

and I hope he is not looking to these people for a position, I think that a good deal of credit is due him for this paper. He has made a good study of this work for the Grand Trunk, they having in view the making use of this power, and from the interest taken in preparing his paper he has made a success of it. From the number of faces I see here to-night that I have not seen before, we have quite a few here that are interested in this work, and I would prefer that members volunteer to come forward in regard to the discussion of this paper and not wait to be called upon. We would be pleased to hear from any member present.

Mr. R. L. Frost,—

I note in the illustration regarding suction producers that steam and air are admitted from the bottom, whereas in the Loomis-Pettibone system it is admitted from the top. Can you explain us why?

Mr. J. R. Armer,—

The idea in the Loomis-Pettibone system is to draw the products of dissolution through the fuel bed and thus convert any tarry vapors into a fixed gas, so that the tar will not condense in the pipes and carry tar to the engine, which is very undesirable. In other systems they have tar extractors, such as in the Crosby gas producers.

Chairman,—

I understand we have with us to-night Mr. Groves, who is an authority on gas producer plants. We would be pleased to hear from that gentleman on the subject.

Mr. S. Groves, late Editor of *The Canadian Engineer*,—

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen:—I have listened to the lecturer to-night with a great deal of pleasure. It is a subject I have given some thought to, and have had some experience in the actual working of gas producers. There is one thing I regret, that the lecturer did not show us what is being done in Canada in this line. The pioneers in this country have been the French-Canadians. In the Province of Quebec yonder, DeClercy has installed—to my knowledge—over 10 suction gas producer plants; but with this exception, progress has been slow. In England they are ahead of both Canada and the United States in the utilization of the gas engine. The United States, however, have beaten the world in the use of the gas producer. There are hundreds of gas producers in the rolling