of each of the troughs there is a strip of car aisle carpet, further improving the interior finish of the room. The walls are painted white above the tanks, and below this level black. This room has an upstairs where all the car stencils are cut out. This is the only portion two stories high. The ceiling of the lower room is finished in natural wood, varnished.

The oil tanks are filled in a novel manner, as indicated in fig. 2. The barrel to be emptied is brought in from the storage pile at the oil room end of the building through the door to the rear, and rolled up on to the shallow stand shown, where it is located, bung uppermost, by two wedges. In this position, the oil emptying apparatus is applied. An air connection from the left, carrying a gauge, connects to the side of a header that has a tapered threaded lower end that screws into the bung hole. This air connection leads into an annular space around the inside of the header. Down through the centre of the header there is a long sleeve, making the inner surface of the annular air space. Through this sleeve there is a length of

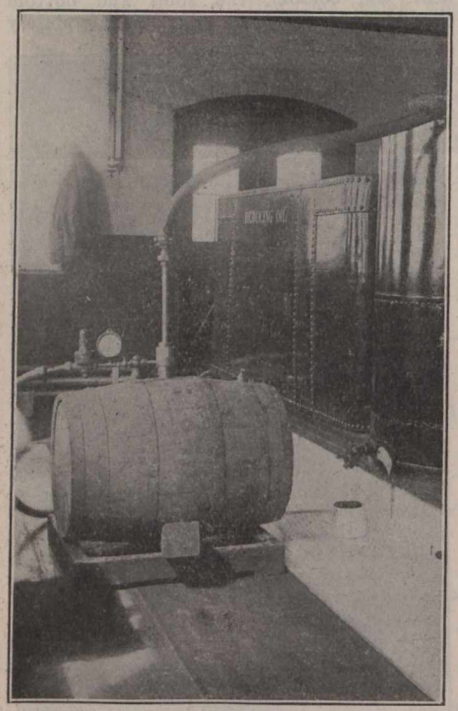

Fig. 2.—Filling Oil Storage Tanks.

pipe, making a fairly snug joint, but which is removable. This pipe is notched at its lower end, providing radiating channels through which the oil is free to enter. The air pressure on the top of the oil from the annular air space of the header forces the oil downwards, and up through the central pipe, which has a hose connection to the top of the barrel to be filled. All the attendant has to do is to turn on the air pressure, the barrel automatically draining itself, and when convenient to the attendant, he can turn it off, remove, and replace with another barrel. The operation is much simpler than it would be if a hand pump were used. Along the front wall of this oil room, there is a bench for repair work, etc., one end being separated for the oil room attendant's desk.

The middle room is used for mixing, the tanks for this purpose being ranged along the rear wall as shown in fig. 3. These are simply large vats, each containing an air connection from the air pipe along the wall about 4 ft. above the vats. A jet of air bubbling up through the paint ingredients thoroughly mixes them. The ingredients are dumped in from the receptacles in which they arrive, in the proper proportions, and require no hand mixing. The amount of mixing required from this plant latterly has not been as great as heretofore, as liquid stocks are coming into more general use for the making of the paints, instead of powder. The mixed paints are drawn off from the bottom through faucets, as in the oil tanks, there being a painted

Fig. 3.—Paint Mixing Tanks.

drip trough below as in the former instance.

Immediately in front of this row of mixing tanks there is a counter, carrying smaller mixing pots, and a paint stock pulverizer. This is immediately to the right of the central path through the oil house shown

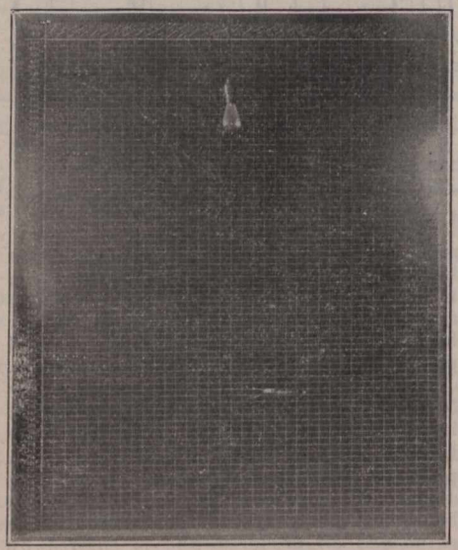

Fig. 5.—Workmen's Tool Record.

in the foreground in fig. 4. To the left in this illustration is the serving counter where the workmen receive their stock of paint and supplies. The serving portion of the room is entered from a door in the wall to the left. In the bins under this counter, there is kept the stock of white lead, powder, etc., each bin carrying a different product.

The system of keeping tab on all the tools issued from the oil and paint house centres on the tally board shown in fig. 5, located through the doorway as shown in fig. 4, on the end of the central rows of oil tanks in the oil room. This board is divided horizontally and vertically into blocks. Down the first column, there is a list of numbers, one for each of the painters on the payroll. At the head of each of the other columns, there is the name of the tool or tools issued, as for example, chamois, sponges, scrub brushes, paint cans, etc., every requirement of the men that it is possible to draw from stores being there recorded. Each morning, the painter is required to draw the supplies that will be required during the day, and in the block representing his number and the article drawn, there is inserted a peg in one of the four holes provided. If more than one of that particular article is drawn, a corresponding number of pegs is inserted in the block. Thus, 638 has drawn 1 chamois, 2 sponges, 2 scrub brushes, and water buckets. The supplies thus drawn at the beginning of the day must be returned the same night, leaving nothing of value that could be carried away lying around the shops. Ten minutes is allotted morning and night for this purpose. These supplies are kept in

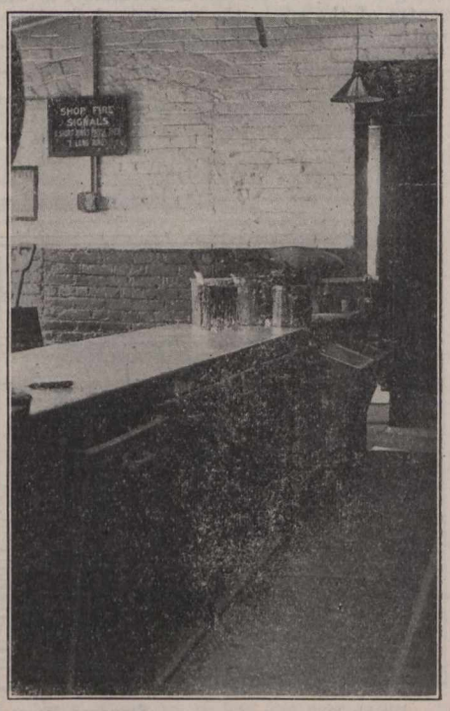


Fig. 4.—Serving Counter and Stock Bins.

pigeon holes in the front of the counter to the rear of the serving counter.

In the smallest room at the end opposite to the oil room, the rough stores that are in constant demand are kept. This is the only room of the lot that is not kept in a perfect condition at all times, but from the nature of the contents, and from the fact that considerable of the hand mixing is done there, it is impossible to keep it in the same condition as the other rooms.

In another building to the south of this end the inflammable materials, such as gasoline, are stored. This building is of concrete throughout, with vent holes a few feet above the ground. A division wall separates the building into two portions, the northern being for the purpose mentioned, and the southern being used for the storage of car stencils, which from their oily nature are very inflammable.

The whole oil and paint storage plant, considering the piecemeal evolution, is very complete, and handles the conditions admirably. The whole thing is handled by a single oil house man, showing the methodical manner in which it is laid out to make such a thing possible.