

HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Names and Address must accompany all letters or no attention will be paid therets. This is for our information and not for publication.

References to former articles or answers should give date of paper and page or number of question. Inquiries not answered in reasonable time should be repeated; correspondents will hear in mind that some answers require not a little research, and, though we endeavor to reply to all either by jetter or in this department, each must take his turn.

his turn.

Buyers wishing to purchase any article not advertised in our columns will be furnished with addresses of houses manufacturing or carrying the semi-

the same.

Special Written Information on matters of personal rather than general interest cannot be expected without remuneration.

Scientific American Supplements referred to may be had at the office. Price 10 cents each.

Books referred to promptly supplied on receipt of wife.

Minerals sent for examination should be distinctly marked or labeled.

(8903) C. A. B. asks for the chemical analysis of the so-called oil gas, that is, gas manufactured by the l'atton or similar process. The composition of oil gas will vary, dependent upon the oil used and the tem-perature of gasification. We give here the extremes selected from a table of analysis:

Specific gravity 0.442	0.909	
Per Cent.	Per Cent.	
Heavy hydrocarbon. f1.4	42.3	
Methane23.6	43.2	
Hydrogen20.7	57.3	
Carbon monoxide 0.7	3.5	
Carbon dioxide 0.2	1.7	
Oxygen	0.6	
Nitrogen 4.5	9.2	
Sulphur compounds, none	0.24	

The best book is Walter Hempel's "Methods Gas Analysis." third edition, translated by L. M. Dennis. You will also find information as to the manufacture and uses of oil gas in our SUPPLEMENTS, Nos. 324, 783, 760, 886, 948, and 600; also Scientific American, No. 2, Vol. 79, and No. 7, Vol. 84. We will be pleased to forward these upon receipt of ten cents for each number desired

(8904) F. G. B. asks what kind of driers can be used with tar paint to dry it in about two days and not affect glass and not crack. A. There are no substances that will act as driers with tar paint in the way that driers act with linseed oil. You will probably attain the desired result by dissolving a good quality of rather hard pitch in turpentine. Resin is sometimes also added, and it is claimed to give a better and more durable coat.

(8905) F. K. S. asks for a formula of an aquarium cement for putting in glass. A. Melt together at a gentle heat 3 parts of lin seed oil, 4 parts of tar and 16 parts of resin. Use warm, not hot. Or take 8 ounces of a solution of glue and 1 ounce of Venice turpentine and boil together, stirring well until the mixture is complete. The joints to be cemented should be kept in close contact for a couple of

(8906) O. H. asks where the earth's center of gravity is. Supposing that a shaft goes through the earth's center, and a ball drops into it, where will the ball stop? A. The earth acts as if the center of gravity was at the center of the form of it. If a hole were made through the earth to the opposite side, and a ball were dropped into it, the ball would ultimately come to rest at the center of the

(8907) W. R. M. asks how to unite broken pieces of gold, silver or bronze articles with what the jewelers call hard solder. I would like to know the details of the process, and also how to make the solder. Is there a solder for aluminium, and where can it be obtained? Can you recommend an inexpensive book on solders, brazing, welding, etc.? Can you give me the address of a retail dealer in small platinum tubing and wire? A. For formulæ for solders for various purposes, we refer to the "Scientific American Cyclopedia of Receipts," pages 52 and 525 to 530. For ad-1040, 602, and 750. There is very little published in book form on soldering. We can supply you with H. Rowell's "Manual of Instruction in Hard Soldering" for 75 cents. For manufacturers of platinum ware, we refer you to Baker & Co., 120 Liberty Street, New York city, or to J. Bishop & Co., Sugartown, Pa.

(8908) J. R. C. asks what book he should buy to get the receipt for putting designs, etc., on glass, such as a photograph or a scene of any kind. I have seen it done by putting a liquid on a rubber stamp, then put your glass tumbler on the stamp and dust a white powder over it: then it was put in a baker and baked a certain length of time. I want to know what the liquid and powder are dust is briquetted by mixing with coal tar or and how long to bake it? A. This method of pitch, subjecting to strong pressure, and usually etching glass is effected by the use of hydro- partially coking after pressure. fluoric acid, ammonium fluoride and acetic acid, or calcium fluoride and oil of vitriol. very large scale as the installation is rather There are a considerable number of formulæ expensive. At the ordinary prices of anthrafor this work, of which we give here a few. cite, it has not hitherto proved economical 1. Dissolve 8 parts of sodium fluoride in 100 to briquette coal fines in this country. Europe parts of water, and add 1 part of oil of vitriol. has no real anthracite, hence briquettes furnish 2. 10 parts sulphate of ammonia, 20 parts of oil the only form of smokeless fuel, besides coke.

