vices to coact between the actuating-screw, and to keep the pairs of ground-warp threads head, box, and pin so as to practically absorb properly separated for the pile warp-thread friction between the moving parts, rendering the device more durable and easier of operation and increasing the mechanical efficiency of the hoisting-engine.

COIN-CONTROLLED VENDING DEVICE. G. W. MEREDITH, Wichita, Kan. In the pres ent patent the invention is a division of a prior application for a patent for a cigar-vending machine, which was formerly filed by Mr. Meredith; and it consists in the novel me- intermittent air-blast. The dense stuff settles connected with the fronts or platforms of chanical features whereby a deposited coin is upon the riffles and is blown through them, street-cars and adapted to be lowered from made the intermediary through which one or more cigars held in the cells of a carrier-belt are discharged into range of possession by the purchaser.

CIGAR-VENDING MACHINE.-G. W. MERE-DITH, Wichita, Kan. The invention relates to vending-machines, in which individual articles of merchandise are discharged from a stock held for sale by means of a manually-operated handle. Although applicable to sale of other merchandise in packages of nearly uniform size, it is especially intended for the sale of cigars. The machine is constructed in its entirety as a cigar-case in which cigars are arranged in their original boxes, with quality, brand, and price exposed to view for selection. vented another cigar-vending machine in which articles of merchandise are discharged from a cles of somewhat uniform size, it is especially intended for the sale of cigars. His machine the machine for the sale of one for five cents. two for five cents, three for five cents, one for ten cents, three for ten cents, one for a Prime Movers and Their Accessories. quarter, or any number for a single coin value up to one dollar.

UNIVERSAL EXCAVATING AND GRAD-ING MACHINE.-W. GILMORE, Meridian, The principal object in this case is to Miss. provide for universal adjustment of the parts to permit working under various conditions, and especially to provide for excavating under a railroad-track without removing the track, so as to cut down grades without discontinuing the trains for any length of time and to do the work at greatly-reduced cost on account of the rapidity of the machine in handling large amounts of earth.

at any desired angle. A further object is to bers or member is caused to produce an ap-provide means for cutting at any height de-sired, whereby trees may be cut near or far EXPLOSION-ENGINE.—H. D. DIBBLE, Mysfrom the ground and large or small logs sawed with equal facility.

APPARATUS FOR SORTING CHIPS. - H. charged and in which the knots by their ignite the incoming new charge. greater specific gravity sink, while the lighter. chips float, in combination with a series of perforated pipes arranged close to the waterlevel, the issue-orifices all being faced in one direction, whereby the floating chips are continuously carried away by a surface current produced by a series of impinging jets of water or air and under the influence of which the floating chips are carried over a spillway and delivered to an elevator to be carried up to the rechipper.

ELEVATOR DRIVING MECHANISM. - V. W. MASON, Providence, R. I. The invention is especially applicable in mechanism of the elevator driving class which is driven by an electric motor. It relates especially to re-versing mechanism, and concerns itself also with the connection from the motor to the mechanism. The object is to provide a reversing mechanism which will operate to apply a brake automatically immediately upon the arresting of the forward motion and prior to

MEASURING ATTACHMENT FOR PAPER-BOX MACHINES .- A. BELL, New York, N. Y. The invention refers to improvements in attachUnited States for a pile-fabric loom, formerly filed by Mr. Dalkranian.

JIG OR ORE-CONCENTRATOR. - A. C. CAMPBELL, Asheville, N. C. The device com- platforms of the car. Messrs. Hager and prises an inclined riffle upon which the ore is Finizie have invented another improvement in deposited and along which it is driven by an the class of car-fenders which are detachably while the less dense matter is carried to a normal position in case of emergency. dam at the lower end of the river whence it flows off through a pipe.

MOTOR-TOOL HOLDER .--- C. B. HASTINGS, New York, N. Y. The invention pertains to Fla. The object of the game is to completely motor-tools such as are adapted to be held in wrap a string around a mast with the inthe hand when applied to the work. The tention of making the ball strike the mast at object is to produce a holder having means a chosen point. The ball having a fiexible for guiding the tool in a vertical plane and connection with the mast, any impulse given having a construction enabling the tool-holder to the ball will cause the string constituting to be readily adjusted, so as to change the elevation at which the tool operates.

AUTOMATIC STOP FOR HOISTS .- F. H. KOHLBRAKER, Nanticoke, Pa. The object here is not only to provide a throttle-valve cut-off mechanism that may be operated by the cage It is for use in hotels, clubrooms, barber should it rise too high in its shaft by over-shops, and other places. Mr. Meredith has in- winding of the hoisting-engine drum, but to winding of the hoisting-engine drum, but to provide means whereby the valve or valves may be closed and the brake set to instantly stock held for sale by working and manipulat- stop the engine should any of the parts be ing an operating-handle, and although applic- come deranged, such manual operation taking able for the sale of any kind of package arti- place without disturbing the automatic device, thus saving time and trouble of resetting said device, as is necessary with the construcprovides for an extension of the function of tion shown in a former patent granted to Mr. Kohlbraker.

BOILER-FLUE .- A. VAN WALTERS, Galion, Ohio. The invention refers to flues or tubes as constructed in modern tubular boilers, and is especially useful in connection with steamboilers of the locomotive or marine type. The object is to provide a boiler-tube which effects a lasting and hermetically-tight joint between the tube and the flue-sheets, which can be easily removed and replaced when worn out, and which tends to decrease the troublesome incrustation encountered in steam-boilers.

