

intended for students who have considerable knowledge of chemistry already. The author states that the subject matter indicated in the present volume has to be covered in less than two terms by candidates for the Natural Science Tripos at Cambridge. In the two succeeding terms the work is completed along the same lines. The outlines of electrochemistry, thermal chemistry, and photochemistry are briefly introduced, and subjects such as diffusion, colloids, alloys, allotropy, and isomerism are also dealt with. The periodic classification is considered at some length, and a descriptive account of the elements and their more important compounds is incorporated with this part of the subject, so far as time allows. If it should happen that the present book is found to be of assistance to students, it is the author's intention to publish this later part of the course as a second volume. From what has been said, it will be seen that it is doubtful if the work will prove of a great deal of assistance as an enlarged textbook, as our methods of teaching are somewhat different from those in vogue at English universities. The book, however, is an excellent one for those who already have a considerable knowledge of chemistry.

MODERN HOMES. Selected Examples of Dwelling Houses. Described and illustrated by T. Raffles Davison. London: George Bell & Sons. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1909. 8vo.; 248 pp. Price, \$5.25 net.

No one has seen more modern homes than Mr. Davison, and no one certainly knows better than he how to choose and present them to us. His architectural knowledge insures that the architecture is represented in such a manner as to satisfy the architect, while the artist in him insures that this shall not be emphasized at the expense of the general effect of his drawings. Here we have selected by one who knows, some of the best and most representative modern homes. Views of exteriors and interiors, stair cases, chimney corners, halls, and furniture are given, often accompanied by plans just sufficient to place them in their surroundings, and very often a sketch or two in the garden and sometimes a photograph. Drawings are accompanied by just enough letterpress to draw attention to the strong points of each design, with entire absence of any wearisome technical detail, which would be out of place in such a book. The book is beautifully illustrated and one which we can commend to all architects.

NOTES ON PRACTICAL MECHANICAL DRAWING. Written for the Use of Students. By Victor T. Wilson, M.E., and Carlos L. McMaster, M.E. Lansing, Mich.: Published by Wilson & McMaster, 1909. 8vo.; 186 pp.

This book is a collection of notes intended to furnish the basis for a course in elementary mechanical drawing, so arranged, it is thought, that the teacher may have the widest latitude in his choice of sequence of subjects. Since the first edition, two years ago, the book has been rearranged with this particular point in view. It has been thoroughly revised, and also enlarged by the addition of more explanatory matter and illustrations in autographic projection and a chapter on diametric and oblique drawing, and a number of chapters on working drawings and sketches. It is an excellent work.

THE ROMANCE OF MODERN CHEMISTRY. By James C. Phillips, D.Sc., Ph.D. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1909. 12mo.; 348 pp. Price, \$1.50.

This book contains a description in non-technical language of the diverse and wonderful ways in which chemical forces are at work, and of their manifold applications in modern life. Probably most people, when they think of chemistry, suppose that its fascination and its practical bearing can be appreciated only by those who have access to some sequestered laboratory, the doors of which are closed to the uninitiated. This is a mistaken view, for in countless ways unknown to the general reader chemical science is supplying the ordinary needs and contributing to the conveniences of modern life. In the present volume an attempt has been made to deal with this aspect of the subject, and the points of view adopted are different from those of the ordinary textbook. The book is fascinating, and it can be read with profit by almost anyone.

TABLES AND DIAGRAMS OF THE THERMAL PROPERTIES OF SATURATED AND SUPERHEATED STEAM. By Lionel S. Marks, M.M.E., and Harvey N. Davis, Ph.D. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1909. 8vo.; 166 pp. Price, \$1 net.

