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CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER :

PAGE	PAGE
Acetylene, Advantages of 101	Independent Telephones..... 93
Boiler Pressure 4	Krupp Works..... 44
Braun-Siemens and Halske System of Wireless Telegraphy..... 113	Lathe, American 97
Canadian Mining Institute 106	Lathe, Hexagon Turret, with Chas- ing Saddle 109
Canadian Electrical Association 102	Light, Heat, Power, Etc 111
Conveyor for Press Room 101	Mountains, Flow of..... 102
Coal Consumption, Future Econo- mies in 103	Marine News 116
Coal Commission Award..... 93	Municipal Works, etc..... 118
Color Photography 93	Mineral Production of Canada..... 120
Dominion Motor and Machine Co's Runabout..... 105	New Companies 43
Dredge, Electric, for Atlin 96	Patent Laws, Changes in United States 105
De Forest Wireless Telegraph System 95	Personal 119
Electric Power from Ontario Waters Engineer's Club of Toronto..... 102	Pig Iron Production in Canada 96
Flat Iron Building, New York..... 100	Queen's University, Electrical Equipment at 102
Gas Engines, Small, Using City Gas Governor, The Robb-Armstrong Sweet..... 98	Ratchet, the Armstrong Universal 98
Greening, B. Wire Co..... 101	Roads in Europe 107
Gravity Motor, New..... 108	Railway Matters 117
Ice Laden Telegraph and Other Wires, Weight of 100	Railway Accidents and their Pre- vention 93
Irrigation, Electrical 99	Singing Arc Lamp 105
Industrial Notes 109	Science and Invention 115
Inter-Imperial Postage and Inter- Imperial Trade 91	Steamboat Engineers for this Year. 96
	Tesla's Predictions 4
	Train Signal, An Electric..... 99
	Turret Ship..... 108
	Welding, Electric 101

The articles now running in the Canadian Engineer on the
Electrical Power Developments of Canada, will be reprinted in book
form, with diagrams and folding plates. Price \$5.00 per copy
Advance orders received.

Subscribers who intend binding the last volume of The Canadian
Engineer, and who require a copy of the index, will please advise
us at once

INTER-IMPERIAL POSTAGE AND INTER-IMPERIAL TRADE.

It speaks volumes for the insight of the men who
compose the Montreal Board of Trade that while they
are all purely commercial men they have a statesmanlike
perception of the influence of literature upon trade, and
hence they were the first important organization to
congratulate Sir William Mulock, the Postmaster General,
on reducing the postal rates on newspapers and printed
matter going to Great Britain to the level of our domestic
rates. For four or five years Sir William Mulock has
at various times asked the British Postmaster General to
make the same reciprocal arrangement between the Mother
Country and Canada, as has existed between Canada and
the States ever since Confederation, under which arrange-
ment printed matter is exchanged through the post-office
at the domestic rate of each country, but the Canadian
offer has always been met by that attitude of inertia which
calls up Tennyson's characterization of "the stony British

stare." However Sir William persevered and in the case
of letter postage was able at last to get a mutual reduction
to the penny (two cent) rate which has become
a memorable postal reform by being extended to nearly
all parts of the Empire. And now the fence that
has barred out literature from easy circulation between the
two countries has been partly broken down by the British
office consenting to the admission of Canadian papers.
books, catalogues, etc., at the domestic rate of Canada,
We join the Montreal Board of Trade in congratulating
Sir William Mulock on this step in advance, which is
destined to have a momentous influence on the literary,
social and trade relations of Canada and the Empire,
because it is now only a question of a short time when
cheap postal rates from Great Britain to the Colonies will
follow as in the case of Imperial penny postage and the
freer circulation of British literature over the British
world will make itself felt in all phases of life.

A few Canadian editors having personal knowledge of
the extent to which cheap newspaper and book and cata-
logue postage was being made the instrument of pro-
moting the trade of United States manufacturers and
merchants with Canada, and how this trade is main-
tained in spite of the preferential tariff in favor of British
goods, took up the matter in the Canadian Press Associa-
tion three years ago, and that association has done some-
thing to strengthen our Postmaster General's hands each
year since.

The editor of the CANADIAN ENGINEER was asked re-
cently to make a statement of the case for cheap postage as
it bore on the trade of Great Britain with Canada. As
the subject is of real importance to British and Canadian
manufacturers we make a few quotations from this article,
which appeared in *Britannia*, of London and Glasgow, a
magazine devoted to the closer union of home country and
Colonies:—

"Taking the term 'press' to mean not merely news-
papers, but periodicals, books, and even trade catalogues,
it is the writer's purpose to show, from the recent history
of the press in Canada, that the Mother Country is in
effect maintaining, in the form of postal restriction, a
tariff wall against its own trade throughout the English-
speaking world. And the same restrictions that are
suffocating trade between the Mother Country and some
of her most important daughter-nations is also beginning
to stifle that free interchange of thought and sentiment
which is the life of an Empire separated by the seven seas.
The postal relations of Canada and the United States
afford a striking example of the commercial benefits of an
unhampered interchange of the products of the press,
and the fact should warn the people of Great Britain
against continuing a policy that chokes off a million
pounds' worth of trade for the sake of a thousand pounds
in newspaper postage.

Profit has never been an object in the postal service
of either the United States or Canada, and, more than
once, laws have been in force giving free transportation to
newspapers from the offices of publication, on the ground