PYROMOTOR. - W. W. FRENCH, Fort Branch, Ind. In this patent the improvement

refers to motors, the more particular object being to produce a motor controlled directly SAWING-MACHINE.—S. J. GRAY and J. being to produce a motor controlled directly HORNING, Oakland, Cal. The object of the by heat upon the principle of the expansion improvement is to provide a novel machine of and contraction of one or more metallic mem-the endless-saw type adapted for cutting in bers. It further relates to means whereby the any position—either vertically, horizontally, or expansion and contraction of the metallic mem-

provide a gas or explosion engine arranged to utilize the motive agent to the fullest advan-POWERS, Lincoln, N. H. The tank or recep-tacle is filled with water, into which the screened-out knots and large chips are dis-tage and to use a small portion of the hot residue from a previous explosion to compress the same to the igniting-point with a view to

Railways and Their Accessories.

AUTOMATIC AIR-BRAKE AND STEAM COUPLING .-- O. E. LEIB and E. B. WITTE, Trenton, N. J. The principal objects of the improvement are to provide means for effectively making an air-tight joint between two air-brake-system cars when the latter are coupled together and for automatically allowing an escape of air from each car when the cars are uncoupled or when one is released from the other; furthermore, to prevent the escape of all the air from the air-brake system in an uncoupled car, only allowing enough to escape to set the brakes, and to apply the device to both freight and passenger cars.

GRAIN-DOOR .- W. S. GILLELAND, Newkirk, Oklahoma. The invention comprises the combination with a car having a door-opening provided with a sill, of doors hinged to the sides of the opening, a plurality of catches on one of the doors and a plurality of rock-levers pivoted to the other. The levers have their the reversal of the motion. outer ends provided with fianges for engaging the catches, the inner end of levers being extended to form a handle. A bar connects the ments for machines employed in placing the inner end of said levers to constrain them to paper covering on the sides and ends of paste- move in unison, one being provided with an inboard boxes and covers, the object being to tegral lug for directly engaging the sill when the desired the flanges are engage simple whereby leans length of material may be accurately meas, prevents movement of the doors with respect ured, thus resulting in a considerable saving to the sill. CAR-UNLOADING APPARATUS.—A. BU-CLOCK.—A. D. GARY, Lavonia, Ga. The in-vention comprises the combination with the vention relates to apparatus for unloading clock-train having an escapement shaft and sugar-cape from core intent. clock-train having an escapement shaft and sugar-cane from cars into the feeder for canewheel, of a plate having a laterally-extending mills. It is an improvement upon that form wheel mounted on the arm, a pendulum and carried by a horizontally-reciprocating rolling chairs with power attached. arm, a pallet for engaging the escapement- of device in which a large rake is attached to nection between the pallet and pendulum. The cally about a horizontal axis at one end, so as plate is provided with a bearing for engaging to be raised and lowered to permit the rake the escapement-shaft and a slot leading thereto operate in any horizontal plane. from to permit removal and attachment of the CAR-FENDER.-M. WICK, New York, N. Y. plate, and a rod secured to the plate and The principal objects of the inventor are to extending therebelow to swing the plate. provide means for automatically releasing a BEATING-IN DEVICE FOR LOOMS .-- J. K. series of movable elements when a portion of this invention is to provide a device arranged so as to lift the obstacle upon a platform and to insure a proper beating in of the weft and hold it thereon without stopping the arrange to answer to insure a proper beating in of the weft and hold it thereon without stopping the arrange to answer to insure a proper beating in of the weft and hold it thereon without stopping the arrange to arrange the arrange to answer to insure a proper beating in of the weft and hold it thereon without stopping the arrange to arrange the arrange to answer to insure a proper beating in of the weft and hold it thereon without stopping the arrange to to insure a proper beating in of the weft and hold it thereon without stopping the car or Inquiry No. 8221.-For makers of styptic pencils the pile-warp-thread loops, to hold the beaten-running any danger of throwing the obstacle Inquirities. No. 8222.-Wented the address of the in parts in position during the formation of under the wheels, provided it is approximately the following row of pile-warp-thread loops, the size of a human body.

CAR-FENDER .-- C. HAGER and T. D. FIN-121E, New York, N. Y. In the present patent needles to pass between adjacent pairs of the invention is an improvement in side ground-warp threads. This is a division of fenders for street-railway cars, the same being the application for Letters Patent of the attached to and pendent from the body of a car and hanging outside of and parallel to the wheels, so as to practically inclose and prevent access to the space between the ends or

Pertaining to Recreation.

GAME DEVICE .- R. D. MARTIN, Tampa, such connection to wind around the mast and likewise unwind of its own accord. The purpose is to provide a portable game requiring the exercise of considerable skill.

Pertaining to Vehicles.

COOLER .- D MC RA LIVINGSTON, New York, N. Y. The invention is more particularly intended for the coolers of motor-vehicles propelled by explosive-engines. It consists in a cooler having lapped joints at the side edges formed by means of return-bent or inwardly projecting portions formed along the opposite edges of one plate or wall and outwardlyprojecting plain portions on the two side edges of the companion plate or wall of the conduit through which the fluid to be cooled passes. In order that the hooked edge portions may formed, slits at the angles are produced. Mr. Livingston has invented another cooler and the improvement is intended principally for embodiment in the coolers of motor-vehicles propelled by explosive-engines, and the present relates especially to that form of cooler in which conduits are so bent as to present a diamond figure, the bends of the conduits being diagonal to the vertical and horizontal.

