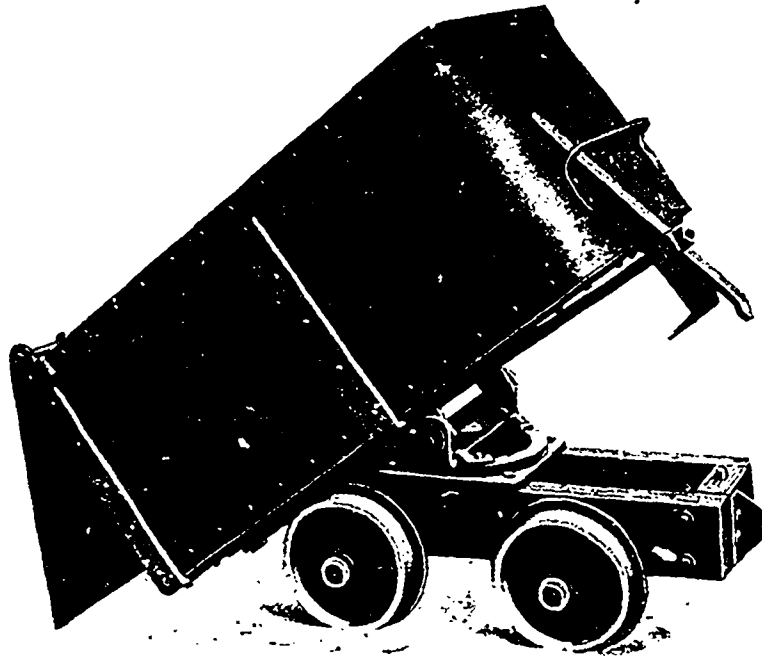


are generally simpler to understand and repair than electrical, and the fitting in of spare parts can easily and cheaply be effected in the mine. The joints of compressed-air mains, however, are liable to leakage, and the splitting of the main into several channels is

comment on the finding of a departmental committee appointed by H. M. Home Secretary, to enquire into the use of electricity in coal and metalliferous mines, and the dangers attending it, and to report what measures should be adopted in the interests of safety by

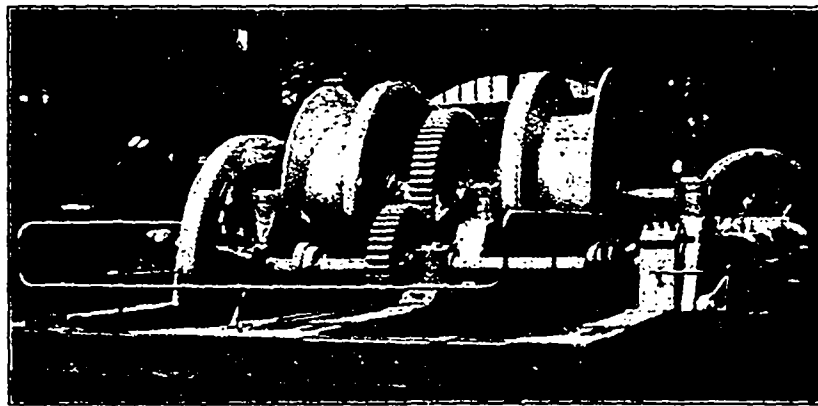


Modern Ore Car for Mine Use (Vancouver Engineering Works.)

not so simple a matter as in the case of electricity. A useful combination is often resorted to. Electricity is transmitted into a mine so far as is thought convenient or safe, and at this point an electrical air compressor is placed, which supplies power to machines

the establishment of special rules or otherwise. "This committee submitted as their finding the following four general principles which should govern the employment of electricity in mines:—

1.—The electric plant should always be treat-



A Haulage Engine for Heavy Work (Fraser & Chalmers, Ltd.)

situated further in the mine. Thus two purposes are served. The economical transmission of power by electricity is effected, and the use of compressed air is secured in parts of the mine that might threaten danger to the use of electricity, or in machines that do not adapt themselves to electrical power."

\* \* \* \* \*

Professor Robertson concluded his article with brief

ed as a source of potential danger.

2.—The plant, in the first instance, should be of thoroughly good quality, and so designed as to insure immunity from danger by shock or fire; and periodical tests should be made to see that this state of efficiency is being maintained.

3.—All electrical apparatus should be under the charge of competent persons.