

THE FIELD OF ELECTRICITY

Harassing of Southern Water Power for Electrical Production.

ALUMINUM WIRES TO REPLACE COPPER

Steam Power Gradually Giving Way to Electricity in Mills—How Lightning Turns Fog to Rain—Notes.

North Carolina is confident it has an due Niagara within the state and has perfected plans to hitch it to the industries in its vicinity. The unused power in the narrow of Yadkin river in Stanhope county. The total power available in times of dry season is about 40,000 horse-power. By the adoption of storage reservoirs, which the high banks of the river favor, this power can be greatly increased. The North Carolina Power company is the name of the corporation that will carry out the plan. The company has a capital stock of \$5,000,000 and it is proposed to issue bonds to the amount of \$2,500,000. It owns the entire property along the Yadkin river, including 4,000 acres of land on both sides of the river, thus controlling the situation. The topographical features are regarded as particularly well adapted for economical development, as the river at the "narrows" passes through a granite-lapped gorge but seventy-five feet wide at its narrowest part. In the twelve miles the total fall is 230 feet. The development will probably be made in two divisions. Following this water power development is to come the movement to this section of the Southern railway. Plans are now being formulated for a large cotton mill to be built on the property. This mill is designed to be an advance upon present plants not only in the south, but in the north as well. Besides modern machinery of approved type, the whole plant will be electrically driven. Some novel features will be introduced in this regard to simplify operations. This development of water power promises to be one of the most interesting yet made and it is contemplated to transmit the power to points within a radius of fifty miles. It has been determined to install machinery of the most modern style, and make the big development the most effective that money and skill can secure. The Yadkin river for a long time has been free from interruption by freezing in winter, there will be no need of auxiliary steam plants, as in the north. A short extension of the Salisbury and Norwood branch of the Southern railway is to be made to reach the property.

Aluminum Electric Wires. Until recently, says Electricity, the only metal employed commercially for transmitting currents of electricity for lighting street railway, and power purposes was copper. This, as is well known, was due to the fact that copper offers less resistance, both for bulk, than any other metal, it we except possibly one or two of the precious metals, whose cost would naturally prohibit their being used on anything like an extensive scale. As we stated some time ago in these columns, the use of this country product of copper offers a number of advantages. It is something enormous, representing an investment of over \$55,000,000. Possibly a better idea of this demand for copper in electrical enterprises may be gotten when it is known that last year in the United States required for their operation, in line conductors and feeders, over 5,000 gross tons of this metal, representing an investment of more than \$2,000,000.

The outcry for copper in electrical undertakings where it is necessary to transmit currents to any considerable distance, as may readily be inferred from the above, is by no means insignificant, it being in fact one of the heaviest items of expense, and as the price of copper has for some time been steadily rising, electrical engineers have been seeking for a suitable and less costly substitute. This, it is believed, has now to a certain extent been found in aluminum and, although the resistance of an aluminum conductor to the passage of current is between 60 and 75 per cent greater than that of copper, the use of a copper conductor of the same cross section, the difference in the weight of the two metals more than makes up for the difference in conductivity as well as the difference in the cost, leaving a net saving of between 3 and 4 cents to the pound in favor of aluminum, everything else being equal. A well known electrical engineer in charge of a large lighting plant in the south, who has examined into the matter very thoroughly and is about to make up of aluminum conductors, recently summed up the matter as follows: "The copper has a specific gravity of 8.93, whereas aluminum has 2.68, these being the relative weights per unit. Yet it takes a larger volume, or a wire of greater sectional area, of aluminum for a given amount of current, than copper. The difference being: copper 100, aluminum 160.

Advantages of the New Metal. "Aluminum has some disadvantages, one being the difficulty of soldering it together. On the other hand, its advantage is its great tensile strength, having 25,000 pounds per square inch, while the tensile strength of soft copper, the kind most generally used, is only 18,500 pounds per square inch. With the sectional area of aluminum for equal conductivity with that of copper as 160 is to 100, you can readily see that the tensile strength of an aluminum conductor is more than twice that of copper, yet the weight is not half as great as copper, being only 48 per cent of that of copper for a conductor of equal conductivity. It having greater ductility makes it more desirable for the reason that it does not break or fracture so easily on being bent. From this it will be seen that owing to the greater tensile strength of an aluminum conductor over one of copper, considerably longer spans could be constructed between poles were the former metal made use of, thus effecting a material saving in expense in line work. What, however, will probably have a greater effect than anything else in making aluminum conductors popular is that the cost of producing the metal is gradually becoming less each year, as more improved methods of reduction are being adopted, while the price of copper is rising. At the present day, everything else being equal, owing to the excessive price of copper, the balance from a financial standpoint would seem to be slightly in favor of aluminum for conductors, and judging from the

great reduction in the price of aluminum that has occurred from time to time in the past it should not very long before the metal will be by far the most economical for transmission lines. That it is already in the field as a competitor of copper may be inferred from the fact that many miles out of the country, and if we are not mistaken an aluminum transmission line some thirty miles in length will shortly be constructed in California.

