

NOTICE

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WANTED

A British Fire Office requires the services of a young man as Inspector for the Province of Quebec, both languages necessary. Apply, to

Inspector,

Care The Chronicle, Montreal.

How to Reduce Losses from Electrical Equipment

Mr. W. J. Tallamy in his work as chief inspector for the Continental Insurance Company, New York says:—

It is estimated that 10 per cent. of the fire loss is due to electrical defects and that 90 per cent. of the electrical fires are the result of unapproved conditions. "The full meaning of this," Mr. Tallamy says, "will be better appreciated when we pause to realize that electrical hazards are almost entirely under the possible control of fire insurance

organizations. The public in general knows very little about electrical fire hazards. It depends largely upon the judgment of the fire insurance inspection organization for the safety of electrical equipment as is indicated by the fact that a large proportion of the contracts for the installation of electrical equipments are made subject to the approval of the Underwriters Association having jurisdiction."

"In view of existing conditions as herein outlined," he continues, "the following recommendations are made:

"1. Every effort should be made to bring about a closer form of co-operation and more friendly business relations between the electric light and power supply companies and the electrical underwriters' inspection departments with a view to having all new and changed electrical equipment comply with the present code of standards, without exception, before the current is turned on.

"2. All electrical contracts should have incorporated in their form a requirement for special permits before any change is made in the equipment, and any infraction of this rule should be properly penalized.

"3. That electrical inspection work be more general and not entirely dependent upon the requests of electrical contractors, and that a system of periodic electrical reinspection work be adopted with the view of detecting unauthorized changes in previously approved equipments correcting unsafe conditions that may have developed to constant service and gradually bringing all old and obsolete equipment up to the present standards of safety.

"4. Much benefit would be likely to follow if the rating exchange were to make it a point to confer with the electrical inspection department in connection with electrically equipped risks in all instances before applying the final rate. If no inspection has been made, one should be insisted upon.

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