of vitrio', 100 parts ammonium fluoride and 100 INDEX OF parts of water. 3. Stir 1 part of oil of vitriol into 4 parts of water and allow to cool: ther stir in enough finely powdered fluorspar to the consistency of milk. Put this on the parts to be etched and dry at a temperature of 100 deg. to 120 deg. Repeat if necessary. Great care must be exercised in these processes of etching, as hydrofluoric acid will cause very painful burns if accidentally dropped on the skin, and the fumes of the acid are excessively irritating to the throat and lungs.

(8909) D. P. S. asks for some chemical for etching the name or initials on such tools as calipers, scales, and squares, as through stamping they are generally sprung out of shape? A. Cover the surface of the steel with a thin coat of asphalt varnish, then cut in the letters so as to expose the steel and etch with weak nitric acid. The asphalt can then be washed off with turpentine.

(8910) W. B. writes: Cayenne pepper put into rat-holes will at once clear premises of them. I have tried it in numbers of instances, and never knew it to fail. It is equally effective against skunks, weasels, etc.; even a coyote will give the place a wide berth.

(8911) C. E. H. asks: Kindly let me know what a slot magnet is, and also what is meant by compound winding. A. We are not able to tell you what a "slot magnet" is, since we have never seen the term before. The iron part of the armature of a dynamo is slotted to prevent heating by eddy currents, which would flow around it if it were not slotted. A compound-wound dynamo is one whose field has two windings; one of finer wire and high resistance, which is in shunt with the armature and the line, and one of coarse wire and fewer turns, which is in series with the armature and the line. The object is to furnish better regulation with varying load.

(8912) D. O. asks: What is Cornish stone, and what kind of soda, that is, crystal of soda, to use in the glazes in the "Cyclopedia of Receipts," as I am working on them; the wholesale drug houses here, they tell me there are many kinds of soda and potash. A. Cornish stone or Cornwall stone, so named because is comes from Cornwall, England, is a porous, weathered felspar, containing an admixture of more or less clay. It is worth in the powdered form about twenty dollars per ton, and can probably be purchased from dealers in powdered minerals. Crystal soda is simply the crystallized carbonate of soda, commonly called sal soda. It will be better to use the dry carbonate of soda, soda ash; in this case it should be remembered that four parts of soda ash are equivalent to ten parts of crystal soda

(8913) W. A. P. asks: 1. The best way to reduce a 220-volt circuit down to 110 volts, 15 amperes, capacity. A. You wish 15 amperes to flow with a drop of 110 volts in a 220-volt circuit. Use a resistance of about 7.5 ohms of No. 10 wire, and this will produce a drop of 110 volts with a current of 15 amperes. The rest of the drop in series will be in your apparatus, which should have a resistance of 7.5 ohms, nearly. 2. How to electrically weld platinum wire No. 22 together, also platinum to copper; what, if any, flux is to be used? A. Electrical welding is done by melting the two parts to be united and forcing them together while melted. A flux is necessary to prevent oxidation. The same flux would be used as for the same metal in ordinary welding.

(8914) B. B. asks: 1. How to avoid scratches on the glass when cleaning with ashes before silvering? A. If you would avoid scratches on glass, you should avoid the use of ashes in polishing it. All wood ashes must contain particles of silica which are harder than the glass and will scratch the glass. Use successively finer abrasives till finally rouge and still finer polishes are used. 2. How to repolish plate glass when it loses its original polish? A. If glass has become dulled, it must be repolished by the same means as at first. 3. How to silver glass with tin instead of mercury amalgam process? A. Mirrors are made with tin and mercury amaigam by spreading sheets of tinfoil over a level ditional solders for aluminium, see answer to query No. 8751 in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN of November 22, 1902; also SUPPLEMENTS, Nos. sheet of glass is then lowered upon the amalgam from one edge, so as to drive the air bubbles out as it advances into contact with the amaigam. Weights are now put upon the glass, holding it down till the amalgam has set. The glass is now lifted from the stone. Any places where the coating is defective are repaired by coating them separately. 4. Is tio process of silvering, if any, cheaper than the Cr ammoniated nitric of silver process? A. All mirrors are now coated with silver. It is a much better coating than mercury and tin.