Electricity in Mills. Electricity has in the past been adopted quite extensively in printing establishments, paper mills and for operating the machinery in various lines of manufacture, and now it appears to be on the eve of supplanting the mechanical drive in the textile industry. The advisability of such a change was recently set forth quite forcibly in a paper read in Boston at the meeting of the New England Cotton Manufacturers' association. According to the author, W. B. Smith, who looked upon more favorably for the driving of cotton mill machinery in the south than elsewhere in this country, the mill owners at this section apparently appreciating fully the greater convenience and flexibility in the distribution of the power and the economy of space in the substitution of the electric motor for the steam engine and belt-wire and for operating the machinery has been adopted in mills where electricity has been adopted, it is shown that although it was more costly to install, it effected a material saving in labor, amounting on an average to about 40 per cent.

The Boers at Prayer. Their Army on Its Knees Before Going Into Action. An Englishman who accompanied the Boer army under the leadership of the late Gen. Buller, chief of the Transvaal, in the northeastern part of the Transvaal, gives some interesting details in the New York Sun of the Boer military organization and other matters. The command under the leadership of the late Gen. Buller, in the Transvaal, numbering with the native allies nearly 10,000 men. This force was divided into five laagers, each under its own commander. The first impression of a Boer army, the writer says, is not flattering. There is no appearance of order and the men are not uniformed, which is in striking contrast with the regular armies of other countries. But the apparent absence of discipline is only on the surface. Commandos are made up of burghers drawn from various districts, each man considering himself on an equality with any other man in the command. In the field all are alike, the commissariat knowing no distinctions. The only regulars are the state artillery, drawn from some of the burghers, and paid about \$2 a day.

How Lightning Turns Fog to Rain. In the course of a Royal Institution lecture on "Coherers," Prof. Oliver Lodge made an experiment which has had an important bearing on the abatement of the smoke nuisance. He filled a bell jar with magnesium smoke. Ordinarily these thick fumes would take a long time to disperse. But when a charge of electricity was sent through the jar and the smoke immediately cleared, the smoke particles uniting and falling in the form of a white snow of magnesia.

The word used to describe this action is "cohesion." The explanation of it, Dr. Lodge said, is beyond our scientific knowledge, and it is one of those great problems of electricity which we hope that Lord Kelvin may solve. It is, perhaps, enough to say at this point that the fact of the cohesion of the fumes makes Hertzian wireless telegraphy possible—by the use of sensitive electric devices called "coherers," which, like the receiver of a telephone, serve to indicate the presence of a signal. Dr. Lodge incidentally referred to a possible extension on a large scale of his magnesium smoke experiment. "Some people," he said, "may imagine that this experiment suggests a means of dispersing London fog. An adaptation of some such method might be suitable for the dispersion of real fog, or sea fog, or fog arising from a moisture-charged atmosphere. A Scotch mist can be turned into rain by a suitable discharge of electricity, and ordinary rain can be changed into large drops of a thunder shower by the electric discharge of the lightning flash. The reason for the size of the drops is that owing to the incident of electric 'cohesion' the drops are attracted to one another and form a larger drop. But I don't think electricity could prevent London fog. The only way to prevent London fog is not to cause it. And the way not to cause it is not to burn coal fires, like savages, in open grates. The day will come when it will be forbidden to import certain coal into London. I confess I should like to see the experiment tried of making gas at the great coal fields and conveying it to the town in huge pipes and conduits. The experiment, of course, could not be made with respect to London; it would have to be conducted on a large scale; but it might be tried with a small town. It will have to come to that some day. People say they can't bear gas stoves.' But as the gas is made in the air, it is not so bad as they think. Gas stoves, and make it badly. No doubt, however, the gas stove of the inevitable future will be a very different contrivance from that of today."

