

Instructions are given to workmen in every shop as to the use of the various appliances, and notices are posted where they can readily be seen, such as, "Never run a wheel above its indicated speed." A workman on an emery wheel should keep his eyes and body out of the plane of rotation of the wheel. A grinder is advised to wear large, protective glasses, made of plane glass, or some form of protector for his eyes. Appliances and guards are placed over wheels and other portions of machinery, and wire screens, protective glasses, and other safeguards are supplied to the workmen for their protection.

Even with all this many accidents do occur, and many an eye is lost through ignorance and neglect. Laws should be on our statute books not only compelling the employer to furnish adequate protection, but likewise compelling the employee to take advantage of the means provided for the conservation of his vision.

#### WOOD ALCOHOL.

That the use of wood alcohol is responsible for the loss of eyesight, and even the loss of life, is a fact more or less widely known. Since, in 1904, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* published papers by the late Frank Buller and Casey A. Wood, that knowledge and the fact that a perfectly harmless cheap substitute has been introduced in the form of commercial denatured alcohol, which can be obtained of any druggist, and would render the use of the deadly wood alcohol practically nil.

The ignorance of the general public of the dangers of the use of wood alcohol can easily be understood, but that manufacturers and men employing large numbers of laborers in the arts and sciences should still persist in using the deadly drug when the commercialized alcohol is equally as cheap and easy to obtain is beyond comprehension.

That reasons for using wood alcohol as a cheap substitute for grain alcohol are still pressed upon the large consumer and the small consumer, the manufacturer and the housewife; that it is still largely used for cleaning and fuel, still enters into the making of varnishes, into essences, flavoring extracts and perfumes; that it still exists in the face of its deadly qualities, should be a reason for extreme measures being taken by men in and out of the medical profession.

It should be the business of every medical practitioner, every medical journal, as well as the daily press, to give widespread publicity of the existence of the denatured, harmless grain alcohol now on the market, as cheap as the other substitute which has been accountable for numberless deaths and countless cases of blindness.

While on the subject I would like to suggest that every member of this association should use his influence to have a bill introduced into the