

**RECENTLY PATENTED INVENTIONS.**

**Pertaining to Apparel.**

**SUBSTITUTE BUTTONHOLE ATTACHMENT.**—F. ROBERTSON, Denver, Colo. This attachment serves as an inexpensive substitute for frayed and worn-out buttonholes and may be quickly applied and detached without the use of any device other than the hands, and when applied presents a neat appearance and does not interfere with the flexibility of the surrounding material.

**RECEPTACLE FOR BABY-CLOTHS.**—C. BREWER, New York, N. Y. This receptacle is adapted to be set within the bowl of a water closet during the cleansing manipulation of the cloths and to retain no water when lifted therefrom. It is provided with a plug or stopper adapted to hold the water of the flushing system in the bowl.

**Electrical Devices.**

**HAIR-DRYING APPARATUS.**—W. A. SOLES, New York, N. Y. The invention is more especially designed for use in hairdressing establishments, barber shops and other places, and is arranged to insure drying of the hair by heated air and under the invigorating influence of artificial light, by the use of an electrically driven fan arranged in the rear of a cluster of electric lamps contained in a hood open at the front for the passage of the heated air and the rays of light.

**Of Interest to Farmers.**

**MILK PASTEURIZER AND FILTER.**—C. C. STAMBAUGH, New York, N. Y. In the present patent the invention has in view a simple apparatus for use in the pasteurization and filtration of milk, the pasteurizing and filtering being successively and continuously performed by passing the milk through a pall or vessel having the inventor's improvements.

**Of General Interest.**

**PACKAGE-TIE.**—H. J. LEE and E. F. GRAY, Scranton, Pa. The purpose here is to provide details of construction for a package tie, which are simple, practical, very convenient to tie or release a package, and that particularly well adapt the improvement for binding together a number of letters or documents in a compact package that may require separation quickly.

**SHEET-METAL TUBING.**—W. P. LAWRENCE, Colorado Springs, Colo. This improvement has reference more particularly to a construction of tubing for use in the frames of window sashes, window screens, or for the uprights or transverse members of metal furniture, or for paneling or any other similar structure in which it may be desired to employ sheet metal tubing.

**KNOCKDOWN BOX.**—W. L. HOWLAND, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This hollow box frame is open at the top and bottom, close around the inner sides of which is disposed a continuous piece of material projecting beyond the top and bottom of the frame, and having its projecting portions cut and bent down and against the top and bottom of the frame so that when the top and bottom members are secured, the continuous piece of material will be held close to the inner sides of the frame, while it may be readily removed by removing the top and bottom members.

**HAND MIXING-RECEPTACLE.**—A. HALLENBERG, Fargo, N. D. This inventor furnishes a receptacle for materials wherein the same may be mixed by compression of the walls of the receptacle. He provides a receptacle to receive materials to be mixed, provided with finger holds to protect the fingers, and to provide holding means for the receptacle.

**MEANS FOR HANGING DOORS, SCREENS, ETC.**—T. GILL, Follansbee, W. Va. The means consists in the main of a post or column of a length nearly equal to the height of the door opening or casing and provided with a suitable adjusting device for extending its length until it clamps at its ends against the door casing with sufficient force to retain it in place, the door being hinge-connected to this post in the usual manner of connecting it directly to a door casing.

**BUTTER AND LARD CUTTER.**—C. H. CARLSON, Iron Mountain, Mich. The aim in this instance is to provide a device especially adapted to cut out and remove a shaped pat of butter or lard from a firkin or other receptacle, and which is provided with means for ejecting the pat from the device without the necessity of touching it with the hands or any tool.

**Hardware.**

**BENCH-STOP.**—M. R. RAYNESFORD, Ellis, Kan. This invention relates to stops, and more particularly such as are adapted to be used on carpenters' benches for holding one end of a board firmly against the apron of a bench while the opposite end of the board is clamped in a vise. It constitutes an improvement on the device shown and described in a U. S. patent formerly granted to Mr. Raynesford.

**HOSE-COUPLING.**—W. F. KOPER, Chillicothe, Ohio. In using this invention, the head piece is introduced in the terminal of the union member having an annular chamber therein, and it is rotated in the terminal until

the stems of the T-shaped members are in alignment with the slots that separate the pairs of lugs, when the head piece is pulled outwardly until the T-shaped members interlock with the inner faced lugs. In this position the head piece protrudes through an opening in the rubber cup.

**Household Utilities.**

**CLOTHES-LINE HANGER.**—C. C. LOVEJOY, New York, N. Y. The device may be conveniently attached, and will operate to support the line in such a way that the end of the line may be brought into the room to enable the clothes to be hung thereupon, and the device may be readily folded up out of the way when not in use.

**CLOTHES-LINE TIGHTENER.**—R. C. SCHEURER and L. MAREK, Union Hill, N. J. This invention pertains to clothes line tighteners, and the object of the inventors is to produce a device which can be readily applied to a clothes line, which will enable the slack of the line to be taken up, and which will maintain the line under tension.

**Machines and Mechanical Devices.**

**DEVELOPING-MACHINE FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC FILMS.**—ELIZABETH A. TAYLOR, Stellacoom, Wash. This invention consists of a plurality of cylinders of different diameters disposed one within the other, there being slots in the cylinders, and projecting therein which engage each other so that when one cylinder is rotated a predetermined distance the projection thereon will engage the one on a neighboring cylinder to rotate it. In use the end of the film is secured to one of the cylinders and as they are rotated the film is wound around them, the film passing through the slots from one cylinder to another.