Wireless Telegraph in War. "There are a good many reasons why 'Coherers' are expected to come into general commercial use," remarked an electrical expert, "but it seems to me it would make an ideal military service. All modern armies are equipped with a telegraphic field corps and in the operations of our past wars about the famous hill station at Simla, writes John T. McCutcheon in the Chicago Record. The history and the machinery of government moves up; capital changes from Calcutta to Simla, and for seven months Calcutta lies dull and burning, while the lower Himalayas around the Simla are thronged with soldiers; the hotels are thronged, and everything is booming with activity. Early in April the heat begins in earnest on the plains, and in some parts it is almost unendurable for white people. The thermometer runs up to 120 degrees in the shade; the streets are blazing, and the houses are furnaces. On the khaki-colored plains life stands still, and the travelers in the railway carriages pack their heads in ice. Streams of water are kept trickling down before the open car windows to cool the deadly waves of heat that surge in, and heavy wooden hoods are built above the car roofs to break the rays of the sun. Then it is when folk who can afford it or who can borrow enough money to 'pick up the outfit' for the cool heights of the hill station. Simla is 7,000 feet up in the Himalayas, where it is always cool in summer. This year will be the first in which Lord and Lady Curzon make their official entry into Simla, and there are prospects that it will be a gay and lively season. The station is difficult and trying to reach, and costly for one has exclusive. This feature makes it the more exclusive."

Does Drink Agree with You? If not, drink Grain-O—made from pure grain. A lady writes: "The first time I made Grain-O I did not like it, but after using it for one week I found it was worth me to go back to coffee." It nourishes and feeds the system, and the children can drink it freely with great benefit. It is strengthening and builds up the system, and follows the directions in making it, and you will have a delicious and healthful food and drink for old and young. 50

prompt adoption by all the European governments. We are usually behind the procession in such matters, but the way may have taught us that respect, and it wouldn't surprise me if the department hustled over an experimental apparatus to Ots."

A Novel Automobile Proposed. American engineers have been jibing about the French Heilmann locomotive, claiming it is an unwieldy and impractical affair, but a Chicago firm of automobile manufacturers proposes to apply the same principle in the construction of its heavy trucks. Each truck carries a complete generating plant, consisting of gasoline engine, consuming about one and a half gallons of fuel per hour, which drives a dynamo that generates the current, which is delivered to the motor by means of a belt, or, both, according to the load. The wagon itself without load weighs three and a half tons, but is capable of carrying a two or three-ton load with ease. The object of employing this cycle is to combine the efficiency of the gasoline engine, operating on a steady load with the flexibility of the electric motor. With the overloaded gasoline motor would stop, whereas an electric motor adapts itself to the load. The storage batteries are provided to supply a constant load for the engine, so that if the wagon is running at a slow speed the motor can be stored. Another advantage of the storage batteries is that they furnish a reservoir of power for starting.

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Morton's Broken Leg. George H. Morton has sued the Hammond Packing company for \$20,000 damages on account of a broken leg, which he alleges was sustained while he was in the employment of the defendant. Morton's petition states that he was directed to make a pipe from a floor and that another employe held the ladder while he went to the top. Then the other fellow quit his job, and as the floor was slippery with grease Morton's downfall followed.

Charged with Burglary. Harry Martin, alleged to have entered the residence of C. D. Brodhead one night during April, is on trial for burglary in criminal court. The intruder awakened the family and was scared away before his plunder had amounted to more than a making of a razor. Martin was found within an hour by the police with the stolen articles in his possession, but he declares that he bought them of a stranger who met him on the street a few minutes before.

Street Railway Wins. A jury has returned a verdict for the defendant in the damage suit of Julius Lund against the Omaha Street Railway company. The suit was tried at the February term when Lund secured a verdict of \$1,000. A new trial was granted, which has resulted in a clean victory for the corporation. Lund represented that his right arm had been permanently injured by the sudden starting of a car of the South Eleventh street line.

Several Divorce Cases. Freda Shaw has sued Martin J. Shaw for a divorce. She declares that Martin "as a man of no character and no honor," has neglected her, and that she has had to support herself and her children. A decree has also been granted in the Hans Albert divorce case, in which Mrs. Albert asked for her liberty on the ground of habitual intoxication.

Minor Matters in Court. Fred W. Mosher has been appointed deputy reporter in Judge Fawcett's court. The arrival of the special panel of sixty-six jurors has been postponed to the same time as the arrival of the grand jury. During the previous afternoon three juries were idle on account of inability to secure a venire.