The tables of the properties of saturated steam which have appeared up to the present time have all been based upon the classic investigations of Regnault, carried out more than sixty years ago. More recent investigations are the necessary basis for any determination of the properties of superheated steam. These investigations, it is suggested, are a careful analysis of the authors, both as to the probable errors resulting from the method of experimentation, and also as to the relation of the experimental results to the values deduced from the thermodynamic theory so far as the latter shows any light on the matter. Where the results of the separate investigations are not closely in accord, a critical estimate has

been made of the relative values to be given to each in the region under consideration. This work will prove of great value to mechanical engineers.

THE METALLURGY OF THE COMMON METALS. Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead, and Zinc. By Leonard S. Austin. San Francisco: Mining and Scientific Press, 1909. 8vo.; 494 pp. Price, \$4.

This is a second revised and enlarged edition which is embellished by 195 illustrations. This book discusses principles, and illustrates them from current practice. It is simple and concise. It includes the data essential to an understanding of the treatment of gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, and zinc ores. It affords a broad, solid foundation to the general student of metallurgy, and complete information regarding related lines of work to the specialist in any one branch. Some of the illustrations are a revelation as to the latest metallurgical processes. It shows that it is an eminently practical book.

ONE THOUSAND FORMULAS. By L. W. Marshall. Boston: The Spatula Publishing Company, 99 pp.

This compilation gives the practical working druggist full information about the making of the most common and salable preparations, as well as about many others whose formulas it would be difficult to find elsewhere. As the formulas are very recent, it would admirably supplement older receipt books.

THE GARDEN CALENDAR FOR 1910. By Ellen P. Williams. Philadelphia: Franklin Printing Company, 1909. Price, \$1.

This is a wall calendar of 365 sheets, each one of which is embellished by an appropriate quotation or some practical hint for the garden. The charm of the Garden Calendar by Miss E. P. Williams is the practical advice for every day in the year, advice coming at just the time it is needed; thus, on the very day you should spray your rose bushes to prevent the rust from forming, it tells you to do it. If you want advice as to your pansies, your peonies, your larkspur, your violets, your fruit trees, or even your vegetables, you will have it when you want it. You do not have to dig this advice out of a mass of other information of no immediate value. It will make an excellent holiday gift.

RULES FOR RECOVERING COAL MINES AFTER EXPLOSIONS AND FIRES. By W. E. Garforth, Mem. Inst. C.E., F.G.S. London and New York: D. Van Nostrand & Co., 1909. 18mo.; 71 pp. Price, \$1.50 net.

The subject is a most important one, and has attracted great attention in this country as well as in England.

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INDEX OF INVENTIONS

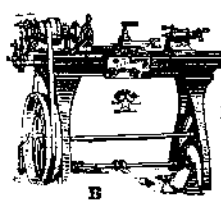
For which Letters Patent of the United States were Issued for the Week Ending December 14, 1909, AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE

[See note at end of list about copies of these patents.]

