

SWEET CAPORAL



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WHOLESALE TRADE.

NOVA SCOTIA STATIONARY ENGINEERS.

The Commission appointed to enquire into legislation as affecting stationary engineers, held its second meeting in Halifax recently. There were delegates present from many parts of the province to give evidence. The following are some of the changes which the Commission will likely suggest. The sections are from the Regulation of Mines Act:

"76. No person shall be eligible for examination for third class certificate unless;

"(a) He is at least eighteen years of age; and

"(b) He must be the holder of a fireman's license, and shall have served 12 months at mechanical work in a machine shop, or has served for 12 months as engineer, pumpman, fireman, oiler or locomotive engineer.

"77. No person shall be eligible for examination for a second-class certificate of competency, unless:

"(a) He be at least 21 years of age;

"(b) And is the holder of a third-class certificate of competency, and has been employed as a third-class engineer for not less than two years.

"78. No person shall be eligible for examination for a first-class certificate of competency, unless:

"(a) He is at least 24 years of age;

"(b) Is a holder of a second-class certificate of competency or service, has served one year at repair work on mining machinery, and has for 12 months been in charge of an engine of not less than 250 H.P.

IV. Employment of Engineers.

"79. Every engineer in charge of a steam plant of not less than twenty-five and not more than five hundred H. P., shall be the holder of at least a third-class certificate of competency, or a certificate of service equivalent thereto."

In (b) section 76 the word "and" after license, should to make sense read "or," for certainly the statute should not give preference to a fireman without a certificate over one having a license. In (b), sec. 78, the word "machines" should be machinery. The chairman of the Commission objects strongly to a "twenty-five" H.P. plant calling for a man in charge. He maintains that at a small colliery a man in charge of the plant—as chief engineer—is wholly unnecessary. The manager who has a certificate is quite competent to discharge the duties. A manager's technical knowledge is put to a severe test, in the "Mechanics" questions, required to be answered before a certificate is granted.

—As far as tinplates are concerned, says "Commercial Intelligence," Messrs. Sim and Coventry say, we are undoubtedly developing the markets of the world to an extent that the previous generation never anticipated. We still have to fight against tariffs, and are likely to do so for many years to come. There is no gainsaying the fact that since the advent of the McKinley Tariff the Welsh tinplate trade has developed into a much sounder condition. We do not suggest that this is solely a case of cause and effect, but it is certainly an example of what can be done by a trade that is alive to the importance of modernizing and keeping up-to-date its means of production, and where the workmen recognize their responsibility to get the best possible results from the plant. In this connection it is worth noting that the first electric rolling mill to be operated in any tinplate works in the world has been installed in Monmouthshire during the last fifteen months.

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