

In the United States Circuit Court Judge Showalter issued an order recently of importance to the telephone industry, which practically puts an end to the alleged right of exclusive manufacture held by the Western Electric Company. The order made in the case is to the effect that the Western telephone switch patent expired July 30, 1895, by virtue of its having been taken out in Canada by the inventor June 30, 1890. The discovery that a Canadian patent had been issued on the invention was made only recently by the Western Telephone Construction Company, which concern was the principal defendant in the suit brought by the Bell and Western Electric combination. The court has had the case in which the Western Electric Company charged infringement under advisement since last summer, and, in the meantime, the Western Telephone Construction Company discovered this new evidence. Aside from ordering the admission of this testimony Judge Showalter could do nothing further until he renders his decision. Under the decision in the Bates refrigerator case,

the discovery of the Canadian patent shortens the time of the Watson concession five years, it having been ruled that a patent taken out in a foreign country acts against a later patent issued in other countries.

The Montmorency Electric Power Co., of Montmorency Falls, have placed an order with the Royal Electric Co., of Montreal, for two 600 k.w. "S. K. C." two phase alternating current generators and switchboards complete. One of these generators is to be placed at the Montmorency Falls, where it will be driven by a water power, and the current carried 9 miles into the city of Quebec to the sub-station of the Montmorency Electric and Power Co., where the second 600 k.w. alternating current generator will be located. The generator at the Falls will deliver 5,000 volts direct to the line, and the generator in the sub-station will be used as a synchronous motor and receive the current at 5,000 volts direct into the machine, so that no step-up or step-down transformers or any intermediate apparatus is required. The synchronous motor is to be direct-connected to a direct current railway generator, which is to furnish power to the new Quebec Street Railway, which will be built early the coming year.

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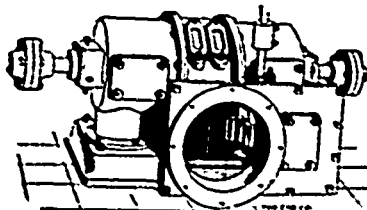
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