> (8915) W. G. asks: Could you suggest anything that I could mix with coal dust so it could be used for family use? A. Coal mercially successful it must be conducted on a

INVENTIONS

For which Letters Patent of the United States were Issued for the Week Ending

March 17, 1903,

AND EACH BEARING THAT D [See note at end of list about copies of these p	ATE.	Driv Dus Dye
		Dye Dye
Account sheet, R. G. Woodward. Acid and making same, benzylnaphthylamin- sulfonic, Levinstein & Mensching Acid, making sulfuric, J. B. F. Herreshoff Addressing machine, H. L. Gay. Aerial apparatus, J. Kaiser. Agricultural machine, W. Y. Donahoe. Air brake, F. L. Guillemet. Air compressor, R. Gastal. Air compressor, M. W. Marsden. Air compressor, M. W. Marsden. Air ship, F. A. Summers. Anthracene derivatives and making same, M. Kugel.	722,861 722,981	Dye Ear
Addressing machine, H. L. Gay. Aerial apparatus, J. Kaiser. Agricultural machine, W. Y. Donahoe	722,969 722,848 722,955	Edu Elec
Air compressor, B. Gastal. Air compressor, M. W. Marsden	722,837 722,968 723,000	Elec Elec
Air compressor, compound, G. W. Marsh. Air ship, F. A. Summers Anthracene derivatives and making same,	723,001 723,068	Elec Elec Elec
M. Kugel. Automatic lubricator, J. A. Swenson. Automobile propelling means, H. Lemp. Axle and journal box, divided car, V. P. Westcott, Jr. Bag. See Laundry bag.	722,719 722,769 722,168	Elev Elev
Westcott, Jr. Bag. See Laundry bag. Ruit antificial (1.0 Shawara		Elev Elev Elev
Westcott, Jr. Bag. See Laundry bag. Bait, artificial, C. C. Shaffer. Balance, spring, S. R. Munson Banana shipping case, E. O. Pittenger. Bars or shoals, apparatus for removing, E. Brace	723, 0 45 722,740 722,890	Eng
Brace Basket machine, C. Engberg	723,131 722,961	Eng Eng
Basket machine, C. Engberg. Basket making machine, C. Engberg. Bath and fever machine, F. W. Itall. Baths, rose for shower, W. Kessei ing. Bed. sofa. J. Maher.	722,962 722,976 722,849	Eng Eng
Bedstead and mattress, G. S. Heatley Bedstead canopy support, turnback, I. E.	723,171 722,705 722,883	Env. Eva
Palmer Talmer, 722,882, Bell ringing mechanism, electromagnetic, J. J. Sheahan. Binder, temporary, J. L. C. Montague. Bird trap, F. E. Allen. Biacking can, A. E. Samjson. Biacking can, A. E. Samjson. Biacking can, A. E. Samjson. Biocks or ingots, subdividing, J. Scales. Bookbinder, G. S. Ring. Bookcase, folding, D. Scarborough. Bottle, P. J. Richardson. Bottle filling machine, L. Strebel. Bottle, non-refillable, Koorie & Turpangy. Bottle, non-refillable, F. A. Morley. Bottle, non-refillable, F. H. Hafften. Bottle, non-refillable, F. H. Pelton. Bottle, non-refillable, F. H. Beuton. Bottle, etc., stopper, H. Beuton. Bottle, etc., stopper, H. Beuton. Bottle stopper, G. F. Hardinge. Bottles, packing, A. Mauser Brake applicable to motor cars, other railway vehicles, and revolving shafts generally, E. Wadey. Brake system, electric, C. E. Barry. Brake system, electric, C. E. Barry, resissue Breiling meat or flesh of animals, etc., ap-	723, 0 48 722,870	Exp
Bird trap, F. E. Allen	722,794 722,911	Exp. Exte Fabr
Boat, E. C. Rosenaw	722,908 722,903 722,760	Fabi
Bottle, P. J. Richardson Bottle filling machine, L. Strebel Bottle, non-refillable, Koorie & Turpangy	793 065	Fast Fast