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.

Business and Personal Wants.

bers. It further relates to means whereby the expansion and contraction of the metallic mem-bers or member is caused to produce an ap-preciable degree of motion. EXPLOSION-ENGINE.—H. D. DIBBLE, Mys-tic, S. D. The object of the invention is to provide a gas or explosion engine arranged to

Marine Iron Works. Chicago. Catalogue free. Inquiry No. 8208.-Wanted, manufacturers alcoholometers for testing alcohols. of

"U.S." Metal Polish. Indianapolis. Samples free. Inquiry No. S209.-Wanted, makers of steam cooking apparatus.

I sell patents. To buy, or having one to sell, write Chas. A. Scott, 719 Mutual Life Building, Buffalo, N. Y. Inquiry No. 8210.-Wanted, addresses of manufacturers of pneumatic water supply apparatus, such as used in country residences.

FOR SALE .- Water front in New York harbor with upland and riparian right. Address X. Y. Z., Box 773, New York.

Inquiry No. 8211,-Wanted, makers of machines for washing buttons.

The celebrated "Hornsby-Akroyd" Patent Safety Oil Engine is built by the De La Vergne Machine Company. Foot of East 138th Street, New York. Inquiry No. 8212.-Wanted, makers of portable oda fountains.

Manufacturers of patent articles, dies, metal

stumping, screw machine work, hardware specialties, machinery tools, and wood fiber products. Quadriga Manufacturing Company, 18 South Canal St., Chicago. Juguiry No. 8213.—Wanted, manufacturers of orick-making machinery.

Automobile experts are in constant demand at high salaries. Our seven weeks' course is the most thorough and practical, fitting men to drive, handle and repair Day and evening classes. Special course for owners New York School of Automobile Engineers, 146 West 56th Street, New York.

Inquiry No. 8214.—Wanted, information as to the manufacture of paper from the pith and other parts of the corn stalk.

Notes and Queries.

HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ANNES TO CORRESPONDENTS.
Names and Address must accompany all letters or no attention will be paid thereto. 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 bear in mind that some answers require not a little research, and, though we endeavor to reply to all either by letter or in this department, each must take his turn.

though we endeavor to reply to all either by letter or in this department, each must take his turn. Buyers wishing to purchase any article not adver-tised in our columns will be furnished with adjresses of houses manufacturing or carrying 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. Frice 10 cents each. Books referred to promptly supplied on receipt of price.

price. Minerals sent for examination should be distinctly marked or labeled.

(10036) H. M. writes: The SCIEN-TIFIC AMERICAN, of May 19, 1906, contains an answer to some queries from A. X. (9976) that is, to say the least, different from the information that is generally to be found in the Notes and Queries column. Your paper has the reputation of being a conservative scientific journal, reasonably accurate, and one that never stoops to persifiage. But this time the bounds were overstepped, with the usual result -the ridicule of the editor acted as a boomerang. In attempting to make sport of a letter from a schoolboy, he made some mistakes that are more mirth-provoking than the errors of the student. Among other things he says: "This letter claims to come from a high school, from a scholar, we assume." Now in the El Paso high school we are taught that the term scholar is applied only to a learned man, or one having great knowledge of literature or philology. Of course, etymologically considered the word scholar means "one who learns from a teacher," but good usage does not countenance its use with that meaning. Again he says: "A body weighs more on the top of a mountain than it does at sea level, at any time, since it is farther from the center of the earth on the mountain top." Our physics teacher taught us that the maximum weight of a body is at the surface of the earth (at the sea level). Of course, a body weighs more at the poles than it would at the equator, because in the former position it is nearer to the center of the earth. But, "if a body is removed above the sea level, as on the top of a mountain or in a balloon, the distance d between it and the center of the earth is increased and by reference to formula MМ′

Fg = --a we see that its weight is dimin d^2

ished" (Hoadley's "Physics," p. 62). Fair play demands, Mr. Editor, that you publish an an-swer to your explanation in as prominent a place as was the original article. I am going to watch with interest to see if you dare pub-lish this letter. In conclusion, give the next boy a chance, for he will get over his carelessness, and please do not publish any more erroneous answers to questions dealing with ele-mentary physics. A. Thank you, my lad, we are much under obligation to you for setting us right. Over forty years' experience as a professor has taught us to welcome correction, even from a high school scholar, and even on a point where the error was one of the types simply, or at most one of inadvertence. It was so evident that "more" had been printed, where "less" should have been printed, that we had not supposed even the most captious and hypercritical would waste a postage stamp in telling us the mistake, which we saw as soon as the paper came from the press. It was so plain a slip that any one would be stupid not to see it. Oh, yes, we do dare, we are bold and bad enough to dare to print your letter, impertinence to an older person and all, and to say that we do not believe the teachers of the El Paso high school teach their students and scholars-we hope there are scholars thereany such manners as are found in your letter. As to your limitation of the use of the word "scholar." we doubt if El Paso will be able to make this use of the word universal, espe-

cially as both Webster and the Century do not give it first place. The Standard says, "When used without qualification, the word is un-Prof. Anthony Barker, 1164 Broadway, N. Y. City. Inquiry No. 8215.-Wanted, manufacturers of oil burners. Inquiry No. 8217.-Wanted, the address of the angulacturers of the "Rapid" boiler tube cleaner. do for using that word in any sense author-Inquiry No. S21S.—Wanted, flexible cloth, air, ized by any good authority. In this you over-ticht, capable of holding a pressure of three inches of water: or factory which treats cloth with paraffine or other chemicals. witness to the general and "reasonable" accuracy of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, and that it does not stoop to persifiage. Persifiage is a shall be glad to hear from you again at any Inquiry No. 8222.-Wanted, the address of the Crown Cap Co., manufacturers of the metal cap for bottles; also for makers of similar bottle caps.

