

# The Canadian Engineer

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## The Canadian Engineer.

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THE MANUFACTURER, THE CONTRACTOR AND THE  
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### TO OUR READERS.

In closing the eleventh year of the Canadian Engineer, we desire to thank our readers and advertisers for the confidence they have shown in the paper, as manifested in their steadily increasing support.

We have now arrived at a point where the interests covered by the Canadian Engineer can be advantageously specialized, and in order to give better service and more matter to those of our readers who are solely interested in mechanical engineering, we have decided to start in January a new paper to be called

#### "THE CANADIAN MACHINE SHOP,"

which will be devoted exclusively to the interests of machinists, machinery users, foundrymen, and workers in the metal trades generally.

The new paper will be published in popular magazine style, at \$1 per year, and will amply illustrate the latest developments in modern machinery and shop practice. Our readers will oblige by making this announcement known to their friends who may be interested and who will desire to have a Canadian paper devoted to their particular needs. We do

not desire to displace the circulation in Canada of such of our esteemed contemporaries as the American Machinist, Machinery, the Model Engineer, and other excellent British and United States publications. We rather desire to see these ably conducted journals more extensively circulated, but feel sure that the addition of a thoroughly Canadian journal will be a useful adjunct in giving fresh information, and affording a valuable record of Canadian progress in the field. We shall be glad to receive the names of any subscribers for the "Canadian Machine Shop" from among the readers of the Canadian Engineer and shall take pleasure in sending a sample copy to them or any of their friends on request. We desire to enter upon our list as many as possible to start with the first number.

In conclusion we heartily wish our readers a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.



### THE BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY AND THE MUNICIPALITIES.

The decision of the Privy Council in the case of the Bell Telephone Company and the city of Toronto is a serious blow to the rights of municipalities. That any corporation should have the right under a Dominion Act to use the streets of Canadian cities and towns for the purpose of earning dividends for private stockholders, without adequate compensation for the privilege, is a position which should not be tolerated by the people. We are glad to note that Toronto has already taken action with the object of bringing the united pressure of the municipalities to bear upon the Government to amend the law in this respect. We are not, however, very sanguine as to the success of this policy. Experience in other matters, such as the exclusion of municipal and independent telephones from the railway stations at Fort William, Port Arthur, and other places, teaches that the monopoly generally emerges the victor in any agitation to curtail its rights. Only one means exists by which to secure to the people of Canada their rights in this, and other respects, and that is, break the monopoly by the establishment of municipal, or independent telephone systems under the control of the local authorities. In this connection we regret the lack of stability on the part of several municipal councils in their dealings with independent companies applying for competitive franchises. It is a matter of record that many aldermen who start out, at the beginning of an agitation for telephone competition, enthusiastic supporters of the movement invariably have a too willing ear for "Bell" arguments, and when a final vote is taken they are found on the side of the monopoly. In other cases all kinds of reasons are set forth to secure delay, or such onerous conditions are framed as effectually shut out any