Table listing inventions with patent numbers and dates. Includes: Advertising apparatus, Aerial elevator, Aerial navigation, Agar-agar-cassara product, Alarm apparatus, Alfaifa cutter, Alloy for electrical resistance, Alloys of copper, Alumino silicate, Ammonia, Amusement apparatus, Animal trap, Annealing flats, Anneling flats, Apparatus for testing, Automobile gear, Automobile radiators, Automobile safety device, Awning fixture, Bag fastener, Bag machine, Baking pan, Barrel, Bangles, Barn construction, Battery element support, Battery tank, Bearing, Bed bottom, Bedstead, Beds, Bedstead attachment, Bedstead extension, Belt, Berth for ships, Billiard cue tip, Binder, Binder, Binding machine, Binding nicking machine, Biscuit coating machine, Blade molding means, Blade mounting means, Blind slat fastener, Blowpipe, Boat, Boats, Boiler cleaning device, Boiler flue expander, Boiler tube expander, Bolt header, Book, Book, Bottle cap, Bottle closure, Bottle, Bottle, Bowling alley, Bowling machine, Brake beam, Brake beam hanger, Bread, Brick cutting machine, Broiler, Brook bridge, Buckle, Building block, Building construction, Burglar alarm, Burglar alarm screen, Butter making, Cabinet, Cabinet, Cableway, Calculating machine, Camera, Can marking machine, Can polishing machine, Cane unloader, Capsule forming apparatus, Car, Car, Car construction, Car coupling, Car coupling, Car door bracket, Car door, Car dumping, Car fender, Car fender, Car loading machine, Car, Car, Carbonating liquids, Carbureter, Carbureter, Card case, Carpet seams, Carpet stretcher, Carriage foot brake, Cart, Caster retaining socket, Casting operations, Casting core bars, Cement surfaces, Centering machine, Centrifugal regulator, Chandelier, Chart, Check, Chicker, Chocolate composition coatings, Chuck, Chuck, Churn, Churn motor, Clock, Clothes line support, Clothes pin, Clutch, Cock, Cock, Coffee pot, Coffee roasting, Coin paying machine, Coking furnace, Coils, Columns, Combination wrench, Composition of matter, Composing machine, Concrete column, Concrete construction, Concrete reinforcement, Concrete reinforcement construction, Concrete tie, Conduit cap, Converter, Conveyor, Copper matte, Copper matte, Corn husker, Corn shucking horse, Corner beads, Coupling, Crate, Crate, Crate, Crimping machine, Cue tip trimmer, Cultivator attachment, Cupboard, Curtain and shade fixture, Cutter head, Dental splittoon, Desk, Diaphragm, Digitalis extract, Dish, Dish washing machine, Display rack, Door check, Door check and closer, Door fastener, Door holder, Door lock, Door stop, Door stop and holder, Dough rolling device, Drart gear, Driving mechanism, Dye, Dye, Dye, Dyeing with galloyanin dyestuffs, Dynamometer, Ear ring, Earthenware article, Edg setting machine, Electric heater, Electric controlling apparatus, Electric furnace, Electric furnace, Electric heater, Electric heater, Electric light socket, Electric lighting attachment, Electric alarm systems, Electric machine, Electric motor, Electric sockets, Electric switch, Electric switch, Electrical cableway system, Electrical contact device, Electricity meter, Elevator, Elevator cupboard, Elevator safety device, Elevator safety gate mechanism, Elevator safety mechanisms, Elevators, Embroidering instrument, Engine combustion chamber, Engine reversing mechanism, Engine sparking device, Engine starting device, Envelop, Envelop opener, Envelop, safety, Exercising or massage apparatus, Explosive, Explosive in wells, Extension table, Eyelets, Eyelets, Fabric for beds, Fabric with fluids, Faucet, Faucet, Faucet or valve device, Fence machine, Fence post, Fertilizer, Fertilizer distributor, Figure and skrin stand, Filter and strainer, Filter, rain spout, Firearm, Firearm sight, Firearms, movement, Fishing bob, Fishing boat, Flash light apparatus, Flight extractor, Flour bin, Flour duster, Flour shaker, Flue cutter, Flushing apparatus, Flushing device, Flushing machine, Footwear protecting device, Forging machine back stop, Fork and spoon holder, Form, garment, Form or center, collapsible, Frame joint and soldering, Funnel, Fuse, Fuse, Fuse, Galvanizing apparatus, Game, Game, Game apparatus, Game apparatus, Game piece, Garbage or refuse receptacle, Garment, adjustable, Garment, adjustable, Garment, nether, Garment rack, extension, Garment supporter clamp, Gas apparatus, Gas apparatus, Gas apparatus, Gas burners, Gas for illuminating, Gas for illuminating, Gas generator, Gas generator, Gas producer valve, Gases and separating smoke, Gases, apparatus for disposing of noxious, Gases in the atmosphere, Gate, Gear, Gearing, Gearing, Gem cutting machine, Gold saving machine, Gold treating, Governor, centrifugal, Hair straightener, Handle, Harness, Harrow, Harvesters, Hasp lock, Hay fork, Hay gatherer, Hay loader, Hay rake, Heat retainer, Heating apparatus, Hinge holder, Hoop barer, Hoop heading machine, Horseshoe, Hose coupling, Hotbed, Hub odometer, Ice cream holder, Ice cutting machine, Ice making apparatus, Indicator coupling, Inhaling apparatus.

