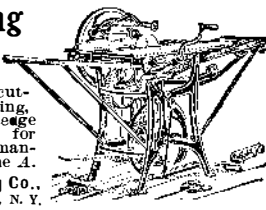


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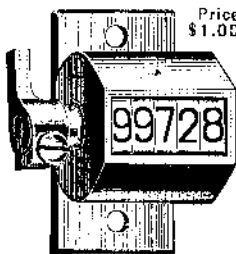
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NEW BOOKS, ETC.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY. Its History, Theory, and Practice. A. Frederick Collins. New York: McGraw Publishing Company, 1905. 12mo.; pp. 299; 332 illustrations. Price, \$3.

This is an excellent and very complete work on wireless telegraphy. All phases of the subject are treated with a definite, logical sequence, which brings the state of the art down to the present time. Each subdivision is approached with a brief historical introduction, which is followed by a theoretical discussion, after which the various experiments are outlined, and finally the practical workings are described. This logical method of dealing with the subject renders the work valuable to the student as well as to the trained specialist.

MODERN LIGHTNING CONDUCTORS. An Illustrated Supplement to the Report of the Lightning Research Committee of 1905. With Notes as to the Method of Protection and Specifications. By Killingsworth Hedges, M.I.C.E. and M.I.E.E., Hon. Sec. to the Lightning Research Committee. London: Crosby Lockwood & Son, 1905. New York: D. Van Nostrand Company. 8vo.; pp. 119. Price, \$3.

The chief basis for confidence that the theory of protection from lightning is to be made fairly clear, and the matter of control soon come into an existing practice, lies in the conferences, reports, and numerous other researches on modern lightning conductors, a great deal of which matter has been used for the purposes of this volume. The author deals materially with the Report of the Lightning Research Committee and information supplied by the Observer's Reports of this scientific body, in fact, as the title states, it is their illustrated supplement. Mr. Hedges throws signal ability into the work of facilitating the opening up of a new field of inquiry, made possible by the efforts of Sir Oliver Lodge and other scientists.

In a comprehensive manner the methods most suitable are explained, illustrations of the necessary accessories are given, also a description of arrangements in use on the Continent. He includes the introduction to the L. R. C. report, 1905, by Sir Oliver Lodge, wherein this eminent authority claims, that "it is not so much quality of electricity that has to be attended to, as electrical energy; that this electrical energy is stored between clouds and earth in dangerous amount, and that the object should be to dissipate it, not as quickly, but as quietly as possible." The work is rich in notes on the latest American and Continental practice, specifying that of Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, and Italy. A chapter on examples of lightning stroke on protected buildings confirms the meaninglessness of the familiar term, "area of protection." It is full of quotable facts; its seventy-four engravings are an efficient contribution to diagram and pictorial accuracy needed in such cases, and notwithstanding it is somewhat discouraging to be told that the present system of lightning rods, which will protect from one class of flash, may not be able to shield a building from injury by the other class; still the student will find that it sets out clearly the theory of lightning, and the way one can, to a great extent, protect a structure by suitable conductors, and thus dissipate its energy.

PRACTICAL ENGINEER POCKETBOOK FOR 1906. Manchester, England: Technical Publishing Company, Ltd. No date. 24mo.; pp. 598. Price, 60 cents.

Like the Practical Engineer Electrical Pocketbook the Practical Engineer Pocketbook is always a welcome visitor. We can well remember seeing the first edition some eighteen years ago. Now the work has waxed fat and improved both in accuracy and in scope. It is one of the best pocketbooks which we have ever seen, and is unquestionably the most economical as regards its purchase price. It is a book which we can heartily recommend to mechanical engineers.

THE INVESTIGATION OF MINE AIR. Edited by Sir Clement Le Neve Foster, D.Sc., F.R.S., and J. S. Haldane, M.D., F.R.S. London: Charles Griffin & Co., Ltd. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1905. 12mo.; pp. 191. Price, \$2.

The present book is an account by several authors of the nature, significance, and practical methods of measurement of the impurities met with in the air of collieries and metalliferous mines. No questions receive closer attention from mining engineers at the present time than those relating to the health and safety of the men under their charge, and among all the dangers which threaten the miner or impede his work, none are more real and urgent than those due to impure air. A knowledge of the impurities in mine air, their sources and their effects, has thus become almost a necessity to mining engineers. A number of English and foreign authors collaborated in the production of the present volume, which is unusually complete and is also adequately illustrated.

DIE HEMMUNGEN DER UHREN. Ihre Entwicklung, Konstruktion, Reparatur und Behandlung vor der Replage. By C. Dietzschold. Krems a. Donau, Nied.-Osterr., 1905. 8vo.; pp. 234.

The author has presented here a most thorough treatise on watch and clock escapements, from both the mechanical and mathematical standpoints.

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SCHOOL CHEMISTRY. A New Textbook for High Schools and Academies. By Elroy M. Avery, Ph.D., LL.D. New York: American Book Company, n.d. 16mo.; pp. 243. Price, \$1.20.

