the high spots of the surface to hit the passing air, and as the friction between air and air is less than between air and a smooth solid body the resistance of rough surfaces is smaller. It would be worth while to put this theory to a practical test on railways, but it is a question if it could be used to advantage, since a rough surface offers better opportunities for dust and soot to settle and cling to the car, and is harder to dislodge in the cleaning yards, than from smooth surfaces, some advantages could be derived in the general appearance of the car, since it is impossible to prevent slight buckles with even the very best of care and the use of so-called "patent level" material, which are shown up by a glossy coat of varnish, which de-fect could be effectively covered by the use of a dull finited conference. of a dull finished surface.

Bearing friction, one of the main factors of train resistance, is one of the points that was apparently neglected until quite recently. We must concede, of course, that a lot of improvements have been made in the use of antifriction metals, but the main issue, the conversion of gliding friction into rolling friction, which would signify a con-

was conceded that the results derived from roller bearings were favorable when the cars were run at low speed, the draft resistance at higher speeds was increasing rapidly and exceeded in some cases that of gliding friction bearings. As to these ob-jections much can be said that will put the roller bearing in a more favorable light for consideration.

Heat treatment of special high grades of steel, and the use of vanadium in the manufacture of steel, has made the rollers tougher and harder, so that they can be subjected to higher pressures with impunity.

End thrust bearings were designed to take care of the end thrust of axles, and it can be only a question of time and experiments until a roller bearing for cars will be evolved that will meet all requirements, so that the saving in drawbar pull will more than counterbalance the extra expense of roller bearings.

Experiments were made by Prof. W. P. Graham, of Syracuse university, in 1905, in which the merits of roller bearings were clearly demonstrated by the power con-sumption of electric street cars equipped with roller bearings and without roller with roller bearings and without roller



Freight Locomotives .-- Dimensions of Fireboxes Reported as Giving Good Service.

siderable reduction in draft resistance, has been woefully neglected. I am sure that this neglect, or rather the lack of interest shown in taking this matter up for high class passenger rolling stock has had many reasons that could serve as an excuse. Ex-cluding ball bearings entirely, the reasons held against the application of roller bearings were the high pressures to which rollers were subjected to, the complication of design and the high initial cost of the bearings, the possibility of an absolute locking of axle, if one of the rollers should break, and the danger resulting therefrom to the passengers, the difficulty of repairs, the end thrust that has to be taken care of, and a lot of other objections of lesser importance.

Several leading railways of the country carried on experiments in years gone by, but the result was in many instances not encouraging. The pressures on the rollers, made of impure and not properly hardened steel, were excessive, the rollers broke, the wear was excessive where pressures had exceeded a certain limit, so that the application of roller bearings was confined to light rolling stock only, and although it

bearings. These experiments showed a saving of power of about 50% by the use of roller bearings, compared to gliding fric-tion bearings of the old type. As the testing facilities must have been of a crude kind, no definite information was given regarding the power consumption per ton mile at varying speeds, the speeds being in every case below 25 miles an hour, so that not many deductions can be drawn from this test. No special test was made to show why the resistance of roller bearings should increase more rapidly after attain-ing a certain speed limit than gliding friction bearings, and although we can surmise that this is caused by the crowding of rollers, which thus set up a gliding friction among themselves, taking place at double the circumferencial speed of one roller, we have no confirmation by test. The use of. and experiments with, roller cages would be advisable, because they are designed to prevent such a state of affairs. Further provisions will have to be made to prevent accidents in case of breakage of rollers, and special care will have to be taken to make the journal as dust tight as possible. That the roller bearing has been a success

in all those places where the power is limited has been proven by the use of these roller bearings in harvesting machinery, and this is still more surprising since we know that the working conditions of agricultural machinery are worse than those of a truck in motion.

One other factor in making up our drawbar resistance is slip. The percentage of slip is varying and increases with the difference in diameters of mated wheels on one axle. Although all our railway shops pay special attention to this fact, when they are turning new or repaired passenger equipment out of their shops, it is impos-sible to maintain equal diameters for any reasonable length of time, since the difference in finish of cut, material, carbon percentage, hardness, etc., are different in every wheel and in every brakeshoe, so that the best diameter balance will be upset in the shortest time. To investigate the amount of slip in actual service and the increase in drawbar pull necessitated by these gliding friction losses at high pressure would be highly interesting, the more so since the drawbar pull alone is only one factor that is mentioned here. The wear on tires and rails must be excessive, since the pressure per square inch of contact between wheel and rail is very high.

To prove this assertion the following figures, based on a theoretical modulus of gliding friction of 0.75 between steel and steel for exceptionally high pressures per square inch and without lubrication, are set down.

The assumption is a train, consisting of 6 cars of 60 tons weight each, the diameter of wheels differing $\frac{1}{4}$ in., and the train being carried a distance of one mile. The foot pounds of drawbar pull to move a train at a speed of 45 miles an hour, with a pull of 17 lbs. per ton, is equal to: $17 \times 6 \times 60 \times 5280 = 32,313,600$ ft. lbs.

Revolutions of axle with a standard 36 in. wheel per mile=

5280 -=559 revolutions per mile. 3.1415×3

Slip per revolution in inches= 0.25×3.14159 =0.785 inches.

 0.785×559 Total slip in ft. per mile=--= 36.56 ft.

12

Friction loss in ft. lbs.= $36.56 \times 6 \times 120000 \times 0.75$

2

=9, 875,000 with load of train.

The friction loss in ft. lbs. with load of train is, therefore, equal to 30.5% of the total drawbar pull.

These figures are, of course, only based on theoretical assumptions, and are used to point a way to investigate one of our heaviest power losses. There is no doubt that the percentage of this resistance will change materially with the speed of trains and weight of cars, and further we maintain that the bulk of flange wear is caused by this difference in diameter of tires, since there is always a lot of play between jour-nal box and journal brass, which permits a constant twisting of the axle, caused by the afore-mentioned forces, which results in the tendency to climbing of flange on rail.

The trouble of slip could be overcome by the application of individual wheels to the truck, or simpler still by the use of sleeve shafts. It would be going too far to advocate the application of this principle, for which a practical solution will have to be found to our present day trucks, but the time will come some day, when the reduction of draft resistance will become imperative, and if we could find means of reducing our draft resistance some 50 to 75% it would mean that we could haul