Continuation of the Index of Inventions table from the previous block, listing various mechanical and electrical inventions with their corresponding patent numbers and dates.

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Scientific American Supplement 1543 contains an article on Concrete, by Bryson Cunningham. The article clearly describes the proper composition and mixture of concrete and gives results of elaborate tests.

Scientific American Supplement 1538 gives the proportion of gravel and sand to be used in concrete.

Scientific American Supplements 1567, 1568, 1569, 1570, and 1571 contain an elaborate discussion by Lieut. Henry J. Jones of the various systems of reinforcing concrete, concrete construction, and their applications. These articles constitute a splendid text book on the subject of reinforced concrete. Nothing better has been published.

Scientific American Supplement 397 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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PHOTOGRAPHING A STAR SPECTRUM.
(Continued from page 485.)

of Lake Geneva, the summer home of many of the Windy City's millionaires. On high ground to the north of the lake, the observatory presents a fine appearance with its great dome to the west and two smaller domes to the east of the buildings. Passing through the main doors, one enters a fine rotunda, and going up a flight of marble steps comes into the great dome, 90 feet in diameter, and gazes on the great telescope towering aloft. One beholds a massive iron stand supporting an immense steel tube of boiler plate sixty-two feet in length, five feet in diameter at the middle, tapering to three and a half feet at either end. At the upper end of the tube is the object glass, with a clear aperture of forty inches; at the other end the eyepiece and micrometer, for viewing and measuring the planets and stars, or these may be replaced by a camera attachment for photographing, or by a spectrograph for obtaining the spectra of stars, planets, or sun. The telescope tube is so long that the eye end is about thirty feet higher when an object is viewed near the horizon, than when looking at a star directly overhead. To use such a telescope, requiring as it would a long system of ladders, would be well nigh impossible, were it not for an invention of Sir Howard Grubb in making the whole observing floor an elevator. The front page illustration shows the floor at its lowest point, while another view shows the floor raised as high as possible. At Yerkes the floor, seventy-five feet in diameter, big enough to seat six hundred people, can be raised and lowered through a distance of twenty-three feet, and thus the observer when working with the telescope may keep the floor at a convenient distance below the end of the telescope, the operating power being electricity. In the front-page illustration are shown two of the four counterweights that balance the floor. An idea of the size will be obtained by remembering that the dome is ninety feet in diameter. When the astronomer wishes to observe a particular star, it is necessary to turn the slit of the dome in the direction of the star, and hence the dome must be revolved. This is ninety feet in diameter and weighs one hundred and forty tons, but again by the aid of electric motors it can be rotated at will by turning on the electric current from the rising floor.

Turning to the telescope, we find a machine of fifty-three tons in weight, wherein the movable parts weigh twenty tons. This weight the astronomer has to put in motion when he turns the telescope, yet ball bearings and the refinements of modern engineering permit him to move the great machine, using only his own physical strength. For quickly turning the telescope, electric motors are used. The telescope is set up by what is known technically as the equatorial mounting, one axis, the polar axis, in the meridian parallel to the earth's axis of rotation, the other, the declination axis, at right angles to it. Circles on these two axes give the astronomer the means of locating the star by its hour angle and declination. When the star is once in the field of the telescope, it is kept there by a clockwork mechanism driving the telescope about the polar axis at a speed exactly equal and opposite to the earth's rotation. The writer of this article has used the telescope when the thermometer stood at 26 deg. below zero Fahrenheit, and yet at this temperature the mechanism worked to perfection, which speaks wonders for the excellence of this mounting made by the well-known firm of Warner & Swasey. Indeed the professional astronomer has a hard life of it, which requires a great amount of physical endurance. In the summer nights when the temperature renders life comfortable, the nights are short, the astronomer might then be permitted to join a labor union; for he can

(Concluded on page 496.)