**Musical Devices.**

**REED-ORGAN.**—L. A. McCORD, Laurens, S. C. It is sought in this invention to provide an organ attachment which can be applied to any of the ordinary reed organs and will permit the playing of the organ by an automatic or self-player such for instance, as those using a certain perforated paper strip or sheet, and which self-playing attachment may be adjusted out of the way so the organ may be played in the usual manner.

**ADJUSTABLE PIANO-PEDAL CONNECTION.**—H. MEYER, New York, N. Y. The invention here is to provide an adjustable piano pedal connection, arranged to insure accurate working of the hammer rest rail, the damper rail and the muffer, as desired. The connecting bar is adjustably secured to a flat spring, which forms the fulcrum for the bar and is attached to a base secured to the bottom of the piano frame.

**Railways and Their Accessories.**

**RAILROAD-TIE.**—J. W. SNEDDEN, Falls Creek, Pa. Disclosed in this patent is a tie the sides of which are connected below the top by a web, the upper edges of the sides having inwardly projecting flanges between which the movable member of the rail fastening means coact with fixed rail retainers at the opposite side of the rail. The tie is hollow and between the walls either a filling of concrete, or a block of wood is adapted to be received.

**BLOCK-SIGNAL SYSTEM.**—J. D. NIX, Ferriday, La. An object of this inventor is to provide a mechanism which is located on the engine and forms part of the mechanism thereof which may be automatically operated by an electric current from a generator carried on another engine which is in the same block. The generators for furnishing the current may be either dynamos or batteries.

**FLAG OR SIGNAL.**—G. W. DALLMORE, Pocatello, Idaho. The object here is to produce a flag for use on railways, having a pole or staff within which the curtain or body of the flag may be received when the signal is not being displayed, and further, to provide a simple construction enabling a flag to be extended or withdrawn from view.

**CAR-FENDER.**—G. A. ESTLER, Standish, Mich. In this fender, a catching and supporting means prevents injury to a person with whom the fender has forcible contact, and the purpose of the invention is to provide for a fender effective in service, and which may be placed on street or other cars for service without requiring changes in the construction of the cars.

**LOCK-VALVE.**—T. M. SWANK, Louisville, Ky. This valve is for use in connection with the train pipe of an air brake system, which has locking mechanism serving to prevent unauthorized and malicious tampering with the valve, which also prevents accidental closing of the valve when open, and which will not cause unnecessary delay in certain operations such as in switching or coupling cars.

**AUTOMATIC TRACK-INSPECTOR.**—T. ELLIS, Tacoma; G. H. PURVIS, Seattle, and J. S. CRECH, Raymond, Wash. The invention relates to automatic track inspectors, that is, to mechanism for indicating the condition of a railway track. More particularly stated it comprises various improvements, whereby the general efficiency of such mechanism is greatly increased, and the operations rendered more practicable.

**Pertaining to Recreation.**

**COMBINED CREEL AND KIT.**—H. W. WAKEFIELD and C. F. HARTER, Seattle, Wash. The improvement is in anglers creels, the purpose of which is the provision of a kit in connection with the creel or basket for the storing of hooks, lines, leaders and other fishing paraphernalia, in order that the same may be at all times readily accessible and thus facilitate the replacing of lost hooks, etc.

**GAME.**—H. E. HIRE, Mark Center, Ohio. Mr. Hire's invention relates to games, and the object is to provide a game which has many of the features of the game of base ball and is especially devised to assist in the training of pitchers for the outdoor game of base ball, and to test their skill at the outdoor game.

**TOY CANNON.**—W. H. CORNFORD, Mornington, Victoria, Australia. This application is in part a division of the application formerly filed by Mr. Cornford for Letters Patent on a military game or toy, and the present invention relates to a toy cannon or gun of special construction adapted to be used in connection with the said game. It provides for rapid firing of pellets, retaining them in position till fired, automatically readjusting them if displaced, and means for elevating and depressing the cannon.

**Pertaining to Vehicles.**

**INFLATING DEVICE FOR TIRES.**—E. HAYNES, Bisbee, Ariz. Ter. This invention is particularly useful in connection with pneumatic tires such as are used on motor vehicles and the like. The aim is to provide an efficient device for tires, which is automatic in operation and which obviates the necessity for manually or otherwise extraneously inflating a tire.

**VEHICLE-TIRE.**—C. F. FISK, Allentown, N. J. The invention consists of a rim of two sections bolted or otherwise detachably secured to the felly and having relatively deep outwardly-extending flanges, with a shoe rim at the outside of each flange, a tire having resilient ribs in engagement only with the inner faces of the flanges and the tire and ribs otherwise disengaged from the rim, a shoe extending around the tread of the tire having its edges located in the shoe rims, and clamping rings securing the shoe to the shoe rims.

**DRIVING-GEAR FOR AUTOMOBILES.**—E. G. WHITACRE, Wellsville, Ohio. This invention relates more particularly to the mounting for the driving engines used in automobiles. The style of the engine may vary, but any form wherein the motive power is a gas under pressure will serve. It might be used in internal combustion engines provided any of the well known relief valves were used in conjunction with one or the other of the engines, which would be operated automatically as the automobile is driven in a curved path. The valve would lessen the power stroke on the engine on the inner side of the curved path being followed by the automobile.