Bottle, non-refillable, H. Hafften	722,718 722,97.4 723,0 0 4 723,018	Fauc Feed Feed
Bottle, etc., stopper, II. Bouton	722,802 722,814 722,978	Feed Feed
Brake, R. Saltsman Brake applicable to motor cars, other rail-	723,174 723,036	Feed Feed
way vehicles, and revolving sharts generally, E. Wadey. Brake system, electric, C. E. Barry.	722,930 722,936	Fenc Film Film
Brick edge smoothing blade, W. Frey, re- issue	723,181 12,1 0 1	Filte
paratus for, F. Rademacher	722,897	Fire Fire
Brush, E. T. Baskin	723,180 722,666 723,165 723,215 723,133	Fish Flas
Bucket, grab, A. E. Brown	723,133 723,175	Flue Flue Flue
	722,796 722,721 722,924	Flus Fly Fly
Calendar, F. C. W. Stelter	722,924 722,763 723, 0 47	Ford
Can press, F. Klaus	722,853 723,103 722,869	Frui
Jane, bleaching, Meyer & Besenbruch. Zane, magazine cap-exploding, Stanley & Heward Lapsule tubes, manufacture of, G. H. Paine Zar brake, railway, J. J. Kennedly. Zar, burglar proof express, C. Fleischhauer Zar coupling, T. P. Bellows. Zar doef, P. Brown. Zar life guard, tram, G. Geiger. Zar metallic, E. W. Summers. Zar roof, C. W. Crees. Zar side bearing, H. D. Laughlin. Zard holder or file, E. W. Woodruff. Zash carrier and apparatus therefor, M. J. Robertson.	723,218 722,881	Fuel Furn Furn
Car brake, railway, J. J. Kennelly Car, burglar proof express, C. Fleischhauer Car coupling, T. P. Bellows	722,989 722,830 722,798	Furn Furn Fuse
Car life guard, tram, G. Geiger	722,941 722,691 723,067	Galv Gam Gam
Car side bearing, II. D. Laughlin	722,817 722,995 723,116	Garl
Robertson Cement post mold, L. H. Stoner. Centrifugal machine, Macfarlane & Robert-	722,9 0 5 723,064	Garn Garn Gas
Son	722,730 723,006 723,144	Gas Gas
ligarette making machine, A. Fernandez y	723,144 722,712 723,•12	Gas Gas
Digarette making machines, device for pro-	722,829	Gas Gase I Gear
J. Paul	722,746 723,183 723,028	Gem Gill Gin
leaning and scrubbing appliance, G. Brunn Clock, self-winding electric, O. A. En Holm Clothes pin, D. S. Boyles.	23,223 722,684 723,130	Glass Glass Glass
Jutch, friction, C. R. Greuter 7	23,114 (23,196) (22,697) (22,800)	Glas
Hutch, friction, A. Bolzani	722,959 722,872 722,752 722,982	Glass Glass Glass
Combing needle filling machine, T. Town-	722,982 723,080	Golf Gove Grai
Composition, G. F. Averill.	723,041 723,124 722,782	Grain Grain Great
C. H. Burckett	722,807 723,119	Grin Grin Gum
Contretter and making same, malt sugar, C. H. Burckett. Outreller, T. ven Zweighergk	723,119 722,720 722,964 723, • 79	Gum Gun Gun
man	23,178 722,657	Gun Gun
Corn or grain dump elevator, Mabus & Hay 7	22,874 22,997	Hair Hand Harv
M. A. Beard 7	23,126 23,043 23,213	Hat Hat Hay
Franc, holsting, W. E. Boden	23,128 22,868	Head Head
cranes, means for preventing the overwind-	22,755	Heat Heel
Trate corner strap, E. F. Gilbert	22,692 22,771 22,900	Hide Iling
Pross head, B. J. Reilly. Trupper Shield, W. P. Burke	23,136 23,095 22,690	Hors Hors Hots
urrents, generating alternating, C. P. Stein-	23,190	Hydr
Curtain pole, D. R. Kinsell	23,189 23,203 23,066	Iiydr J
	23,207 23,075 22,682	Ice of Ice
ycle steering head, moter, C. F. Thems. 7 lecey, H. S. Dills	22,682 22,726 22,765 22,828 23,216	Ignit Indig
	23,219	Indu Inhal Insul
Moore 7	22,658	