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(Continued from page 494.)

Initiation device, U. S. De Moulin.....	943,219
Insole, O. F. Fogelson.....	943,243
Internal combustion engine, F. & E. Carter.....	942,886
Internal combustion engine, C. O. Hedstrom.....	943,072
Internal combustion engine, J. O. Heinze.....	943,408
Internal combustion engine, I. Hovey.....	943,598
Internal combustion engine, double acting, Horner & Boyland.....	943,597
Invalid handling device, E. Cleaves.....	943,003
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Latch, night, R. A. Chase.....	943,216
Laundry marking machine, T. L. Taylor.....	943,203
Lavatory, W. Podmore.....	943,458
Lawn sprinkler, C. Ballreich.....	943,172
Lens drilling device, L. Wilhelm.....	943,289
Lenses for spectacles or eyeglasses, manufacture of, H. Orford.....	943,449
Light extinguisher, H. H. Burdock.....	943,176
Link, detachable, J. Dufour.....	943,220
Liquid fuel burner, A. E. Stevens.....	943,482
Liquid indicator, E. E. Hans.....	943,596
Loader, foldable, C. A. Radcliff.....	943,099
Lock, R. Schoell.....	943,471
Locking mechanism, combination, H. Van Hoesenberg.....	943,493
Loom, L. H. Landry.....	943,028
Loom for weaving tufted fabric, H. Wyman.....	942,953
Loom harness motion, D. D. Miller.....	943,262
Loom, shuttle changing, B. P. McGuinness.....	943,038
Loom templet, L. H. Landry.....	943,150
Loom thread guide, J. Robinson.....	943,270
Loom, wire fence, V. Hoxie.....	943,412
Looms, pick counter for, M. L. Stone.....	943,049
Looms, tuff yarn carrier for pile fabric, C. C. Brinton.....	942,999
Magazine, P. Smithson.....	943,479
Magneto motor, C. S. Kershner.....	943,420
Mail bag catching and delivering apparatus, H. J. Hansen.....	943,071
Mail carrier, Buck & Willis.....	943,136
Mail catcher, A. M. Bridgewater.....	943,336
Mail chute, J. W. Cutler.....	943,183
Manifolding apparatus, A. Lewis.....	943,195
Mantle, incandescent, T. Terrell.....	943,488
Marking board, upholstery goods, Hulse & Schramm.....	942,908
Match boxes, machine for pasting the inner boxes or slides of, C. S. Nyberg.....	943,158
Match safe, E. & D. C. Pooler.....	943,098
Matrix retainer, J. W. Ivory.....	943,353
Measuring device, skirt, C. W. Smith.....	943,278
Measuring granular materials, device for, O. D. Havard.....	943,405
Mechanical movement, R. A. Schoenberg.....	943,274
Megaphone, H. Meredith-Jones.....	943,252
Merry-go-round, G. Schmid.....	942,937
Merry-go-round, J. & J. Setecka.....	943,276
Metal, forming ribbed expanded, J. Kahn.....	943,417
Metal, reclamation of purified, W. C. Hyzer.....	943,248
Metals, protecting molten, Rocky & Eldridge.....	943,161
Mine ventilating system, M. Ward.....	942,950
Mineral classifying apparatus, R. H. Richards.....	943,101
Mirror, hat, C. L. Craver.....	943,005
Moistener and sealer, envelop, F. Roth.....	943,318
Moistening apparatus, air, W. H. Webb et al.....	943,638
Mold. See Vulcanizing mold.	
Molding press, E. C. Williams.....	943,504
Motor control system, electric, A. C. Eastwood.....	943,011
Motor starting and stopping apparatus, electric, C. Spannagel.....	943,047
Motor starting switch, electric, E. Garside.....	942,960
Mouth brace, C. Mayer.....	943,361
Moving implement, J. H. Fichter.....	943,013
Mower starting device, J. C. Oliva.....	943,044
Mowing machine, W. Crain.....	943,181
Mowing machine, C. H. Pelton.....	943,266
Muller, exhaust, J. Boyle.....	943,253
Muller, exhaust, C. L. Hensley.....	943,544
Music leaf turner, R. J. Trice.....	943,949
Music rack, R. W. Mills.....	943,091
Music sheet guiding mechanism, T. P. Brown.....	942,956
Musical instrument, pneumatic, P. B. Klugh.....	942,915
Nailing machine, H. W. Morgan.....	943,035
Ne le feed mechanism, A. G. Penn.....	942,895
Needle guide, A. Leach.....	942,919
Nipple range, Reynolds & Smith.....	943,123
Nitrates, producing, C. E. Acker.....	943,132
Numbering machine, F. Wosinski.....	943,210
Oil burning and steam generating apparatus, J. W. Spurrier.....	943,481
Oil from wax, process and apparatus for the extracting of, J. C. Kuebler.....	942,917
Ore cooler, F. D. Baker.....	943,294
Ore grinding machine, J. C. Tatman.....	943,486
Oven, baker's, W. D. De Vaughn.....	943,395
Oven door, E. H. Eusefeld.....	943,546
Overshoe holder, Wessels & Ingram.....	943,582
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(Continued on page 496.)