NOTE.—Copies of any of these patents will be furnished by Munn & Co. for ten cents each. Please state the name of the patentee, title of the invention, and date of this paper.



Kindly write queries on separate sheets when writing about other matters, such as patents, subscriptions, books, etc. This will facilitate answering your questions. Be sure and give full name and address on every sheet. Full hints to correspondents were printed at the head of this column in the issue of March 13th or will be sent by mail on request.

(12136) A. R. S. says: '1. Why when the moon is growing can one see a bright outline of that satellite, while the inner portion of the circle appears dark? A. When the moon is within two or three days of new, the earth reflects light enough from the sun to make the dark portion of the moon visible. The earth at that time is full as seen from the moon. This is called seeing "the old moon in the new moon's arms." The light is called "earthshine." It is described in the astronomicals, such as Todd's "New Astronomy," which we send for \$1.50. See page 225. 2. Why do moon and sun appear to be much larger when rising and setting? A. The sun and moon seem larger near the horizon by an optical illusion due to contrast. With an instrument they do not measure any larger near the horizon. The sky itself is affected in the same way. Stars seem farther apart. 3. How can I locate the following planets: Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, Neptune, Venus? A. The position of the planets is given each month in our article, "The Heavens in September," etc. The proper thing to do is to become a subscriber to the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN and have the instruction given in the paper. Neptune cannot be seen excepting with a good telescope. The rest you name may be seen with the unaided eye. Mars is now very bright in the night sky. 4. What size wire will be necessary to wind an ordinary telephone generator for ten volts? How many turns will be required? A. A telephone generator is wound with wire from No. 30 to No. 35, and from 75 ohms to 550 ohms. From this you will see

that we cannot tell you what to use. If you would make a generator to work with others, you would better copy one of the others.

(12137) C. L. L. says: Two horses are attached to opposite ends of a rope and are pulling against each other. Both horses are capable of pulling 200 pounds apiece. Is there more strain on the rope with the horses pulling against each other than if one end of the rope is attached to an immovable stake and only one horse pulling it? A. The pull upon the rope with a horse pulling 200 pounds at each end is 200 pounds. One horse is but a post for the other to pull against, and a post can as well be used as a second horse. This anyone can prove by having two persons pull against each other on a spring balance, and then letting one person pull with the balance fastened to a hook on the wall or to a hitching post in the yard. If the balance will indicate all that a person can pull, the experiment will be identical with the one you propose.

(12138) F. S. says: Some time ago we wrote to an electrical supply house asking them whether the numbers in the Brown & Sharp wire tables followed any regular law, and were told that they did not. We are of the impression that the people we wrote to concerning this question must be mistaken, and are writing you, and would like to have you either confirm or deny their statement. A. The sizes of wires by Brown & Sharp's, or as it is better termed, the American wire gage, are not determined by any formula, but are a growth. However, the sizes are such that a wire three sizes larger will have a sectional area about double that of a given wire. This is only an approximation. It is very convenient in electrical work. See our article, "How to Remember the Wire Table," in SUPPLEMENT No. 1,530, price ten cents.

(12139) W. B. H. says: 1. Why is a magneto used to make the spark for a gasoline engine in preference to a small dynamo? A. The field of a magneto is always ready for use, and does not require to build up its magnetism as a dynamo does. 2. Why are the permanent magnets of a magneto divided up into several instead of one large one? A. A compound magnet made from several thin magnets is much stronger than a single magnet of one thick piece of steel.

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Scientific American Supplement 997 contains an article by Spencer Newberry in which practical notes on the proper preparation of concrete are given.

Scientific American Supplements 1568 and 1569 present a helpful account of the making of concrete blocks by Spencer Newberry.

Scientific American Supplement 1534 gives a critical review of the engineering value of reinforced concrete.

Scientific American Supplements 1547 and 1548 give a resume in which the various systems of reinforced concrete construction are discussed and illustrated.

Scientific American Supplement 1564 contains an article by Lewis A. Hicks, in which the merits and defects of reinforced concrete are analyzed.

Scientific American Supplement 1551 contains the principles of reinforced concrete with some practical illustrations by Walter Loring Webb.

Scientific American Supplement 1573 contains an article by Louis H. Gibson on the principles of success in concrete block manufacture, illustrated.

Scientific American Supplement 1574 discusses steel for reinforced concrete.

Scientific American Supplements 1575, 1576, and 1577 contain a paper by Philip L. Wormley, Jr., on cement mortar and concrete, their preparation and use for farm purposes. The paper exhaustively discusses the making of mortar and concrete, depositing of concrete, facing concrete, wood forms, concrete sidewalks, details of construction of reinforced concrete posts.

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**RAILROAD STRUCTURES AND ESTIMATES.** By J. W. Orrock, C.E. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1909. 8vo.; 270 pp.; 93 figures. Price, \$4 net.

Under the title of Railroad Structures and Estimates, the intention is to cover in brief and concise form the numerous subjects that enter into the Engineer's Estimates of Railroad Building, for the purpose of ready reference, as to general construction and cost, on a business rather than a technical basis. As it is impossible to give the data to suit all conditions, the weights, quantities, and cost are given in detail in most instances, and may be varied as desired.

