

Boiler and Inspection Act, '82-'90 of the English Parliament, and the Steam Boiler Inspection Act, Canada. Under the English Act, the boiler owner may use a boiler of whatever kind and in whatever condition he chooses. It may be tended by skilled or unskilled engineers, and inspected by anyone from a properly qualified inspector, down to the village blacksmith, but everything in the nature of an explosion of any kind occurring in connection with the boiler must be reported



THE ELMWOOD BOILER EXPLOSION.

within twenty-four hours by the owner to the Board of Trade. A preliminary inquiry is held, and if necessary, a second and more exhaustive inquiry. The court of inquiry consists of an engineer and a lawyer, who are empowered to subpoena witnesses, hear evidence, and assess the damages on the owners of the plant. Further, the decision of this court is received as evidence in civil suits which may be taken against the owners for injuries arising from the accident.

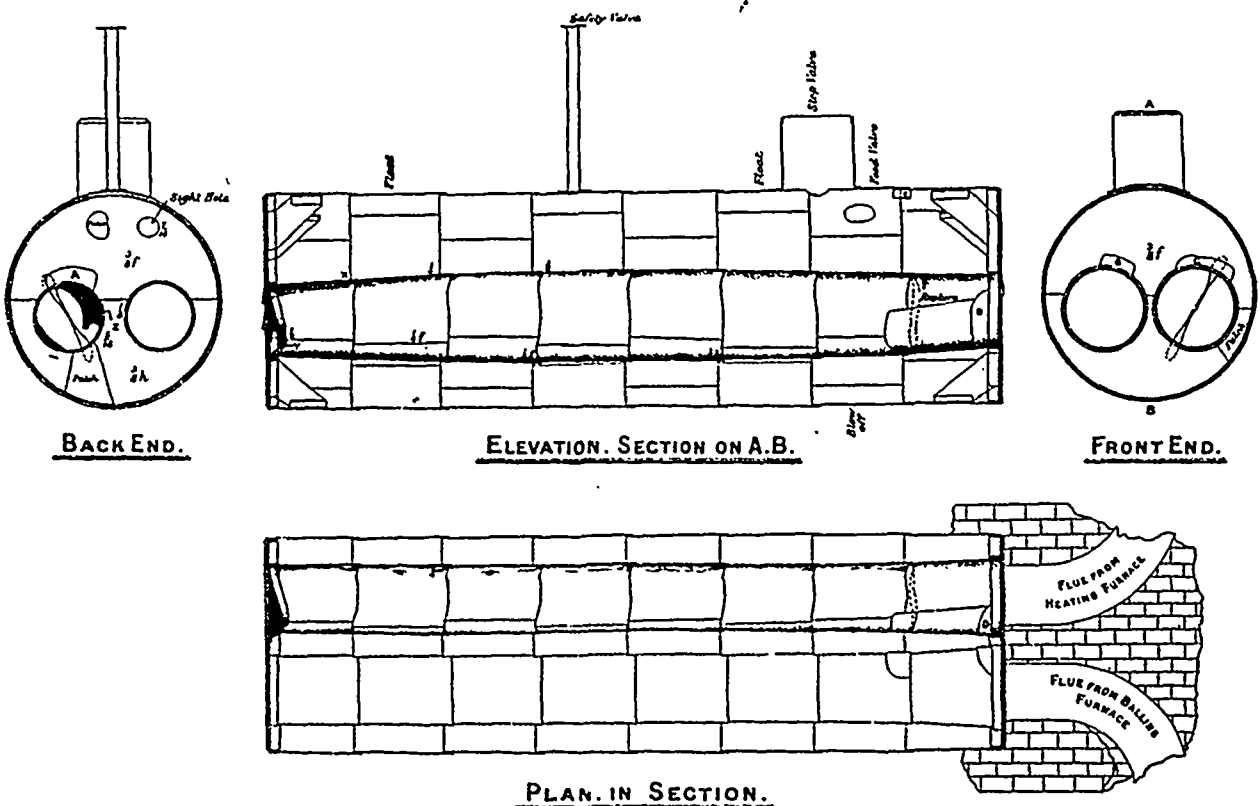
best manner. In no other way can this care and attention be secured, because the only object to which every man will give attention is to his pocket. Now to assure a result equal to this from an inspection law you must assume that all inspectors are perfect, and do their work equally well at all times, which, as long as they are human beings, is too great an assumption to make. The inspection of stationary boilers would be attended with very great expense and inconvenience. Marine boilers in Canada are all laid up for some months in winter, and can then be inspected without loss of time, but stationary boilers are for the most part in continual use and their inspection would therefore be most expensive and annoying.

Full reports upon these investigations in England are published by the Queen's Printer, and sold everywhere at a very small price. In this way the dangerous conditions which cause the accident are made known; the maker of the boiler, and the inspector, if any, who had pronounced it safe, etc., are all made public, and this acts as a check on carelessness or faulty work. In these investigations the detail statement gives: 1st, place of explosion and name of owner; 2nd, date; 3rd, persons killed; 4th, or injured; 5th, general description and age of the boiler; 6th, part which gave way; 7th, purpose for which used; 8th, whether inspected or insured by any company or association; 9th, cause of the explosion; 10th, findings of the court.

As an illustration of the workings of the Act we will give a summary of the report "No. 909" upon an

(Report No. 909.)

BOILER EXPLOSION AT THE EXCELSIOR IRON & STEEL WORKS, WISHAW, N.B.



It was thus seen that the owner of the boiler is under no restrictions. His liberty with regard to the boiler is complete, but if he avails himself of this to endanger anyone else and damage their property, heavy penalties are imposed. It pays, therefore, to have good boilers and have them attended and inspected in the

explosion which took place at the Excelsior Iron Works, Wishaw, N.B. The report sets forth fully all the details under each of the different heads stated above, accompanying the whole by drawings of which we give a photo-engraving. A minute statement of all repairs which have been made to the boiler at any time