Frank Zehring of Lincoln has been discharged and officially declared a bankrupt. He had his hearing some weeks ago and Thursday afternoon Judge Minger of the United States court examined the papers, making the order giving him a new start in life.

If you have piles cure them. No use undergoing horrible operations that simply remove the results of the disease without disturbing the disease itself. Place your confidence in DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. It has never failed to cure others; it will not fail to cure you.

PATCH UP THEIR TROUBLES

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson Have a Lively Fight, but Now Are Good Friends. A woman with a slender, willow figure and a broad Scotch accent applied at the police station Wednesday for assistance by the "chief constable" in patching up matters between herself and husband. Officer Dan Baldwin went out to see what he could do, as the woman said she wanted to know if she could get her husband back. The officer succeeded in locating the husband and apparently adjusted matters satisfactorily. It seems the understanding was merely temporary, however, as William Williamson back to leave his wife and young family in the afternoon, and Mrs. Williamson was waiting his coming and took him to the station, where his wife had been sent.

Williamson was so full of whiskey and in such a weak condition that it was feared he might die before morning. The police physician was called and found him suffering from heart trouble.

We're Building a Reputation— On the men's shoes we sell for \$2—now you've heard of \$2 shoes, but Drexel L. Shoeman has a \$2 shoe that under ordinary circumstances would sell for \$25—some places \$33 is asked—that he will put up against the whole field of \$2.00 shoes—that is a man's shoe—good, honest leather—good, honest work—made in the shoe in every sense of the word—a shoe for any one that is not taking any chances when you pay \$2 for these leather shoes.

MRS. LUCY SMITH'S PET DOG

Causes the Bonding of a Marriage Suit Against Pringmaster Ricketts.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS DEMANDED

Pringmaster Ricketts' Bonded Employer Two Her and Broke Her Leg with a Gas Pipe.

A lively encounter that occurred nearly two years ago between Mrs. Lucy Smith, colored, and two of Pringmaster Ricketts' dog catchers, is in progress of ventilation in Judge Scott's court, where Mrs. Smith is suing Ricketts and George Tierney and Max Ricketts for damages for \$1,500 damages for injuries that she asserts she received in the mixup. Her story is that she went to the pound to get a dog that had been picked up by the dog catchers, and that two men in charge of the pound at the time, assaulted her with their fists and a section of gas pipe and beat her until she was permanently injured. She says that her left leg was broken by a blow from the pipe and that she was otherwise bruised and beaten. The other side of the story is to the effect that Lucy arrived at the pound carrying a heavy piece of garden hose and a fervent anxiety for trouble, which was subsequently satisfied.

JOHN THE BAPTIST IS IN JAIL.

He and Others Have Been Selling Liquor on an Indian Reservation. The Idaho attorney general, John T. Mendenhall, has secured a warrant for the arrest of John the Baptist and Charles French, all Winnebago Indians, charged with selling and introducing liquor upon an Indian reservation, before Judge Minger for arraignment. John the Baptist and Charles French pleaded guilty and were fined \$100 and costs each and sentenced to sixty days in the county jail. The others pleaded not guilty and their trials were set for June 5, when they will be represented by attorneys appointed by the court.

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MINOR POLICE MATTERS.

Carl Fisher entered plea of guilty to being drunk and disorderly and was fined \$10 by Judge Gordon.

C. A. Kaiser of Lincoln was found asleep in a saloon, he said he had been robbed of \$1 and had been taken to the police station.

Burglars forced the rear window of Harry Frost's place, 714 South Fourth street, Wednesday night and stole \$15 worth of carpenter tools from A. C. Hatkey's chest.

Detectives Hudson and Frederick Estie Burk at Twenty-ninth and Sherwood streets, and turned her over to Sheriff Morgan, who took her back to Glenwood, Ia., where she is wanted on the charge of adultery.

Mrs. Bertha Somberg, 1914 South Fourteenth street, has lodged a complaint against Jacob Rabinowitz of the same number, whom she accuses of assault and battery, caused by a difficulty between the children of the two families.

Jack Shannon was discharged by Judge Gordon on the charge of assault and battery. A patron whom he struck was the complainant. It was the origin of a difficulty in the saloon with the police. Another complainant of a similar character is awaiting trial.

BRONZE STATUE OF WEBSTER.

