recently visited *Cascade* with a view to completing the arrangements. As a result, with the exception of a few minor details, everything is now definitely settled.

Mr. Aldridge, says *The Record*, when questioned regarding the probable size of the proposed plant, said:—"We will probably make it a 1,000-ton smelter, so as to be able to handle all ores that are likely to be offered. We do not believe in erecting a 200 or even a 400-ton plant here, as we could find it more economical to haul the ores to Trail for treatment if no more daily tonnage than that could be obtained in this district."

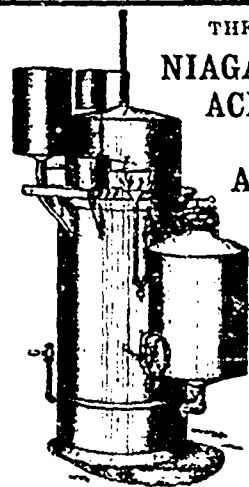
The cost of building a smelter of 1,000 tons daily capacity will exceed \$500,000 and will give steady employment to upwards of 500 men when completed. The stack alone will require 800,000 brick, and the buildings in connection in proportion.

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