WANTED.-Physical Culture Appliances. Because of my great success in the sale of appliances for the improvement of the health and strength, I have found it derstood in this latter sense"—that is, "one

Inquiry No. S219.-Wanted, the address of the manufacturer of the machines making flower poins from 5 centimeters and upward, and sower piping 60 centi-meters lone and 15 to 25 centimeters in diameter.

(10037) C. D. asks: 1. What point below the freezing point do air, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, become liquid? A. These temperature points are very nearly as follows in Fahr. degrees, below zero : Air, 312 ; hydrogen, 422; nitrogen, 317; oxygen, 297. 2. Please give me the address of a reliable company that sells chemicals and chemical apparatus. А. You would better deal with a firm in the city near your home than to buy at a distance and pay transportation charges. Our advertising columns very often contain the advertisements of these dealers. We do not advertise dealers in the Notes and Queries column. 3. Where can I get some books on argon, helium, neon, krypton and xenon, and give me the prices of them? A. We can send you many valuable papers on the rare gases of the atmosphere which have appeared in the SUPPLEMENT. Among them are argon, Nos. 1000, 1001, 1002, and others, price ten cents each; helium, Nos. 1056, 1057, price ten cents each. 4. What kind of chemical books, as organic chemistry, etc., so I can find liquid formene? What is formene? A. Formene is a tetrachloride of carbon CCl4. Its preparation can be found in the Dispensatory. Its properties are those of an anæsthetic, similar to those of chloroform, soothing the pain of neuralgia and even causing insensibility. As it has been the cause of death also, it is not used by physicians. It plain what metals, minerals or ores draw is not a substance for an amateur to meddle lightning the most. We have a piece of about is not a substance for an amateur to meddle with. 5. What are the uses of liquid air? A. At present liquid air is not put to any commercial use.

(10038) C. J. K. asks: I beg to inquire if you can suggest anything that I can | use for a reflector in place of plate glass where the size required, 10 feet x 12 feet, makes plate glass impracticable to handle? A. Glass is the best material for a reflector, since it does not tarnish with exposure to moisture and can be easily cleaned. It would not seem to be necessary to have a single piece of glass for a reflector 10 x 12 feet. The difference could not be told if there were a large number of pieces of glass set edge to edge in the frame, making a total area as great as desired. This has been done in the various solar engines which have been built. We do not think any artificial glass would answer your purpose.

(10039) J. E. N. writes: I have been a reader of your paper for many years, and is a spring, where, when the water is low, several times I have noticed where you have an oil collects, which, when collected on a given receipts for, and published articles on, ice-cream making. In every case you claim that to make a good ice cream it is necessary to use pure cream. Now I am telling you that you are mistaken there. There are trade secrets and trade secrets, but the following is Simon pure one; it has never been published to my knowledge, and the ice cream is as good from every point of view as that has investigated this matter and its brochure made from pure cream. It is used by several large dealers, the whites of the eggs being used for making icing for cakes and for cake Well, to proceed. To every quart of making. unskimmed milk use one pound of granulated would *draw* the lightning any more readily sugar and the yolks of five eggs and any than water would do it. Nor would the minflavor desired. Place the milk in an enameled dish, and heat slowly, stirring continually un-

(10040) J. T. R writes: I have a of nine connected in multiple, i.e., two positive

with poor glycerine. Let this stand a few days in a cool place, and siphon off the clear solution, which is to be used for soap bubbles. Some add a little ammonia to this, but it works well as we have given it.

(10042) A. P. B. says: I wish to pump the air out of a glass fruit jar, and If so, what are the properties of the alloy? then seal it so well that air cannot get back in the jar for at least one year. Please tell me what pump to use and how to seal. A. A glass fruit jar is a poor style of bottle to use for this purpose. Better get a ground-glass stoppered bottle with another opening near the neck, to which a small glass tube is sealed. Coat the stopper with petroleum, and after having introduced the contents put in stopper, and seal with hot sealing wax. The air is to be drawn out through the other opening and glass tube, which is then sealed with a blowpipe and gas or alcohol flame. Any maker of scientific apparatus can furnish a small pump as well as bottle for this purpose. An ordinary mechanical air pump used in the school labor atory will give a vacuum having not over 2 ounces pressure absolute, or more than 14 pounds pressure less than the air. J. W. Queen & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., can furnish what you want.

(10043) F. H. B. writes: Please ex-20 acres on which lightning always strikes during a thunder shower. Land slopes to the west with higher land farther east, on which lightning seldom strikes, that is, comparatively seldom. Rock near surface, sometimes cropping out, of a light gray color, looks like bastard slate, but will seldom split. Land covered with young timber, hemlock, pine, white oak, red oak, maple, and hickory. I think full 90 per cent of the hemlocks have been struck by lightning, while a large per cent of the other trees have also been struck. Out of 116 hemlocks which measured 6 inches 20 feet above the ground, 112 showed lightning marks. Near one end of the tract is a depression, at the bottom of which almost every tree has been struck by lightning. Live stock and game shun the tract, but not the land around it. The surface rock overlies a soft slate, which, judging from the dip, must be 300 feet below the surface. Near the upper edge of the slate woolen cloth, burns. I have never been able to collect enough to send you for a test, as it flows off with the water, and being transparent, is hard to find. Only when the spring is so low that no water runs away have I col-lected it on woolen cloth. A. It is a fact that some kinds of trees are struck more frequently on the subject states that 54 per cent (the highest) of all trees struck are oak and one per cent (the lowest) beech. We do not think any ores or metals under the ground eral oil seem to account for the phenomena.

