World's Problems Solved

A number of Vancouver people have been induced to buy shares in the Peter Ivanoff Co-Motional Power Company, an organization headed by Peter Ivanoff, of Seattle. I don't know much about it but it seems to me to be a big bunco game. I would like very much to see you print in your paper an account of the real merits of this outfit.
—A. C., Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. Peter Ivanoff, of the Co-Motional Power Company, is one of those individuals who pop up every once in a while to bring color and light into the otherwise drab lives of investment counsellors. Mr. Peter Ivanoff has invented a machine—a rather exceptional machine, which is to provide work for everyone in the world who wants it, cut down the hours of labor to three or four hours a day, and give everyone who invests $100 in his company an income of $100,000 a year for life.

These are unusual promises, but then it is an unusual machine. It makes power—a lot of power—out of nothing or next to nothing. It takes one horsepower supplied by a small electric motor and turns it into 300 horse-power. Presumably it can then take the 300 horse-power and turn it into 90,000 horse-power, and so on *ad infinitum.* This machine will enable an automobile to run without radiator, gas tank, steam or brakes. A motorist will be able to start out on a journey from Vancouver to Los Angeles, putting a dollar's worth of oil in the machine, and on returning that same dollar's worth of oil will still be there, while the motorist will be able to have whatever horsepower he desires.

Still more amazing than Mr. Ivanoff's invention is the fact that the Attorney-General's department of British Columbia has not put a stop to Mr. Ivanoff's capital-raising activities in that province. It has apparently permitted Mr. Ivanoff to come to Vancouver several times from Seattle, where he is working on his miraculous invention, and hold public meetings at which many thousands of dollars have been subscribed by credulous or weak-minded citizens.

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