**FRAMING.** By William A. Radford. Assisted by Alfred S. Johnson, A.M., Ph.D., and Bernard L. Johnson, B.S. Chicago: The Radford Architectural Company. New York: Industrial Book Company. 12mo.; 388 pp. Price, \$1.

To the carpenter especially, and to all others interested in wood in a structural way, this is a most important subject. The framing of a building has been likened to the skeleton of the human body. It is important that it be put together properly and connected up in the right way. The whole stability and success of the edifice depend on the strength and proper arrangement of the supporting frame. The present work is divided into four heads: (1) Timber framing for houses; (2) barn framing; (3) framing of factories, stores, and public buildings; (4) miscellaneous framing, including strength of timbers and the principles of truss construction. The work, accordingly, will be taken up in this order. In some cases certain subjects of an introductory or explanatory nature will be discussed, although, strictly speaking, they are no part of "framing" and possibly are not done by the carpenter. Yet a knowledge of them will add to the carpenter's equipment, and will help him to do his work more intelligently.

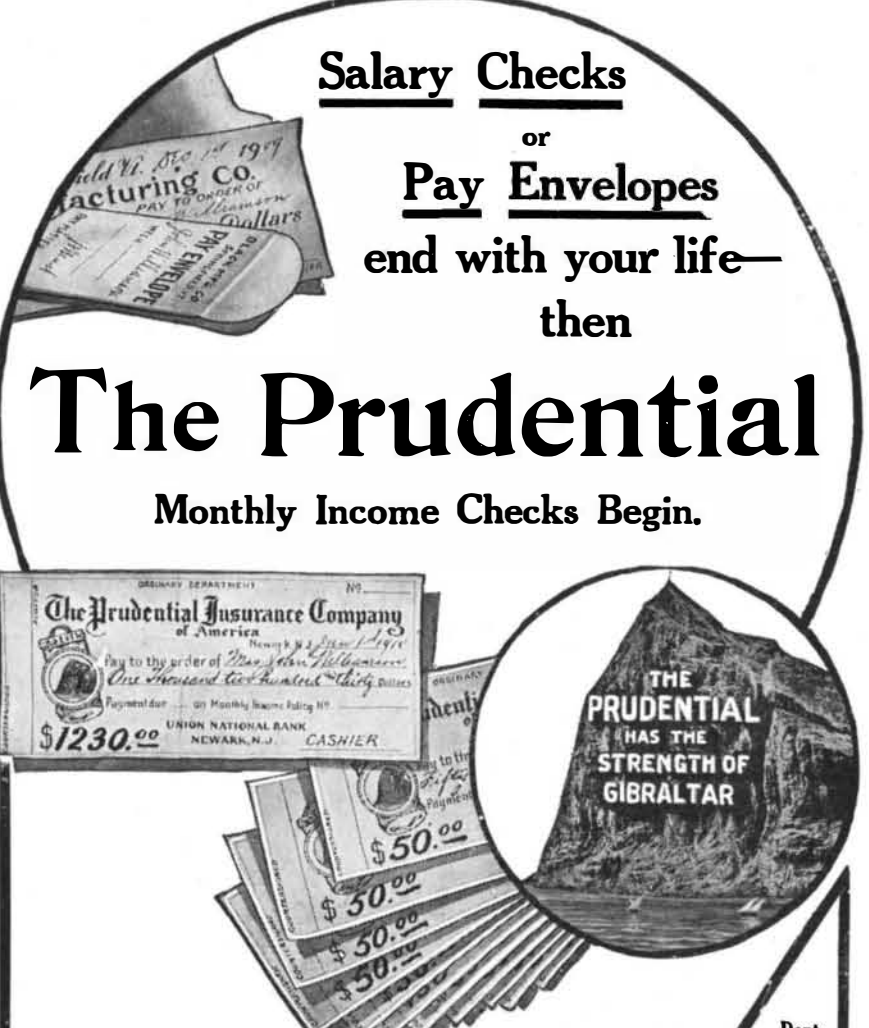
**METAL SPINNING.** Practical Instructions in a Fascinating Art. By Fred D. Crawshaw, M.D. Chicago: Popular Mechanics, 1909. 18mo.; 72 pp. Price, 25 cents.

Like so many of the other old-time crafts, the one of metal spinning has partially gone into disuse because of commercial competition and the failure of the younger generation of men to familiarize themselves with the hand-work of their fathers. In the United States it is only in the larger cities that one finds an artisan who does metal spinning. When such a person is found, he is usually occupied in producing forms out of thin metal that require great care in making and are difficult to produce with the stamp or press. It is believed in some circles, particularly among metal spinners, that the pressing and stamping of metal can never fully take the place of spinning it. The object of this book is to assist amateurs in an interesting art, and also give practical metal spinners additional instruction.

**THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN BOY AT SCHOOL.** By A. Russell Bond. New York: Munn & Co., Inc., 1909. Pp. 338. Price, \$2.