(10044) M. E. P. asks: 1. I am oper til it just comes to a boil, then skim and add the sugar and remove from the fire, stir with ating a single-phase light plant with about 800 a wooden stick until the sugar is dissolved, lights. My transformer and liner are nearly have the yolks of eggs in a dish well beaten all overloaded. Could I raise the voltage from 1,000 to 2,000 volts and use 200-volt up with a few quarts of warm (not hot) milk, and now add these, stirring the milk all the lamps in place of 100-volt, or would it be time. Place the milk can in a tub with better to parallel the secondary coils in the broken ice around it, and stir milk until it is transformer and still run 100-volt lamps and cool, add your flavor, and it is ready to freeze. change the generator to 2,000 volts? A. An It costs far less than pure cream, and makes, additional generator to relieve the overload if anything, a far nicer article. is a more natural solution of your difficulty than to change all your lamps and trans-formers, since 2,000 volts is a much greater primary battery of eighteen cells; two series strain on the insulation everywhere than 1,000 volts is. 2. What voltage is required to make and two negative wires connected. These are a 15-inch spark, such as is given by a static used to charge a secondary battery of three machine? A. We have not exact data at hand cells of chloride accumulator. The voltmeter for the voltage required to force a spark indicates 6.6 volts at storage battery and 6.5 through 15 inches of dry air under all circumvolts at terminals of primary battery. Is my stances. A paper read before the American primary battery large errough, and what should Institute of Electrical Engineers showed that be the potential of the charging plant described 150,000 volts were required to force a disabove? A. A storage battery should have a charge between points, and that a different charging current with a pressure of $2\frac{1}{2}$ volts pressure was necessary if spheres, disks, etc., per cell. Three cells require 71/2 volts. The were employed. We have from time to time maximum charging rate should be 61/2 amperes published valuable papers concerning the work per square foot of surface of positive plate, of Prof. Trowbridge, of Harvard University, reckoning both sides. You probably fall short in this direction. These can be had for ten in both pressure and current. cents each. 3. Is the current or discharge (10041) C. J. H. asks: What is the from a static machine giving 15-inch spark, most desirable formula for making soap bubsuch as is used in X-ray work, dangerous? bles? I am in doubt in regard to the amount | Will it produce death? A. A discharge through of glycerine and soft soap to use and as to 15 inches of air is a very dangerous current whether there were any other ingredients that to encounter. Any discharge from a coil could be added to advantage. A. A good soap capable of giving such a spark should be bubble solution is not to be obtained by simply avoided. The only safe rule is not to touch mixing soft soap and glycerine. It is very dif- the secondary while the coil is active; and if ficult to secure a good solution. Only the necessary to touch any part of the apparatus, purest oleate of soda, or the best white soap, to place the hand not in use behind the back. white Castile for example, can be used. Only the best glycerine can be used. Price's gly-No circuit can then be made through the body from arm to arm. 4. Will the 200-volt cerine is reliable. The manipulation is tedious. lamp last as long as the 100-volt? A. One of lf, however, you wish to undertake it, prothe largest lamp makers says of 200-volt "Owing to the increased strain to ceed as follows; Take the purest caustic soda lamps: 1 part, and dissolve in distilled water 40 to which the carbons or filaments are subjected 50 parts. All parts by weight, of course. Take by the high voltage, these lamps are uncompure oleic acid. Set it for a few days in a mercial except in the lower efficiencies. The refrigerator and decant the clear fluid, if a efficiency of our regular product is 4 watts separation takes place. Of this take 7 parts, per candle, and in its average life and mainand mix with the soda solution. Shake till the tenance of candle power it corresponds to our reaction is complete. Now add water up to standard 100 to 125-volt 3.1 watt lamp." This 350 parts with the previous water. To two shows that it will cost more to run a 200-measures of the oleate of soda add one volt lamp than a 100-volt lamp for the same measure of Price's glycerine. Run no risk candle power. improvement in dynamo. The alterations were these: Instead of using washers as sug-

(10045) T. D. asks: In a perfect compound dynamo, would the neutral points vary with the load? A. Yes.

(10046) H. E. T. asks: 1. Is there an alloy approximately as soft as lead, and as tenacious, malleable, and ductile as copper? A. There is no alloy known to us that is as soft as lead and as tenacious as copper. The alloys of lead and copper have no commercial value as a metal and are not in use. We do not know the properties of such alloys. 2. Is there any need (commercially speaking) now of a telephone repeater, since Dr. Pupin's invention? In other words, could a telephone repeater have any other use than to increase the distance at which speech may be transmitted? A. There is the same need that there has always been. If such an instrument can be invented, it will enable speech to be transmitted not only to greater distances, but at a much less cost than the system to which you refer.