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,	Draft equalizer, M. Whiteside. 7 Draft-rigging, A. Lipschutz	23,101 23,169
	Draft sill, pressed metal, C. S. Shallenberger Drawer, furniture, S. Shick	23,046 23,050 23,122
	Drill, C. A. Wessman	23,097 22,778
	Driving apparatus, J. H. Inggoldsby	22,985 $22,744$ $12,102$
1	stein & Mensching	22,860 23,154
7	122,110, 1	23,125 22,716
1	Earthenware, manufacture of, E. G. Acheson 7 Educational apparatus, L. S. Pratt. 7 Electric control of daylogs at a distance	22,791 23,022
	Electric machine frame, dynamo, R. Pfelfer 7	23,176 23,019
	Electrical testing apparatus, II. A. Lewis 7 Electrode frame, battery, II. Cottrell 7	22,979 23,2 0 5 22,946
3	Cottrell	22,947 22,756 22,894
3		22,894 22,737 22,893
	and deposition of same, Kett & Hossen- lopp Engine centrolling apparatus, R. J. Sheehy 7 Engine cylinder, explosive, L. M. Johnston 7 Engine cylinders, apparatus for cooling gasolene, D. C. Stover. 7 Engine guide support, locomotive, J. Player 7 Engines, cooling tank for internal combus- tion, C. O. White. 7 Envelop, file, W. F. Crafts. 7 Envelop, file, W. F. Crafts. 7 Evaporator, fruit, vegetable, or cereal, E. R. Golngs. 7 Explosion motor, double acting four cycle, A. Thiery. 7 Explosive engine, F. W. Toedt. 7 Extension table, C. J. Cook. 7 Fabric smoothing and ironing apparatus, G. B. Benns. 7	22,85 0 22,917 22,846
	Engine cylinders, apparatus for cooling gasolene, D. C. Stover	22,767 22,892
	Engines, cooling tank for internal combus- tion, C. O. White	23, • 98 23,083 22,816
	Evaporator, fruit, vegetable, or cereal, E. R. Golngs	22,693
	A. Thiery. 7 Explosive engine, F. W. Toedt. 7 Extension table, C. J. Cook. 7	$23, \bullet 71$ $22,774$ $23,140$
	B. Benns	23,192 23,147
	Fastening device, A. E. Smylie	23,147 22,923 22,659 22,832 22,972 22,835
	Faucet, measuring, W. Goebel	22,972 22,835 22,696 22,7•• 23,225
	Feed water strainer and catch basin, W. G.	00 114
	Wilmington 7 Feeder, lamb or calf, J. H. Cramer	23, 195 22, 838
	Filing system, expansible, D. E. Hunter. 7. Filing system, expansible, D. E. Hunter. 7. Films on plate glass or other transparent bodies, production of, Reynolds & Grubb 7.	22,709 22,901
	Filter, L. V. Rood. 7. Filter, coffee or tea pot, Webb & Howell. 7. Fire escape, J. S. Johnson. 7.	22,906 23,091 22,713
	Fire escape, D. Brown. 7. Firearm sight, J. G. Hubbard. 7. Fish hook, J. A. Smith. 7. Flask. See Dentist's flask.	23,194 $22,844$ $22,922$
	Floor cleaning apparatus, G. Swenson	22,768 23, 0 25 23,105
	Flue dust, silicated, E. II. Williams. 7: Flushing device, A. Rockel. 7: Fly net holder, II. C. Peters. 7: Fly tran S. Rickarsherg. 7:	23,106 22,757 22,748 23,427
	Folding, wrapping, and pasting machine, C. Owens 7: Form, garment, A. Hoffmann 7:	22,879 22,983
	Fruit jär, E. A. Parker. 77 Fruits, machine for pricking prunes or like, J. H. Hammer. 78 Fruit jarkenets machine for making arti-	23,017 22,840
	Williams or calf, J. H. Cramer. 7 Feeder, lamb or calf, J. H. Cramer. 7 Feeding water to steam beliers, S. M. Guss Cher, wire, I. M. Warner. 7 Feline stretcher, wire, I. M. Warner. 7 Filing system, expansible, D. E. Hunter. 7 Filins on plate glass or other transparent bodies, production of, Reynolds & Grubb 7 Filter, L. V. Rood. 7 Filter, Coffee or tea pot, Webb & Howell. 7 Filter, coffee or tea pot, Webb & Howell. 7 Fire escape, J. S. Johnson. 7 Fire escape, J. R. Hubbard. 7 Fire escape, J. R. Rookel. 7 File dust, reclaiming, E. H. Williams. 7 Filue dust, silicated, E. H. Williams. 7 Furnace, W. H. Fenner. 7 Furnace, J. Armstrong. C. H. Wellman 7 Furnace charging apparatus, C. H. Wellman 7 Furnace charging apparatus, C. H. Wellman 7 Furnace door, air feeding, Eddins & Buddie 7 Game apparatus, W. R. Williams. 7 Game apparatus	23,15 0 22,827 22,932
	Furnace charging apparatus, C. II. Wellman 7: Furnace door, air feeding, Eddins & Buddie 7: Fuse plug, S. Rothschild	23,094 22,957 23, 6 32
l	Game, W. H. Snyder	23,058 22,789 23,179
	Game apriacts, V. C. Peters. C. H. Stephenson. Garment banger, A. L. Ross	22,766 23,031
	Gas cooler, E. A. Moore	23,003 22,671 22,787
	Gas generator, acetylene, W. Webb	23,092 23,138 22,834
	Gas regulator, C. L. Nelson	23,224 22,876 23,011
	Gearing, alternating rotary, J. E. Hausfeld 7 Gem setting, G. W. Dover	22,704 22,824 22,984
	Glass carrier for leers, sheet, Frink & Lee 72 Glass flattening table, sheet, Frink & Lee 72 Glass flattening table, of feeding ash into.	23,035 22,689 22,688
	W. B. Cogswell	22,812
	Glass making machine, sheet, Frink & Lee 12 Glass, ornamenting, J. M. Conroy	22,087 23,139 23. 0 14
	Golf stick, M. R. Swift	2,927 23,185 22,788
	Grain separator elevator, G. F. Colmer. 42 Grain shocker, E. F. Ponath. 72 Grease cup, G. Reimers. 72 Grinding machine, J. Benge. 75	22,945 23, 02 0 23,209 22,938
	Grinding machine, disk, A. T. Shipp	3,051 3,053 2,944
	Gun recoil brake, O. Lauber	2,724 $2,910$ $2,761$
	Hair comb, J. Kahn	22,714
	Harvester attachment, G. F. Vellbern	3,084 2,856 3,193 2,775
	Hay rack, side delivery, H. A. Adams 72 Head rest, adjustable, C. F. Deardurff 72 Head rest bar. W. J. Kochn 72	2,931 2,950 2,855
		2,747 3,177
	Perkins 72 Hinge spring, T. Roche. 72 Hog nese cutter, C. F. Roux 79	2,888 3,186 3, 0 33
	Horse bit, D. W. Dennelly	2,683 2,935
	glazed frame for, G. Knochenhauer 72 Hydrocarbon burner, McLean & Picard 72 Hydrocarbon burner initial heating device,	3,163 3, 0 10
	W. R. Jevons. 72 Hydrocarbon burner lighting device, W. R. Jevons 72 lee cutting machine, W. H. De Baun. 72	2,987 2,988 2,681
	Ice spud and shovel, combination, W. J. Ester	2,825
	Indigo, reducing, Muller & Schwab	2,913 3, 0 07 3, 0 16 3,070
	Insulator, third rail, S. B. Stewart, Jr 72 (Continued on page 233)	3,062