One of the most interesting and helpful of recent books for boys was "The Scientific American Boy," by the accomplished author of the present volume, in which was described the adventures of a youth of mechanical turn of mind with his companions in a vacation season. Mr. Bond now carries the story further, places his hero in boarding school, and invites his readers to enjoy his later adventures, and profit by them as well. It is pre-eminently a boy's book for boys, for boys with sound bodies and healthy minds, who like to be out of doors and making things with their hands—just the kind of boys one reads about and would like to have or know, but who sometimes seem rather scarce when one scans the list of one's boy acquaintances. Mr. Bond has been more fortunate than some of us, for his boys are fine young chaps, full of life and vigor and endowed with mechanical turns of mind that must have given some of their elders pause. But at all events they are not prigs, but good, wholesome boys of the right sort; and if one does not meet them in the streets every day, it is good to know there are such young people and to read about them in Mr. Bond's agreeable pages. The book is not at all a history of school life, but might be scientifically described as an essay on surplus energy. It deals, not with what the boys did in school hours, but what they did outside of them. These, of course, are the real hours of a boy's life, the time in which he is free and unrestrained, in which he seeks to please himself and work off some of that boy energy that is sometimes not always so appreciated by his elders as it might be. So the book brims over with good nature and ingenuity and with the breath of outdoor activity. If the mechanical performances of these young fellows seem sometimes a bit audacious, we may rest assured, with the author's certificate, that they never did anything boys of real earnestness and ingenuity could not have accomplished. The careful parent may perhaps be disposed to pause a little at the flying machine, but—read Mr. Bond and find out what happened. The book is agreeably written with a fine sympathy for boy life and boy activity. It abounds in practical ideas and suggestions, and will prove a veritable boon to the parent

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who wishes to interest his boy in the value of thinking and doing. The numerous illustrations are extraordinarily helpful and practical.

HANDY MAN'S WORKSHOP AND LABORATORY. Compiled and edited by A. Russell Bond. New York: Munn & Co., Inc., 1909. Pp. 467. Price, \$2.

This is a book of first-rate importance and interest, and is a notable contribution to practical work from the office of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. It is a book that not only aims to be practical, but which is practical from cover to cover. It is a collection of ideas and methods, of ways to do things, of what to do and how to do it as proposed, tried out and tested by resourceful men, both amateur and professional. It contains, in short, upward of a thousand ingenious "kinks," ideas, and hints, useful to the household, attractive to the mechanic, and interesting to everyone who loves to tinker and make articles of use and value, or in whom the spirit of experimentation is inbred. Unlike many books of this kind, however, this is no collection of scientific experiments. In fact, it is not an experimental book at all, but a treatise of useful things. It is not concerned with theory, but with fact. It deals, not with what will give curious results, but with achievements of real value and utility. And this it does, in the most direct way possible. The descriptions of methods are concise and clear, and at every point they are supplemented with drawings and diagrams, many of which are in the form of working drawings that show, in a very precise and definite way, just what to do, and how to do it. There are 370 such illustrations in the book, very clearly drawn and lettered, and illustrations that illustrate in the best sense of the word. The origin of the book is a department established some time ago in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, devoted to the interests of the "Handy Man." A flood of suggestions poured in from a multitude of sources, and the best of these have been reproduced in the present volume. It is, however, in no sense a reprint from the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, since much of its contents is now printed for the first time. Mr. Bond has devised a book that will very successfully appeal to a very wide circle. The amateur workman is attracted by the opening chapter on fitting up a workshop. Both he and the professional mechanic will find a host of suggestions on the greatest diversity of topics in the next chapter on Shop Kinks. Both again will be interested in the very valuable chapter on the soldering of metals and the preparation of solders and soldering agents. Here is a long list of formulas for solders of tried and tested accuracy. The professional mechanic is especially appealed to in the fourth chapter on the Handy Man in the Factory, while still another class of readers will be interested in the fifth chapter on the Experimental Laboratory. Electricity is very fully treated in the sixth chapter, and the householder will find a wealth of suggestion in the numerous devices described in the seventh. The sportsman will be helped with the hints of the eighth chapter, while the final chapter on flying machines is of the greatest possible present-day interest. It is, in short, a book of the widest general interest, and both editor and publisher are to be heartily congratulated on the success obtained in this very valuable publication.

CONCRETE POTTERY AND GARDEN FURNITURE. By Ralph C. Davison. New York: Munn & Co., Inc., 1909. Pp. 196. Price, \$1.50.

The publishers' statement that this is a new book on a new subject is very true. Neither concrete pottery nor concrete garden furniture is in itself new; but a book dealing with their making by the amateur has not heretofore been published, and hence this volume amply supports the claim of novelty made for it. Readers of American Homes and Gardens have already acquired some familiarity with Mr. Davison's guidance in this fascinating art, and while the articles he contributed to these pages have been reproduced in this book, they have been given a new form and much new and additional matter has been added to them. The illustrations have been greatly increased in number, and the whole given the form of a practical handbook. Books on handicraft of any kind are apt to fail, more or less, in the inadequacy of their directions. The author, too, often knows so well what to do and how to do it as not to realize that those who have not followed the work before may not quite follow what are supposed to be careful directions. Mr. Davison has been fully alive to this misfortune in books of this kind, and has, therefore, taken especial pains to make his descriptions most accurate and detailed. No other method is, of course, really feasible; but it is seldom this sort of thing has been so well done as in his pages. The careful text is supplemented with illustrations as carefully made and lettered, so that the book is a genuine handbook of craftwork, thoroughly practical in every part, and admirably adapted to its special purpose of explaining every portion of the work involved in the production of the various articles described. Mr. Davison has opened up quite a new field for the amateur. The materials required are abundant and cheap; the methods, in the simpler pieces at least, easy and devoid of difficulties. And the work is not only pleasant, but the results are agreeable and decorative. The author thoroughly knows and understands his subject, and has the gift of imparting his knowledge to his readers.



