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A Colossal Loss of Hours

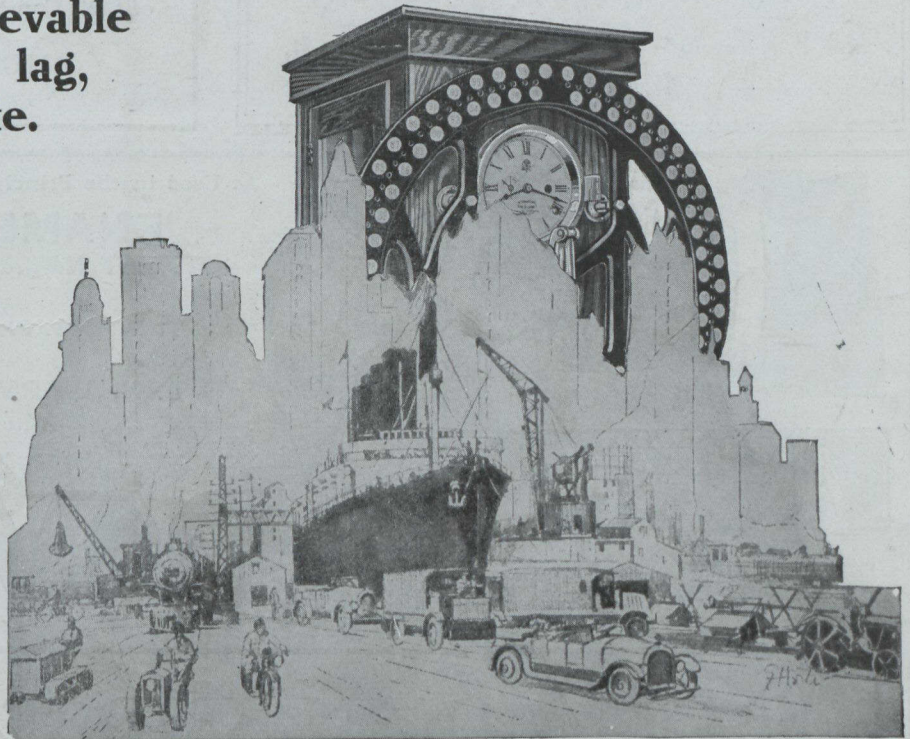
Losses almost unbelievable from policy of lag, leak and waste.

SOME day before long a real bright mayor, or a real bright controller, or a real bright councilman will take in hand an inquiry relative to the colossal loss of hours of municipal employees, which loss would be prevented if the employees were on the same basis as in any private business conducted on modern lines; namely, that of mechanically registering the time spent at their various vocations, by the use of International Time Recorders.

Why not? It is a foregone conclusion that the average loss per employee would be at least ten minutes a day; that is, ten minutes less work is done than is called for by the regular time schedule which is supposed to be carried out. It would be no exaggeration to figure two or three minutes lost in the morning on account of being late, five or six minutes lost at noon, and two or three more minutes lost through leaving too early at night. These figures would represent the minimum loss—as bear in mind the inquiry would apply to the employees in all the departments under the control of the municipality.

A thousand employees each losing ten minutes means a daily loss of 165 hours, which at 60 cents an hour means \$99 a day. There are municipal authorities who would quickly concede that our ten-minute contention is far too conservative. A thousand dollars a day is the least that is lost for the want of mechanical registration by each employee. Then, think of the many thousands of municipal employees throughout this country. Surely, "colossal" is the word to apply to the loss.

Many industrious, ambitious employees in the different municipalities do come to work faithfully on time schedule, but what



is their mental condition when all around them are fellow-employees getting to work ten minutes late twice a day? It must surely affect the morale of any organization.

Yes, some bright mayor, or some bright controller, or some bright councilman is going to take up this question and sooner or later there will be placed in Municipal offices Time Recorders similar to those already installed by many provincial Governments, and in many departments of the Federal Government—why not?

International Business Machines Co., Limited

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