(10047) J. M. S. writes : I have a small electric mouth lamp that when connected up with an alternating 104-volt current, by means of a rheostat, requires from 31/2 to 4 volts to light it. Now what I want is to make a rheostat by covering either a piece of wood or iron with asbestos, and then placing same in a lathe and winding it with German silver wire, so as to be able to cut the 104 volts down and not burn out my lamp. Can you inform me what gage wire and how much of it will it take to accomplish the desired results? A. We cannot give exact data for a coil such as you require, since we do not know what the current is which you use. But you iron wire for above results? A. The use of a can proceed as follows: Take 24 B. & S. German silver wire, which has 3 feet to the ohm. Provide 375 feet, and wind into the coil as you propose. You can arrange a switch so that the current may be adjusted; that is, make a variable rheostat; or you can by testing find what amount will be needed to have the light burn properly. You are probably aware that the more economical way is to have a small transformer for your lamps. Such lamps can be run with a battery also.

(10048) M. McC. writes: A positive remedy for carbon brushes sparking is to soak the brushes for twenty-four hours in ordinary machine oil. Complaints I have read in columns of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN prompts the above and should be generally known. I had the same trouble and it occurred to me to try above remedy, and I find it does avoid sparking positively. A. We are not able to indorse this as a sovereign remedy for all diseases of dynamos which show themselves by the symptom called sparking. Machine oil can only act as a lubricator, and sparking may be due to a cause deeper than the surface of the armature.

(10049) F. H. asks: Will you please tell me what kind of metal to use on contact points on a gasoline engine electric igniter, and where to purchase the same? A. Always use platinum at the contact points for breaking a circuit where there will be a strong spark. Any dealer in gasoline engines who advertises in our columns can furnish the article. So also can dealers in electric materials.

(10050) A. S. asks: 1. Would ten cells be sufficient to run a six-candle lamp (10 volts, 1.5 amperes)? If not, how many would be required? A. No. Your lamp requires 1.5 amperes. This battery furnishes 30-1000 of an ampere, or about one-fiftieth as much current as is needed for the lamp. 3. How shall I prepare the pastes used in the upper and cents per pound, according to quality. Prices lower spirals? A. This battery is useful for depend much upon the regularity of the suptesting purposes only, as the description states. The paste is prepared by mixing the solid minium or litharge into a paste with dilute sulphuric acid. This is the method in all storage batteries using such pastes. 3. What is used as the electrolyte, and how is it made? ally, or refer me to a good book on the sub-A. Dilute sulphuric acid. You will have to buy the acid. You cannot very well make it. of a battery are not calculated by mathemat-4. Where could I get the battery charged? A. Charge the battery with a primary battery. A gravity battery is as good as any for the purpose.

(10051) N. D. writes: In your issue of April 13 you mention sulphides of barium

and calcium, and state "when properly prepared." Are there any special directions for preparation, and how? A. To prepare a phosphorescent calcium sulphide, calcine clean ovster shells in order to burn out all but the calcium carbonate. Then reduce the shells to a fine powder by pounding or grinding. Place this powder in layers in a crucible with flowers of sulphur. Cover the crucible to shut out the air, and heat to dull redness for half an hour. Let the whole cool while still covered, and transfer the calcium sulphide formed to a glass bottle, which cork tight to prevent the accession of moisture. Barium sulphide should be formed from witherite and sulphur by heating in a crucible in the same manner. (10052) W. M. R. writes: I made some little time back the eight-light dynamo described in your valuable paper, designed by Hopkins some twelve years ago or so. Hav-ing studied electricity at University College. London, I made some alterations in the design of armature which I think have made material

iron, using varnish for insulation. These I fastened on to the armature by thick-end washers engaging a screw on armature shaft. After getting all firmly screwed up, I put into lathe and slotted out 24 grooves the breadth of 4 wires and 8 wires deep, and in these I wound the wires very carefully. By this arrangement I was enabled to run the armature with iron 1-16 inch distant from cheeks of field magnet. I turned the field magnet upside down, with yokes firmly bolted to base plate, from which rose two pedestals (hollow) forming bearings for the ends of armature. I arranged the bearings with an endless chain dipping six inches into oil chamber, with the result that I can light up 50-volt lamps to full brilliancy at a speed of 1,660, instead of 2,200, the speed mentioned in your article. I have had the machine lighting up my house, driven by a Pelton wheel. for several months, and the bearings have not an atom of shake and have only been filled up with oil once, as it circulates and runs back again. I thought possibly some of your readers would like to hear of my results. I would advise anyone attempting to make the machine to get the segments for commutator cast separate. I tried both ways and found the latter preferable. I made the commutator much larger than the design. A. Of course, the ironclad armature is an improvement over the old form of a dozen years ago. The results of the alterations are very satisfactory.

(10053) J. M. S. asks: 1. What size German silver wire and how long a piece should I use to wind a rheostat to reduce an alternating current 7,200 amperes, 104 volts, down to 2 volts? Also size and amount of choke coil is not the most economical way to reduce from 104 volts to 2. A simple mode of getting the result would be to put a wire in series with an incandescent lamp, and take a shunt from the wire at two points which have a resistance between them equal to about one-fiftieth of the resistance of the lamp. The best way, however, is to obtain a transformer from the company supplying the current, which will give you this rate of transformation. If your current should happen to be transformed from 2,000 volts to 104 a second transformer like the first would carry it down to about 5 volts, which perhaps is near enough to your limit for your use. 2. How shall I proceed to onstruct an appliance for heating say a glass of water, using same current, amount, size and kind of wire? A. This you can do by means of a small coil of wire in series with a lamp. An arc lamp would give a quicker result. With an arc lamp use 12 or 14 B. & 8. German silver wire. With an incandescent lamp use 18 or 20 wire.