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**SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE 1910**

**THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S**  
own and exclusive account of  
his *African Trip* will continue to be a very important feature of the Magazine during a greater part of 1910.

The articles already published have met every expectation with regard to their exceptional interest and value, and the extraordinarily large editions required to meet the demand have had to be increased with each number. Nothing he has ever written has better revealed his own attractive personality, his remarkable faculty for observation and appreciation of the picturesque and unusual in both humanity and nature. *The Boston Transcript* says:

"Mr. Roosevelt has a unique way of feeling as the American nation feels. His general sympathies, modes of thought and emphasis, and even his prejudices are largely theirs. That fact makes Americans follow with zest the story of his hunting in the wilds, told with the same grim strength that has made his political utterances so far-reaching and deep in their influences."

In the January number he will describe hunting experiences at,

**Juja Farm:**  
**Hippo and Leopard**

These articles are not only fascinating narratives of adventure, they are also authoritative accounts of the natural history of many animals but little known to most readers. The illustrations by Kermit Roosevelt and other members of the expedition are especially interesting. To secure all of Mr. Roosevelt's articles subscriptions should begin with the October number.

**THE WELCOME TROPICAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES AT KHARTUM.**  
*(Continued from page 375.)*

under the direction of Dr. C. N. Wenyon, proto-zoologist to the London Tropical School of Medicine, and proved such a complete success that the work in this direction is being considerably developed.

Entomology is another very promising science that has claimed considerable attention in these laboratories. There is an immense field in the Sudan for an economic entomologist, and the scope and variety of the work done is almost bewildering. There are pests of every kind infesting every living being and plant, and the task of reducing these would at times seem almost hopeless. Every year taxes, aggregating large sums, have to be remitted owing to the ravages of *Aphis sorghi* and other pests. Fatalism, natural indolence, and improvidence often prevent the natives, unless supervised, from taking those active measures so necessary in cases of insect infestation of crops. These labors have also a direct bearing on tropical medicine, as results have abundantly testified.

In the field of anthropology very valuable work has been accomplished. The laboratories are recognized as a working place for fellows of the Carnegie Research Fund; and on the recommendation of the director, Dr. A. MacTier Pirrie was appointed anthropologist to the Institution. In addition to his medical qualifications, Dr. Pirrie held a special degree in anthropology, and was particularly well versed in physical work. Although he labored under the great disadvantage of not knowing the country, he undertook and successfully completed remarkable journeys into the totally unknown Burun country, which lies between the White Nile and Abyssinia. He lived and moved among the tribes inhabiting this territory, and his method of handling the natives was highly appreciated by the government. By his free movement among them he was able to acquire extensive data of their life, manners, and customs of the most highly prized character. Unfortunately, these expeditions proved fatal to the young, enthusiastic investigator. During one journey he contracted an indigenous disease propagated by the parasite of kala-azar. He was prostrated and invalided home to Scotland, but died six months later before he had the opportunity of setting out the results of his work. His notes and observations, as well as those of archaeological and ethnological aspect, were worked up by competent authorities, and have thrown much light upon a people and their country about which nothing has previously been known.

The chemistry section has received as much attention as tropical medicine, for it has an important bearing upon the commercial development of the country. The principal fields of investigation in this direction have been Sudan gums, food-stuffs, and seeds, as well as water supply from the Blue and the White Nile and wells. The study of gums has been particularly exhaustive. The Sudan has extensive forests of gum trees; in fact, such constitutes one of its staple products. Inquiry showed that comparatively little was known about gums, so that great attention was concentrated upon this subject. After some four years of labor, the laboratories have made some valuable additions to the chemistry of this commodity, and it is hoped that their labors may result in placing the Sudanese gum industry upon a sound basis.

Unfortunately, on May 11th, 1908, the laboratories suffered a heavy calamity in a fire, which breaking out in the photographic dark room, practically gutted the building, except the library, directors' room, and one or two other departments. Not only was a very large quantity of equipment destroyed, but all the trypanosomiasis specimens were lost, together with the records of two years' work on the subject. Nearly all the paraffin blocks prepared during the previous

*(Concluded on page 383.)*

Classified Advertisements

Advertising in this column is 75 cents a line. No less than four nor more than 10 lines accepted. Count seven words to the line. All orders must be accompanied by a remittance. Further information sent on request.

READ THIS COLUMN CAREFULLY.—You will find inquiries for certain classes of articles numbered in consecutive order. If you manufacture these goods write us at once and we will send you the name and address of the party desiring the information. There is no charge for this service. In every case it is necessary to give the number of the inquiry. Where manufacturers do not respond promptly the inquiry may be repeated.

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Inquiry No. 8960.—For the address of the Windsor Mfg. Co., manufacturers of waterproof collars and cuffs.

WANTED.—Marine Engineer with capital to invest, capable of taking management of machine shop in steel ship building plant now under construction. For particulars address Post Office Box 64, Vancouver, B. C.

Inquiry No. 8918.—For manufacturers of "Wyd's Electro-Catalytic Sparking Plug."