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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 \$48.50. Address L. F. Grammes & Sons, Allentown, Pa.

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FLY PAPERS.—FORMULAS FOR Sticky Fly Papers are contained in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT Nos. 1057 and 1324. Each issue contains several recipes. Price 10 cents each, from this office, and from all newsdealers.

(Continued from page 495.)

work but eight hours. But he would be obliged to resign from the union in the winter time; for observing starts at five in the evening and continues till seven the next morning, fourteen hours without a break. And how pleasant this is with the thermometer twenty-six degrees below zero! It needs quite a deal of enthusiasm to keep one from freezing to death!

To photograph the spectrum of a star, a spectroscope or rather spectrograph is attached to the eye end of the telescope. The object glass focuses the star's light on a fine slit not more than one hundredth of an inch in width and one-eighth of an inch in length. After the light passes through this slit it passes through the collimating telescope, then through the prism or prisms which break the star's light up into its component colors or spectrum, then through the camera lens and is finally brought to a focus on the photographic plate where is obtained a photograph of the star's spectrum. Much careful thought and many refinements were necessary before the spectroscope was brought to its present great degree of precision. To mention a few of them. How is it possible to keep the great telescope tube so accurately directed to the star that its light is focused on the center of the slit one-hundredth of an inch wide, for if the light does not pass through the slit it will not fall on the photographic plate.

This was made possible by making the slit jaws of polished silver, and watching the stray light reflected from the silver jaws by combining prisms and lenses in a rather curious fashion. The observer keeps his eye at an eyepiece where he can see the star image on the slit, and causes the star image to remain centered there by using the slow motions of the telescope. The exposure necessary to make a photograph depends on the brightness of the star and may last from a few minutes to two, three, or five hours, or in some few cases to eight or ten hours.

During this long exposure the temperature has probably fallen a number of degrees, and the instrument has been affected by all its parts contracting. This might result in a change in the prisms with the consequence that the photographed spectrum will not be sharp and in as good definition as it might be. To overcome these difficulties, the whole spectrograph was inclosed in a tight aluminium case lined with glass work so as to be non-conducting. Fine wires were placed inside this case. While the exposure was being made a thermometer inside the case was watched through a glass window, and if the temperature dropped, a current of electricity was turned through the wires inside the case, and kept turned on till the proper temperature was reached. Within the past year a thermostat has been introduced and the temperature is automatically kept constant. And hence while the exposure is being made the spectrograph is kept at a constant temperature, there is no change in its several parts and a sharply-defined spectrum will result. A wonderfully accurate instrument this makes leading to results of the highest degree of precision.

