

A Permanent Machinery Exhibition

H. W. Petrie opens up the old Cyclorama Building on Front Street West---A splendid showing of American and Canadian Machinery and Tools--Special features for Exhibition time--A cordial invitation to visitors to call and inspect this new Machinery Hall.

Those of our readers who for various reasons have occasion to use the Union Station in this city (and who have not) have possibly been struck by the signs of life and activity that characterize a building which, for over six years stood vacant, as an eyesore. Reference is here made to the old Cyclorama building. What was once a dull, lifeless and empty combination of bricks and mortar is to-day throbbing with life, due to the fact that an enterprising and go-ahead business man saw the opportunity and grasped it.

Realizing the great part tools and machinery of all kinds must play in the wonderful development now going on in our land, H. W. Petrie, who for years has conducted a growing business in new and second-hand machinery in this city, undertook to acquire the building and make of it a permanent exhibition of machinery. All know how much more satisfactory it is to see and handle what one is buying, than to transact business simply by means of correspondence. Mr. Petrie has in this addition to his plant a place where machinery men from all parts of our Dominion may call and see the very latest types of machines for all conceivable purposes.

Coming from Brantford in 1890, Mr. Petrie took the premises at 141-145 Front St. West, where his business has grown to such proportions as to make this addition absolutely necessary, giving a total floor space of 80,000 square feet, which, it must be admitted, is a remarkable area to be given to the storing of machinery.

This new Machinery Hall is to be devoted to the display of new machines, and these only, while the older premises adjoining will contain all second-hand machinery, so that if a purchaser does not find just what he wants in one department all he has to do is to step next door, where his needs can be supplied.

Many people fail to grasp fully what it means to conduct a business of such dimensions. Situated as the building is, adjoining the tracks of both the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk Railways it is singularly favored. While speaking of this it is interesting to note that by opening this new part a short-cut is possible to and from the platforms of the Union Station. In a short time it is the intention to show a number of machines in operation. This will be done as soon as the necessary line shafting is in position. This exhibition of machinery, besides having value as a commercial enterprise has real value from an educational view-point, and is well worth a visit. In these days of rapid invention, when the machine of to-day is relegated to the scrap pile to-morrow it is difficult oft times to keep in touch with the latest in this line. An occasional visit to Petrie's Machinery Hall will do much to keep you posted, as nothing but the very latest types of machinery will be kept in stock.

Toronto is, above all other cities most favorably situated for the distribution of machine tools. Served by good railroad and steamer facilities, adjacent to a section of our Dominion which is destined to be the great manufacturing section for years to come, and especially so when cheaper power is supplied from Niagara Falls, as undoubtedly it will. Another fact which makes it unique as a distributing centre, for machinery at least, is that it is near to the large machine manufacturing states, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania. What city more than Toronto is entitled to have it's permanent Machinery Exhibition? Here, all the year round, those interested in things mechanical may come and inspect the very best that mechanical skill and workmanship of this continent can produce.

This new machinery emporium is 125 feet in diameter. The ground floor is covered with machinery of all descriptions. It is the intention, as soon as possible, to place a balcony all around the interior, about sixteen feet from the floor, which will be used for offices, smaller machines and supplies.

In the centre is a 15-ton jib crane, which can with great ease and facility, move machinery from one place to another.

Since Mr. Petrie entered the machine supply business he has furnished machinery for people in all parts of Canada. Lathes, planers, shapers, drills, milling machines, all kinds of wood working machinery, boilers and engines, in fact machinery of every sort for use in machine shops, foundries, saw mills and factories, are to be seen at this new and important addition to Toronto's mechanical interests.

It makes no difference what you want in the machinery line. Just make that want known to H. W. Petrie, and if it is not already in stock, you will not have long to wait. This is accomplished by a system in use by which, in the minimum of time, the buyer and seller are brought together.

In view of the fact that during the next two weeks, many who are interested in machinery of different kinds will be in Toronto, a cordial invitation is extended to all such to visit and use the new building as headquarters. Its location is next door to the Union Station. Every effort will be made on the part of the management to give visitors the best of attention.

The display of machinery is creditable and well worth a visit of any and all who have any interest whatever in mechanical things.