(10054) B. P. asks: Will you kindly furnish me with information regarding liquid air, its process of manufacture, cost, properties, etc., and what developments have been made regarding its uses and its dangers? A. We can send you ten good articles upon liquid air at ten cents each, or else the book upon the subject by Sloane, for \$2.50 by mail. Liquid air has no commercial uses at present, and there are no dangers from it, if handled by one having knowledge of the usual properties of gases.

(10055) C. M. L.—The principal source of graphite in the United States is the mines at Ticonderoga, N. Y., which furnish about 200 tons per annum. It is also mined near Raleigh, N. C., and in Virginia, Georgia, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and California; also in Nova Scotia. The best graphite comes from Colombo, Ceylon, and costs from 2 to 4cents per pound, according to quality. Prices ply.

(10056) W. E. asks: Will you tell me how the voltage and internal resistance of a Bunsen cell can be calculated mathematicics. They are measured by instruments. The processes employed are to be found in Kempe's "Handbook of Electrical Testing," price \$7.50. This work is complete. A special book upon batteries is Carhart's "Primary Batteries," price \$1.50, both prices by mail.

(10057) X. writes: I wish to obtain some information which would be very acceptable to me, and in fact to a great many at this time, when the question of using gasoline engines on automobiles of different kinds is very popular; and that is, the dimensions and drawings, if possible, of a jump spark or induction coil that would be oblong in shape, without vibrator, light as possible, and to work on low voltage giving a one-quarter inch spark. A. The details for making an induction coil to give a spark one-quarter inch in length can be found in Bonney's "Induction Coils," price \$1 by mail. You can omit the vibrator and arrange the break in the combustion chamber or cylinder without special instructions. The shape may also be changed to adapt it to the space allotted to it. The important thing is the insulation and the windings. All else is secondary. Only a low voltage can be used upon so small a coil. (10058) F. P. asks: 1. Is the efficiency of an electric motor affected if the body frame of the automobile is iron, or if mo-tor is clad with wrought iron or other metal instead of cast iron? A. The efficiency of an

art's book on polyphase machinery, dealing ex-

The Index of Patented Inventions, Wood-working Registered Trade Marks, Designs, Labels and Prints which usually appears on this page is this week omitted, the United States Patent Office being unable to supply it in time because of new arrangements which it is about to make for the printing of the Official Gazette. The index will be published in next week's issue.

electric motor is not affected by the material of the frame of the carriage to which it is attached. Nor does it make any difference to the motor by what metal it is inclosed. The reason for using ironclad motors on street cars is chiefly to prevent the escape of magnetic lines into the space around the motor. No metal but iron can do this, and cast iron is cheaper than wrought iron. 2. Will wrought iron field magnets, instead of cast iron, in SUPPLEMENT 1195, double the efficiency of the motors? If not, what winding will do it? A. Wrought iron will transmit about twice as many lines of force as cast iron: hence a saturated magnet core of wrought iron will give twice the effect of one of cast iron. 3. If pinion wheel is placed on top of gear wheel, is it as efficient as if placed on the side? A. The position of the driving gear does not affect the amount of power it transmits. 4. If not too small, how should motors in SUPPLEMENT 1195 be wound so as to act as dynamos also? A. The winding of a motor does not need to be changed to make it generate as a dynamo. 5. Is there any special danger on an electric automobile, whether still or moving, in a thunder-storm? A. An electric automobile is not exposed to any more danger in a thunder-storm than any other. We do not recall ever hearing of any person being struck by lightning upon a railway train. 6. In the inclosed sketch, if U is a one-horse-power motor, with 3-inch pinion meshing into 30-inch gearwheel, con-nected to 18-inch rod, JH, and this joined to 6-foot lever HF, working on fulcrum G, five feet from power end, what horsepower will be obtained at A on the bent axle, DCABE, which is connected to lever, HF, by 18-inch rod, AF? A. With the arrangement you describe you will have at the end of the train of wheels and levers one horsepower less whatever has been lost in friction at the several bearings. No one can calculate this. It must be found by experiment, and will depend upon the condition of the machine. A horse-power is 33,000 foot-pounds of work done in a minute. It is not affected by the speed of motion nor by the weight lifted. If the speed is great a less weight will be lifted by a horse-power; and if the weight is great, the less will be the speed. Your arrangement reduces speed and increases pressure, or weight lifted, but the amount of power remains the The 30-inch gear moves one-tenth as same. fast as the gear which drives it, and the end. F, of the lever moves one-fifth as fast as the end, H. Hence F moves one-fiftieth as fast as the small gear on the motor.

(10059) J. F. C. asks: What is the fraction of power lost in the current produced by a generator which runs a motor, the connecting wires being not longer than 10 yards? That is, what is the relative power of motor and generator? Both are the same size. What size of a booster would be required to have both equal? A. A motor only thirty feet from the dynamo which furnishes the current for running it has little or no drop of potential from that of the dynamo, and needs no booster. The only loss is due to the heating of the coils by the current.

