

# THE ELECTRICAL MECHANICAL AND MILLING NEWS

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## ELECTRICAL, Mechanical and Milling News,

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH BY

**CHAS. H. MORTIMER,**

Office, 14 King Street West,

TORONTO, - - CANADA.

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertising rates sent promptly on application. Orders for advertising should reach this office not later than the 25th day of the month immediately preceding our date of issue.

Changes in advertisements will be made whenever desired, without cost to the advertiser, but to insure proper compliance with the instructions of the advertiser, requests for change should reach this office as early as the 22nd day of the month.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL AND MILLING NEWS will be mailed to subscribers in the Dominion, or the United States, post free, for \$1.00 per annum, 50 cents for six months. The price of subscription may be remitted by currency, in registered letter, or by postal order payable to C. H. Mortimer. Please do not send cheques on local banks unless 25 cents is added for cost of discount. Money sent in unregistered letters must be at senders' risk. The sending of the paper may be considered as evidence that we received the money.

Subscriptions from all foreign countries, embraced in the General Postal Union will be accepted at \$1.25 per annum.

Subscribers may have the mailing address changed as often as desired. When ordering change, always give the old as well as the new address. The Publisher should be notified of the failure of subscribers to receive their papers promptly and regularly.

### EDITOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Correspondence is invited upon all topics pertinent to the electrical, mechanical and milling interests.

OWING to a rise amounting to about 20 per cent. in the price of crude rubber, the rubber goods manufacturers of the United States met in New York recently and decided to advance prices in a proportionate degree.

WE have been asked by Mr. D. H. Ranck, Secretary, to extend to Canadian millers, on behalf of the Indiana Millers' Association, a cordial invitation to attend an important meeting of winter wheat millers to be held at Fort Wayne, Ind., on May 13th.

IT gives us pleasure to be able to state that the sanction of Parliament has been given to the bills authorizing the Commissioner of Patents to extend the patents of the Geo. T. Smith Co., of Stratford, Ont., and Mr. Samuel May, of Toronto, which, through inadvertence were allowed to lapse, as stated in our April number.

WE read that twenty men had a narrow escape from being killed by an explosion of mill dust in a Chicago brewery the other day. The danger of explosions occurring from the contact of fine particles of dust with the flame of a lighted candle or lamp is not as fully appreciated as it should be by workmen employed in mills and factories, nor indeed by the owners thereof. The introduction of the electric light would remove all danger from this cause, and the day is coming when its use in manufacturing establishments will be universal.

THE municipal authorities of New York state their intention of returning to the use of gas for public lighting. Our opinion is that they are indulging in a little game of "bluff" in the hope of getting a further reduction of prices from the electric light companies. The latter would be doing an extremely foolish thing were they to agree to do the work at an unprofitable figure, as the people of New York will never tolerate the

use of gas for street lighting again. Progress, not retrogression, is the watchword of mankind to-day.

NEW York detectives are said to have spent a couple of months in the city of Hamilton recently with the object of securing evidence which would have enabled an American electrical concern to bring suit against the Hamilton Electric Lamp Company for infringement of patents. The manager of the Hamilton Company is reported to have said to a reporter that one of his employees was offered \$4,000 to sign a paper implicating the Edison Co. in a breach of the patent regulations. The New Yorkers returned home, however, without accomplishing their purpose.

A NUMBER of Montreal wheat speculators are said to have made small fortunes during the last month as a result of a sharp advance in wheat prices, due to unfavorable reports concerning the European crop. As usual under such circumstances, several firms are said to be carrying large stocks in the belief that still larger profits will be obtained. The lesson learned by the purchasers of Manitoba wheat at fancy prices a year or two ago, has apparently been forgotten. The saying that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," is nowhere deserving of more attention than in wheat speculation.

DOES it pay to advertise? Certainly it does, provided your advertisement is properly worded, attractively displayed and inserted in a journal which circulates widely amongst the class of persons you wish to do business with. The latest testimony to the value of the E. M. & M. NEWS as an advertising medium for manufacturers comes from the Geo. T. Smith Company, of Stratford. They inform us that they recently sold a quantity of machinery to Mr. Howse, of Nicola Lake, B. C., solely as the result of their advertisement in this journal. Prior to seeing the firm's advertisement Mr. Howse was unaware of their existence, and immediately opened communication with them with the result stated. It is frequently from remote points like this, unvisited by travelling representatives, that the properly planted advertisement secures business for the advertiser.