AN AERIAL PASSENGER RAILWAY.

(Continued from page 488.)

haulage. From the haulage cable, which is one and one-half inches in diameter, the buckets are suspended, their entire weight being sustained by two steel four-inch flanged wheels running over the stationary cable.

These buckets are constructed of heavy wrought iron, six feet long and four wide, with a door opening on the right side, which door is securely bolted when the bucket is en route. There are twenty-six buckets on the line, carried by the haul-

(Concluded on page 499.)

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(Concluded on page 499.)

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Please mention the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN when writing to advertisers

(Concluded from page 496.)

age cable, spaced at equal distances of 485 feet apart. These buckets are held to the runners by a one-half by two-inch steel frame, allowing it to swing freely on an axle between the flanged wheels. The seating capacity of each bucket is four.

In the entire distance there are fifty towers, built of eight by eight timbers, most of which were cut within a mile of the road. Over these towers run the cables. The stationary cable is the higher one, the haulage cable being two feet below and carried midway in the frame that supports the buckets. This haulage cable is endless, winding about a huge drum at either terminal. The towers are not placed an equal distance apart, but according to the slope and the contour of the ground. On the longer stretches they are frequently two hundred feet between, while at the base and summit they are within a few feet of one another. Perhaps the best example of the entire simple working plan may be found in the large stores of a city, where package carriers are in use. The little wire baskets that carry your purchases from the clerk to the wrapper are in miniature duplicates of these huge, man-carrying buckets, save where the former are operated by springs, the latter are moved by electric power.

The entire distance covered, from base to summit, is one and one-half miles, and in traveling this you are raised from nine thousand feet at Silver Plume to something greater than twelve thousand five hundred feet at the summit. This is, approximately, one foot lift for every two feet covered. In order to attain the same elevation, any road in the world—Pike's Peak cog road a possible exception—would have to traverse several times the distance. The time is thirty minutes each way.

The motive power is electric, the current being transmitted from Georgetown, four miles distant. Two motors are used, both of thirty-five horse-power each, and both located at the upper terminal. One motor is sufficient to operate the endless cables on an average haul, but on other occasions, where the buckets are filled, both are thrown in.

The entire road is equipped with electric signals and telephones. In its length are five stations, built about the towers, each with its watchman. The slightest accident is promptly telephoned to the engineer, and the buckets stopped.

The plans were first drawn up late in 1905, and the construction commenced the year following. It was not until the summer of 1908, however, that the road was in full running order. The total cost was slightly in excess of \$70,000.

A MACHINE FOR SIMULTANEOUSLY FIRING MANY BLASTS.

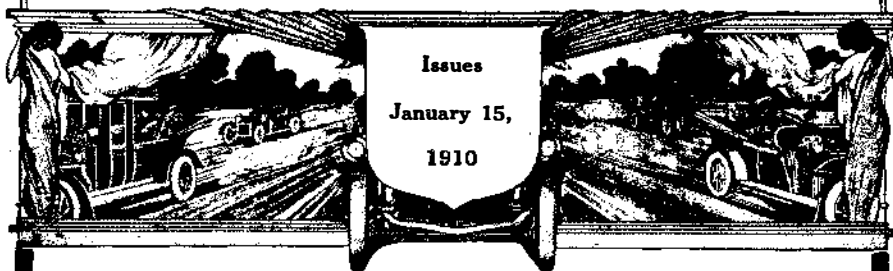
(Concluded from page 484.)

by the shaft. When the switch is thrown to the lower contact, the fuse circuit receives the whole current from the electric generator.