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED.—Partner with sufficient capital or a business firm or corporation to manufacture article under Patent No. 85,482 on a royalty basis or for sale. Goods are staple and cheaply made. Partner, Box 774, N. Y.

Inquiry No. 8987.—Wanted, the manufacturers of the Van Winkle Woods & Sons, and the Weber power meters.

PATENTS FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.—Patent No. 836,141. Improvements on airships and aeroplanes. For further information write to A. E. G. Lubke, 832 Clayton Street, San Francisco, Cal.

Inquiry No. 8996.—Wanted addresses of manufacturers of machinery for working orange wood manure sticks.

FOR SALE. Patent No. 900,457. An improved lathe rest for holding cylinders while being bored in an engine lathe. For further particulars address A. E. Whiting, Weston, W. Va.

Inquiry No. 8990.—For information regarding shoes not made of leather but similar to the same and are as durable.

PATENT FOR SALE.—Combination trunk and typewriter desk; a very useful device for travelers. The change can be made in a minute from a trunk to office desk, with typewriter in place, and vice versa; remove typewriter and put in its place a looking glass, and you will have a perfect dressing table, useful for either sex. I will sell this patent outright or grant license to manufacture on royalty. U. S. Patent No. 817,161, April 6, 1906. Address M. R. Schultze, Southampton, N. Y.

Inquiry No. 9014.—For manufacturers of machinery, supplies, etc., to equip a small plant for the manufacture of iridium-tipped gold nib making for fountain pens.

THE SANBORN BAG LIFTER. A device to assist in handling bags of grain, cement, etc. Saves the fingers and avoids damage to bag. Sample sent free on request. H. & E. Sanborn, Portland, Maine.

Inquiry No. 9016.—Wanted, machinery necessary for an installation of a plant for refining salt by a modification of the Bessemer process.

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FOR SALE.—Engine lathe, swings 9 1/2 in., takes 25 in. between centers. Complete with full set change gears to cut all size threads, 3 to 40 in. Price only \$45.00. Address L. F. Grammes & Sons, Allentown, Pa.

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SITUATIONS WANTED.

MECHANICAL ENGINEER.—Graduate Karlsruhe Technical University; 27 years of age; two years practical experience, with excellent references desires immediate employment. Address R. E. Seubert, 109 Garfield Place, Brooklyn.

Inquiry No. 9025.—Wanted, address of rubber manufacturers in Germany.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"LIGHT, HEAT, MAGNETISM AND ELECTRICITY are all one and the same thing." If you want to know what they are, send 50¢ for a copy of this pamphlet to A. M. Howland, El Paso, Texas.

Inquiry No. 9028.—Wanted, to buy a washing machine that is run by a coil spring motor.

HAIR GROWS when our Vacuum Caps used a few minutes daily. Sent on 60 days' free trial at our expense. No drugs or electricity. Stops falling hair. Cures dandruff. Postal brings illustrated booklet. Modern Vacuum Cap Co., 555 Barclay Block, Denver, Colo.

Inquiry No. 9029.—Wanted, catalogues and all information on machinery for braiding straw in manufacturing straw hats.

LISTS OF MANUFACTURERS.

COMPLETE LISTS of manufacturers in all lines supplied at short notice at moderate rates. Small and special lists compiled to order at various prices. Estimates should be obtained in advance. Address Munn & Co., Inc., List Department, Box 774, New York.

Inquiry No. 9034.—For manufacturers of machinery that could reduce stamps to kindling wood.

A LIST OF 1,500 mining and consulting engineers on cards. A very valuable list for circularizing, etc. Price \$15.00. Address Munn & Co., Inc., List Department, Box 774, New York.

Inquiry No. 9036.—Wanted, the address of the manufacturers of "Cycle Ball Bearing Suspenders."

Inquiry No. 9038.—Wanted, the address of the Chipman Electric Purifying Co.

Inquiry No. 9042.—Wanted the address of Farney Safety Razor Co.

Inquiry No. 9043.—Wanted the address of the manufacturers of mirrors that are transparent when the light in the rear is stronger.

Inquiry No. 9044.—Wanted to buy outfits necessary for agate polishing.

Inquiry No. 9045.—Wanted the address of the International Lumber and Development Co., manufacturers of hardwood.

Table listing various mechanical and industrial items with prices. Items include printing plates, pumps, machinery, and tools. Prices range from \$39.270 to \$939.558.

Advertisement for HAYNES Model 19 automobile. Features an illustration of the car and text describing it as 'The only car of Established Reputation at a Moderate Price'. Price is \$2000. Contact: HAYNES AUTOMOBILE CO., 124 Main Street, Kokomo, Ind.

Advertisement for 'The Century Plan of Library-Building Means A SAVING OF MONEY " " " TIME " " " SPACE'. Promotes 'UNITS OF 7' sets of books by authors like George Eliot, Balzac, Hugo, Washington Irving, Dumas, and Ainsworth. Includes a table of sets and prices.

(Concluded from page 381.)

eighteen months, and containing the imbedded organs of fowls dead of spirochaetosis, were lost, and thus a far-reaching investigation has been temporarily arrested, and it has not yet been possible to replace the material. Upon the receipt of the news of the catastrophe, Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, to whose munificence the Institution was due, immediately offered to replace the lost equipment; and through his generosity the laboratories were completely refitted and re-equipped with the most modern appliances, so that work could be resumed with the minimum delay. Consequently, so far as general usefulness goes, the Institution was only temporarily crippled.

