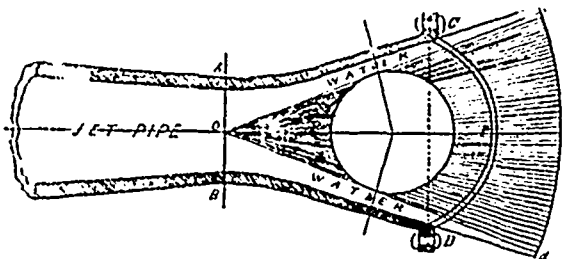


THE BALL NOZZLE.

On the 16th of May there assembled at the C.P.R. elevator, Dalhousie square, Montreal, the Board of Underwriters, Chief Benoit, of the Montreal Fire Brigade, and a number of leading insurance men of the city. The gathering was by invitation of Mr. Thomas Howard, the Canadian representative of the American Ball Nozzle Co., of New York, to witness a demonstration of the working of the Ball nozzle shown by the accompanying illustration, with which the C.P.R. elevators are equipped, using the company's own hose. The exhibition unexpectedly



developed into a competition between the Ball nozzle and the Descarie controlling nozzle, the inventor of the latter being present.

The first test was with a stream from the hydrant at about 55 lbs. pressure. Chief Benoit did not consider that the possibilities of either nozzle could be shown from so low a pressure, and suggested bringing down an engine. This was done, and the two nozzles were each given 100 feet of hose connected with the Silsby engine. The result showed the Ball nozzle's superiority both in volume and range of spray and stream, the latter reaching a height of over 150 feet, against an extremely high wind.

Chief Benoit and members of the Board of Underwriters were unanimous in their expressions of admiration of the valuable fire-fighting qualities of this nozzle, which, as against the ordinary straight-stream nozzle, an English authority has likened to the Gatling gun compared with the ordinary rifle. The victory was all the more creditable from the fact that Mr. Howard had had no intimation that his nozzle would be called into contest with one worked by its inventor, while the Ball nozzle was put in charge of a member of the fire brigade, who had not had it in his hands before, all of which goes to prove the contention of the manufacturers that simplicity is one of its strongest points. It does not call for any special training to use, the only direction being, "Turn on the water, the Ball does the rest."

The problem of this mysterious nozzle has engaged the attention of many of the leading scientists of the world. Catalogues and information may be obtained from Mr. Thos. Howard, Board of Trade Building, Montreal.

Of the various woods classified, white pine ranks first from the standpoint of commercial use, and the other pines next, these being used chiefly for house finishing and other kindred purposes. The general use of oak in the better grade of house finishing and in manufacture of furniture gives that wood next place. Then come the less important hardwoods, including ash, birch, maple, etc. Hickory, which is used chiefly for wagon stock, is one of the woods least used, the annual cut reaching not more than 250,000,000 feet, as against 3,000,000,000 feet of oak. Black walnut has now become so scarce that it has practically ceased to be quoted in the lumber market. A small quantity still exists in Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri, but it is sold by the single tree.

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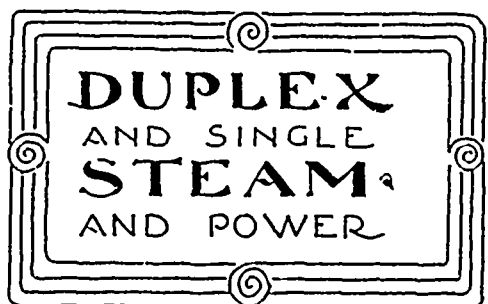
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