All of the fuses are melted instantly by the heavy rush of current accentuated by the inductive kick of the coil, thus producing a simultaneous firing of all the charges of explosives used. In deepening the river at Sault Ste. Marie for the United States government, the contracting firm used three similar machines, but larger and more powerful, operated by compressed-air engines. These machines were perfectly automatic and unerring in operation. In all cases the fuses were arranged in parallel circuit between the two mains of the dynamos, the pressure being 12 volts. It is stated that these devices operated so simply that it required only the opening of an air valve to fire three hundred charges of dynamite at one time.

Oleat Maury.—A preparation for greasing wool, according to a French patent, is made by the saponification of mixtures of mineral oils and vegetable oils by alkaline carbonates.

THE AUTOMOBILE NUMBER of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN



Issues
January 15,
1910

THIS year bigger and even better than it ever was. It has been our purpose in publishing this annual review to give the automobile owner and the prospective purchaser truly helpful information, and to that end the number will contain the following articles:

- 1. The Automobile and the Farmer.**
- 2. How to Overhaul Your Car.**
- 3. The Automobile Fire Engine.**
All the latest automobile pumping engines, chemical cars, hook and ladder trucks, and hose carts are described.
- 4. The Automobile and the Road.**
The automobile has presented to the road engineer new problems for solution. He must render his roads impervious to water and practically proof against the destructive effect of tires. The United States Government through the Office of Public Road Inquiry is now studying this subject. The article written by Mr. Page, Director of the Office of Public Roads, describes what has been done.
- 5. Anti "Joy Ride" Devices.**
This article is a complete description of devices which have been invented for the purpose of preventing chauffeurs from taking out their owners' machines.
- 6. The Modern Electric Automobile.**
- 7. Making Your Own Repairs.**
- 8. The Cars of 1910.**
- 9. Automobile Identification Chart.**
Sometimes you have wondered what make of car was that which skimmed past your admiring eyes. The 1910 Automobile Number will enable you to identify any car by its radiator and engine bonnet. About thirty-five automobiles are thus illustrated for identification in a sketchy, artistic way.
- 10. The Inexpensive Car.**
Any man with a good salary can now afford to own some kind of an automobile. How the machines are constructed and what may be expected of them is lucidly set forth.
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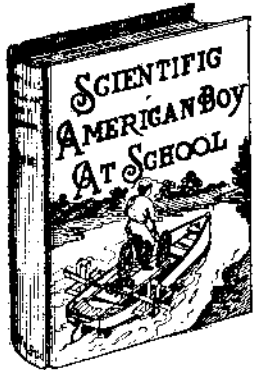
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(Concluded from page 496.)

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Tube, See Collapsible tube	
Turbine blade, F. Hodgkinson	943.347
Turbine, elastic fluid, F. Hodgkinson	943.349
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Vacuum cleaning apparatus, J. F. Lacoek	943.424
Valve, automatic air brake retaining and release, D. F. Knerr	943.602
Valve, automatic cut-off, J. Miller	943.559
Valve, car sprinkler, E. C. Perry	942.974
Valve, check, J. B. Parker	943.451
Valve, drain, E. S. Stotts	943.577
Valve, regulating, S. A. Palmer	942.972
Valves, push button mechanism for flush, W. J. Frost	943.630
Vehicle attachment for detaining draft animals, C. Reiger	943.100
Vehicle wheel, E. J. Selley	942.939
Vehicle wheel, A. Graf	943.112
Vehicle wheel, H. O. Beck	943.564
Vehicles, gasoline tank for motor, R. Huff	942.907
Velvets and like pile fabrics, machine for pegging, F. Shaw	943.167
Vending machine, coin controlled, A. Jacobs	943.552
Vending machine coin controlled mechanism, A. Jacobs	943.551
Vending machine coin switch, O. Oehring	943.636
Vending machine, stamp, C. W. Timmons	943.585
Vermin-destroying apparatus, L. Krefl	943.256
Vibrator, A. J. Stecker	943.620
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