IT is daily becoming more evident that electricity is destined to play an important part in the manufacturing industries. The electric light has made possible the performance of more and better work in machine shops and factories. The electric motor has solved the problem of economical power, and is coming largely into use as its capabilities become better understood. The electric welding machine performs in a perfect manner the work heretofore done by hand, and with a rapidity that is marvellous and highly suggestive of increased profits when compared with the method hitherto employed, and so on, *ad infinitum*. The growth of the electrical industries in Canada has been very rapid of late, and at the present time the demands of the country in many directions can be fully met by Canadian manufacturers. A wide field undoubtedly exists for the electric welding machine, and we should be pleased to see arrangements made for its manufacture within the Dominion.

THE *American Machinist* refers to the example set by the late M. Chanteloup, brass founder, of Montreal, in leaving his fortune of half a million to be divided among his former employees, and adds: "We don't know how it may be in Canada, but if such a thing should be done in this country, it is perfectly safe to say that relatives would turn up who would succeed in proving that the testator was insane, and, if they did not prevent a division of the money entirely, would delay it

so long that most of the employees would be dead or independently wealthy themselves, and the lawyers would have the five hundred thousand." We may remark that the disposition of heirs on this side the line closely corresponds to our contemporary's description of the United States species. It may be taken for granted that the heirs Chanteloup will be emphatically heard from in due course.

THE danger to life and property resulting from the operations of electricity has been the theme of endless comment by writers on the daily press. A vast amount of rubbish has appeared on the subject, and the new agency through which has come so much comfort and convenience to mankind, is made to bear a great deal of unmerited blame. Scarcely a fire of any magnitude has occurred recently in the large cities of the United States that has not been attributed to the electric current. So far have these exaggerations been carried, that they have become by-words among the writers of the electrical press. Our English contemporary, the *Electrical Review*, for instance, ironically remarks: "The burning of Toronto University was caused by the falling of an oil lamp. An hour later 2,000 guests would have been in the building attending the *fete*. What an opportunity missed for electricity!"

DR. WILSON, M. P. for Elgin, is moving in the House of Commons to have grain testers enlarged from one-sixteenth bushel to one peck. The wheat buyers have no objection to this in principle, but would have good reason to complain of such a change, on the ground that they have invested thousands of dollars in the testers at present in use, and further have paid one dollar on every tester for Government inspection. Every tester in use has been inspected by a Government official and has been declared to be strictly correct. Further than this, the millers have in some cases taken their testers to farmers' meetings and placed them in the hands of farmers alongside the half bushel measure, and in every such instance the farmers themselves have declared them to be correct. The Secretary of the D. M. A. has written the Government calling attention to these facts, and has also informed Dr. Wilson that it devolves upon him to prove the existence of a grievance before asking Parliament for a remedy.

THERE has within the last few weeks been a turn in the tide of the Canadian miller's affairs. For several years past he has been in decidedly hard luck—in fact, well nigh squeezed out of existence. As the result of a determined effort on the part of the Dominion Millers' Association, he again finds his feet on *terra firma*, and the dejected, hopeless expression which so long served as a mark of recognition, is no longer to be seen on his countenance. A peep into the meeting held in Toronto a month ago, and which is reported in the present number, revealed the fact that the recent action of the Government has put new life and encouragement into the great Canadian milling industry. It has likewise given a new stimulus to the D. M. A., and ensured its continued existence for the purpose of bringing about in other directions much-needed reforms affecting the prosperity of the millers. As a member of the Association truly said at the late meeting, the work of the Association has only commenced. Let it go forward, encouraged by the success which has already crowned its efforts, and guard and promote the interests of its members in every way possible. We are pleased to learn that the Association has taken immediate action with regard to some of the matters requiring its attention. The committee appointed at the recent meeting have succeeded in making an arrangement with the G. T. R. to grind American wheat in transit for export