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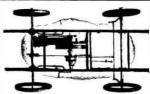
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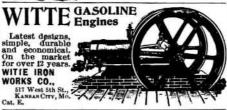
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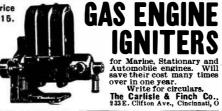
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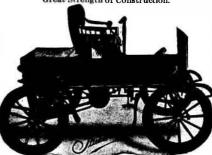


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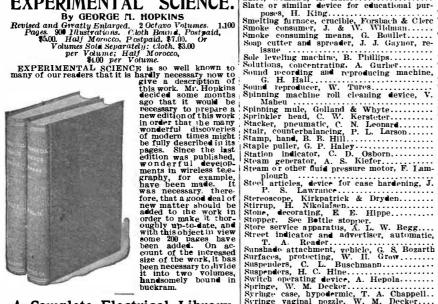
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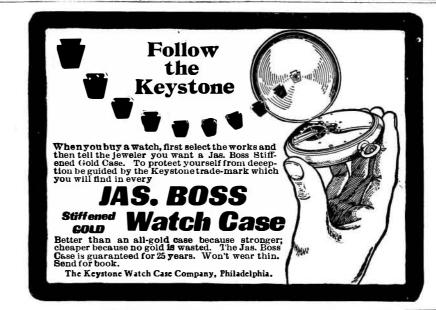


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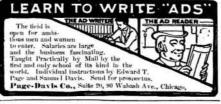
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