(10060) F. S. L. writes: I would like to know how to make a sparker or a spark coil, and in what way it differs from an induction coil. I want to make a spark coil to use to ignite an acetylene gas jet. A. Spark coils are made about ten inches long. The center is a core of iron wire as in an induction coil. It may be % inch in diameter. Insulate the core by wrapping it with paper which may be soaked in paraffine. Fit heads upon the ends of the core to hold the winding and wind four to six layers of about No. 12 B. & S. double cotton-covered wire upon the core. Insulate the layers with paper. This coil is put in series with a battery, and upon breaking the circuit a spark is produced at the break which lights the gas. There is no secondary coil. In this is the difference between a spark and How To Increase an induction coil.



"" clusively with the principles, design and construction of modern mechanism of this character, will doubtless be found of assistance by the electrical engineer. Mathematical methods of investigation and explanation have been largely dispensed with and, although this may appear to be contra to general practice in writ-I That is the best question to ask, ings of this class, it will be found that the discussion has been considerably simplified by Maxwell owners are the Maxwell's this method without, however, materially limiting the information which the author gives about the chief characteristics of such ma-chinery. The book is hardly intended for the The contentment and satisfaction use of students, but was written for the prac-'catching'' thing in the motor world. tising engineer. Just talk to one of them and get the GLASS WRITING, EMBOSSING AND FASCIA of the automobile Work. Edited by Paul N. Hasluck. Philadelphia: David McKay, 1906. 32mo.; pp. 160. Price, 50 cents. The information detailed in this handy little volume is edited by a writer who has contributed largely to the literature of practical handicrafts and it is in the convenient form of a comprehensive series of short articles. It will be found of value for the artisan engaged in 10 H. P. Tour \$780 work of this character, as well as for the practical man in general. NOTES ON ELECTROCHEMISTRY. By F. G. Wiechmann, Ph.D. New York: Mc-Graw Publishing Company, 1906. 12mo.; pp. 145. Price, \$2. The latest contribution to the literature of electrical chemistry—to-day a subject which is rapidly coming to occupy a place as one of the most important practical arts-is this book by Dr. Wiechmann. While the compass of the work is limited, it gives an excellent A MONEY MAKER Hollow Concrete Building Clock Best, Fastest, Simplest, Cheapes Machine. Fully guaran teed. general summary of the present state of the art. The subject is treated in a practical manner without the elaboration of abstruse theories. Unfortunately no descriptions of the THE PETTYJOHN CO. 615N. 6th Street, Terre Haute, Ind. YOU OWN or run an you should know how they are built, and the best way actual apparatus used are given, the author contenting himself with elaboration of the principles underlying the process. ELECTRIC WIRING, DIAGRAMS, AND SWITCH-BOARDS. By Newton Harrison, E.E. New York: The Norman W. Hen-Motor ley Publishing Company, 12mo.; pp. 272. Price, \$1.50. lar This excellent little book was written especially for the electrical artisan, the object Model being to give a practical treatise on electric

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wiring, the construction of switchboards, and other related subjects. Not only is the subject of building wiring discussed, but brief explanations of the principles of transmission and the types of electrical machinery employed are added to the text. The discussions are usually concise, though, unfortunately, the text contains a number of mistakes which it is hoped a second edition will correct.

1906.

PRACTICAL PATTERN MARING. By F. W. Barrows. New York: Norman W. Henley Publishing Company, 1906. 12mo.; pp. 326. Price, \$2.

The author is thoroughly conversant with his subject. While the literature of pattern making is voluminous, still there always seems to be ample room for an acceptable work. The work describes in lucid language the principles which underlie pattern making, as well as the more practical side. It is very well illustrated.

Bossism AND MONOPOLY. By Thomas Carl Spelling. New York: D. Apple-ton & Co., 1906. 16mo.; pp. 358. Price, \$1.50.

The author states that: "The purpose of this book is not to humiliate Americans by pointing out their lack of public spirit and need for a moral awakening in all that pertains to government, but is rather to state boldly and without an attempt at concealment true conditions as the author sees them. It is better to know the worst and to apply the remedy than to go straight to destruction under a delusion." The author's Preface is dated November, 1905. Since that date there has been much "muckraking," productive of great good. The work is a valuable one dealing with important economic questions.

TRANSMISSION OF HEAT THROUGH COLD STORAGE INSTITUTION. By Charles F. Paulding, M.E. New York: D. Van Nostrand Company, 1905. 18mo.; pp. 41. Price, \$1.

A special book on a special subject. The literature of ice making and refrigeration is quite extensive already, but there always SAVINC! seems to be a field for a book which deals with one corner of a large industry. The re-frigerating engineer will find this book invaluable.

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MODERN POLYPHASE MACHINERY. By An-drew Stewart, A.M.I.E.E. London: S. Rentell & Co., Ltd., 1906. 12mo.; pp. 296. Price, \$2.

The use of the alternating current is daily becoming a factor of greater importance in the general subject of electricity. Mr. Stew-



READ carefully, every week, the Business and Personal Wants column in the

Scientific American This week it will be found on page 34. Some week you will be likely to find an inquiry for something that you manufacture or deal in. A prompt reply may bring order.





SIMPLE!

PRACTICAL HANDRAILING. Edited by Paul N. Hasluck. Philadelphia: David Mc-Kay, 1905. 18mo.; pp. 160. Price, \$1.

The art and craft of handrailing is justly considered the highest branch of carpentry. The present work begins at the very foundation of the subject, and works through the more difficult problems until the most complicated handrails are reached. The practice is English, but it will prove of value to the American artisan.

PHYSICAL OPTICS. By Robert W. Wood. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1905. 8vo.; pp. 546. Price, \$3.50. An advanced text-book for students who wish to obtain a special knowledge of a very important branch of physics. The author is