Work is now again in full swing, and it should be pointed out that there is a very large field to be covered yet. If the various countries interested in the exploitation of the continent could establish similar laboratories to this in their respective territories, it would soon become a white man's land, and through concerted action the terrible maladies which at present arrest development would be completely subjugated.

ARTILLERY FOR AIRSHIP ATTACK.

(Concluded from page 373.)

is clamped tight against the axles. The third type of cannon is of a much heavier build than the two which precede, seeing that in this case it is designed to be mounted on shipboard, and hence the weight does not need to be reduced as in the other cases. It is of a considerably larger caliber, this being 10.5 centimeters (4.2 inches). In most of the details it is designed on the same lines as the second type. It is intended to be mounted generally upon torpedo boats or swift cruisers, and naturally the gun can be brought into service as an ordinary cannon in cases where it is needed. For the gun proper, the weight is 3,080 pounds, while the support weighs 3,520 pounds, giving a total weight of 6,600 pounds for this type. Like the former, the angle of elevation is 75 degrees at a maximum. The projectile, weighing 40 pounds, has an initial speed of 2,300 feet per second. A horizontal range of 44,500 feet is reached in this case, and we have the unusual height of 37,620 feet.

The present types of gun were given a series of tests by firing upon captive balloons, and two of our engravings illustrate this feature. In one case we observe the balloon, which has not been hit by the shot, and this can be clearly seen by the trail of smoke which shows the path of the projectile. In the second view is represented the effect which takes place when the projectile strikes the balloon, and we have the detonation of the grenade and at the same time the explosion of the gas and the destruction of the balloon.

Alcohol vs. Gasoline Engines.

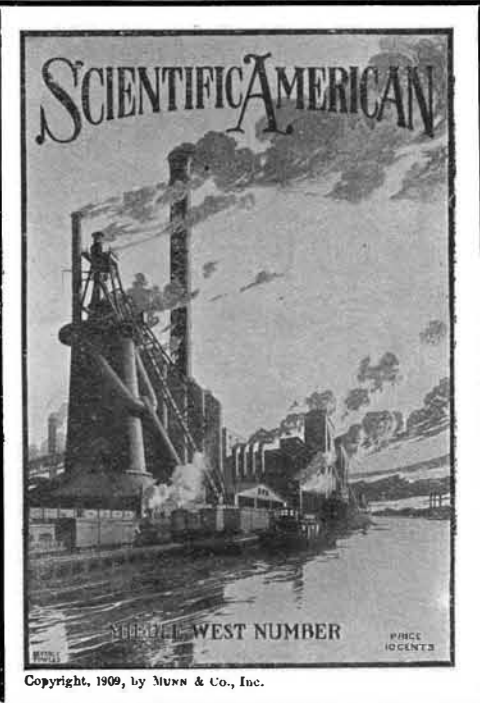
Almost any engine with a well-designed carbureter will run as well with alcohol as with gasoline, except for a difference in ease of starting and in certainty of operation at low speeds. By using alcohol in an alcohol engine with a high degree of compression the fuel-consumption rate in gallons per horse-power hour can be made practically the same as for gasoline in a gasoline engine of the same size and speed. An alcohol engine with the maximum compression for alcohol will have 30 per cent more available horse-power than a gasoline engine of the same size, stroke, and speed, and the weight per horse-power may be less. Tests with mixtures of gasoline and alcohol showed no gain in efficiency over gasoline or alcohol alone. Diluting gasoline with water did not affect fuel economy.

With alcohol the case was different, but with dilutions up to 80 per cent alcohol the effect was so slight that 80 per cent alcohol is a cheaper fuel than 90 per cent if it can be had for 15 per cent less.

"THE PEN YOU WILL EVENTUALLY BUY"

Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen advertisement featuring two pens, a gift box, and a list of prices for various fountain pen models.

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED GIFT BOOKLET



The Middle West Number of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

On December 11th, 1909, the Scientific American will issue a number devoted entirely to the wonderful Middle West region of the United States, a number which will set forth broadly and lucidly not only the agricultural interests of that region, but also those larger engineering undertakings which are destined to transform the Middle West, in part at least, into a manufacturing territory.

With that object in view the Middle West Number will publish articles on the following subjects:

- I. The Chicago and Gulf Waterway. II. Chicago as a Railroad Center. III. The Wonderful Grain Trade of Chicago. IV. Shipping on the Great Lakes. V. The Handling and Shipment of Iron Ore. VI. Freightage on the Mississippi. VII. The Steel Industry. VIII. The Freight Subway System of Chicago. IX. The Water Supply of Chicago. X. Reclaiming Arid Lands. XI. Harvesting the Grain of the Middle West.

The Middle West Number will be more than twice the size of the regular SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. It will be lavishly illustrated. It will be contained in a colored cover which strikingly depicts Chicago's grain elevators at work. Order from your newsdealer or from MUNN & COMPANY, Inc., 361 Broadway, New York City

Table listing various mechanical and electrical items with their corresponding prices, such as Stamp mortar, Starting and separating gate, Steam generator, etc.

A printed copy of the specification and drawing of any patent in the foregoing list, or any patent in print issued since 1863, will be furnished from this office for 10 cents, provided the name and number of the patent desired and the date be given. Address Munn & Co., Inc., 361 Broadway, New York.