Clearness and accuracy of statement mark the definitions, directions, and explanations. The experiments are simple and instructive, easily performed, and adapted to the use of inexpensive and easily obtainable apparatus. Unusual space is devoted to chemistry as applied to important industrial processes. In fact, every modern topic pertaining to the science that is worthy of consideration receives its proper treatment; the practical applications of chemistry to the affairs of everyday life, such as the contamination of water, bread making, the fertilization of soils by the action of nitrifying bacteria, etc., are given a great amount of attention.

PRACTICAL PATTERN MAKING. By Paul N. Hasluck. Philadelphia: David McKay, 1905. 16mo.; pp. 160. Price, \$1.

"Practical Pattern Making" contains in a form convenient for everyday use a comprehensive digest of information contributed by experienced craftsmen. The author is too well known as a versatile amateur mechanic to need any introduction to the readers of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. The illustrations, which number 300, are excellent.

APPRECIATION OF PICTURES. A Handbook. By Russell Sturgis, A.M., Ph.D. New York: The Baker-Taylor Company, 1905. 8vo.; pp. 308. Price, \$1.50 net.

The author is a very well-known writer on art topics, and was editor of an important dictionary of architecture. Mr. Sturgis's long experience in art matters gives him an authority in dealing with painting. The present volume, which is handsomely illustrated, has seventy-three well-executed engravings and takes up the Epoch of Primitive Charm; the Epoch of Early Triumph; the Epoch of Achievement; the Epoch of Splendor; the Beginnings of Modern Gloom; Recent Art, Color and Light and Shade; Recent Art, Sentiment and Record; Recent Art, Monumental Effect. The book is one which we can heartily recommend.

ELEMENTS OF DESCRIPTIVE GEOMETRY. By Charles E. Ferris. New York: American Book Company. No date. 8vo.; pp. 127. Price, \$1.25.

Inquiry among the leading draftsmen shows that nearly all their work is done in the third quadrant or angle. It seems reasonable, therefore, to teach the subject of geometry in technical schools as it will be used by graduates. Many years of experience in teaching this subject proves to the author that the student may learn to think with this problem below the horizontal and behind the vertical and perpendicular planes, just as well as above and in front of these planes. A large number of practical examples given in the past were assigned to cadets at the United States Naval Academy, and the author considers that they will serve well to illustrate the principles of descriptive geometry.

INDEX OF INVENTIONS

For which Letters Patent of the United States were Issued for the Week Ending February 27, 1906.

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE [See note at end of list about copies of these patents.]

- Adding machine, J. Pallweber..... 813,578
Adhesive brace, flexible, A. Freschl..... 813,790
Aerial top, A. L. Platt..... 813,519
Air brake coupling, automatic, A. H. Skilling..... 813,747
Airship tower, revolving, S. M. Friede..... 813,549
Alcohol burner, J. H. Ernst..... 813,783
Amalgamator, Draper & Hay..... 813,780
Amusement device, A. Dalton..... 813,953
Animal call, J. Brunner..... 813,853
Annealing or malleableizing oven, Cassady & Bergman..... 813,483
Annunciator, J. A. Watten..... 813,931
Apron or belt guide, automatic, W. J. Asher..... 813,995
Automobile, F. M. Blair..... 813,541
Automobile turn-table, H. R. Stickney..... 813,462
Automobiles, frame for wind shields for, Simm & Olson..... 813,524
Axle box, J. R. Fleming..... 813,962
Axle mechanism, vehicle, H. Hill..... 813,424
Badge, J. A. & J. C. Doran..... 813,624
Bag, T. Manahan..... 813,440
Bag tying machine, P. Rudd..... 813,832
Balers, division block for hay, J. H. Pitkin..... 813,665
Baling press, G. M. Washington..... 813,943
Band cutter and feeder, H. C. Wallace..... 813,847
Barrel stand, C. A. Riek..... 813,587
Basket machine, automatic, S. L. Casella..... 813,773
Bat, baseball, C. H. Buehler..... 813,400
Battery. See Storage battery.
Bayonet and telescope, combined, F. W. Stillwell..... 813,677
Beam, combined steel and concrete, J. Kahn..... 813,803
Bearing, antifriction, V. L. Rice..... 813,989
Bearing, automobile wheel, C. S. Lockwood..... 813,905
Bearing, axle, J. K. Gourkin..... 813,880
Bed bottom, adjustable, J. Shepherd..... 813,458
Bed, metal, C. J. Wiegren..... 813,471
Beet digging machine, A. H. Kramer..... 813,978
Beverage carbonator, J. H. Fox..... 813,414
Bicycle brake, G. A. Love..... 813,906
Binder, file, C. R. Nelson..... 813,817
Binder-file, C. R. Nelson..... 813,818
Binder, loose leaf, E. A. Trussell..... 813,752
Binder, loose leaf, W. J. Schultz..... 813,919
Binder, temporary, J. N. Christensen..... 813,948
Biscuit cutting machines, sprinkling granular substances on dough in, T. & J. Vicars, Jr..... 813,680
Bleaching liquor, apparatus for preparing, F. L. Bartlett..... 813,688
Block system, automatic electric, A. M. Mott..... 813,909
Blower, fireplace and grate, W. F. Lowry..... 813,506