The imposing statue of Daniel Webster, donated by the city of Washington, by William Hutchinson, was placed in position Saturday morning in the southwestern section of Scott circle. The figure is a new and valuable addition to the decorative beauty of the city's public parks and reservations, says the Washington Post. It is the best of Mr. Trentanove's well-known productions and will do much to add to his renown. From an artistic standpoint the work is a remarkable one, and will rank with any of the most famous statues in the different parks of the city. Some time ago congress voted a considerable sum for the erection of the pedestal upon which the figure of the great orator rests. Its location in the vicinity of the historical and highly polished, and of the finest quality produced any where. The base is proportioned with lines of architectural beauty and grace, and is relieved on opposite sides by bronze panels, representing different scenes, perhaps the most important in the life of the great orator.

One, possibly the most prominent, and especially well wrought, is a faithful representation of the old senate chamber, now a supreme court room, which so frequently resounded with the logic and oratory of Webster. There the senate is assembled, the panel showing about one hundred figures in bas relief, with John C. Calhoun presiding, with Webster in his characteristic attitude, and in the act of delivering his famous speech in reply to Senator Hayne of South Carolina. The figures represented are nearly all excellent likenesses of the members of that day, and prominent statesmen of that day, including the great orator himself. The statue itself is of bronze and was cast at Florence and it stands twelve feet high in a characteristic pose of the orator, with a book of references in the right hand, resting upon a stand. A cloud of the style of that day hangs gracefully from its shoulders and the head has no covering. Mr. Trentanove has been most fortunate in emphasizing the strong characteristics and the vigor of his subject, and at the same time holding the figure in splendid repose. The likeness is remarkably pure and the handling of the texture good. The monument will, no doubt, be one of the most attractive of the Capital City.

Students of Folklore. CHICAGO, May 25.—Students of folklore from all parts of the world will gather at the University of Chicago Saturday to attend the annual meeting of the International Folklore association. Three sessions will be held and a number of papers will be read and discussed. Nominations for officers of the association have been made. They are: Dr. Paul Carus, president; Prof. Frederic Starr, Louis J. Block and E. D. Blanchford, vice-presidents; Helen Wheeler Bassett, secretary; Fred T. West, treasurer. Vice presi dents for foreign branches have also been named.

The residents and business men along North Twenty-fourth street who have for many months been trying to have the rotten wooden block pavement of that thoroughfare replaced by asphalt paving, will have their request honored. The necessary action has been taken by the council, and the Board of Public Works will therefore be soon at work in tearing out the blocks.

The street will be a dirt roadway for some time. Cinders will be put in at all street and alley intersections, so that the street roadway tracks may be crossed by vehicles. In time it is expected that a petition for repaving will be secured. Councilman Karr is already working up sentiment in favor of repaving.

The street has been admitted to be in a bad and even a dangerous condition for a year. The pavement is very old and is almost worn out. It is full of deep holes and ruts that makes driving over it very risky. As a result, it is said that the business interests of the entire street north of Cuming have been materially damaged. The business men were thoroughly aroused over the matter a year ago and held indignation meetings.

Chicago Post. "It is a plain proposition in my opinion that a pavement that is in anything like a good condition cannot be removed, without invalidating the tax assessed against it, unless there is a unanimous petition for repaving. That is what stands in the way of the scheme to tear the stone pavement out of Farnam street and replace it with asphalt. It is a different proposition, however, where the pavement is in such condition that it cannot be driven over and is dangerous, as is the case with North Twenty-fourth street. Under such circumstances, I have no doubt that the city has a perfect right—in fact, it is its duty—to tear up the pavement. A new pavement cannot be laid, however, unless there is a majority petition for it."

According to this opinion from the city attorney it is the duty of the city to remove an impassable pavement. This is likely to result in other requests that wooden pavements be removed, as there is a number of other streets paved with this material and which are in bad shape.

How It Might Be Done. Chicago Post. "It is a plain proposition on the conditions existing in many of the states," said the reformer, "that only rich men are ever elected to the United States senate. It would be far better to have senators elected by popular vote. 'Not at all necessary,' answered the practical politician. 'If the desire is to send good men to the senate, it might be done by popular subscription.'"



Examine the new oil cloth on the kitchen floor; its color and gloss are being destroyed and you may see where a cake of common soap fresh from the hot water in the scrubbing bucket has been laid on for a moment, the fresh alkali having eaten an impression of the cake into the bright colors.

A more careful examination will show small "pin holes" here and there where the alkali has cut through the surface to soak into and gradually weaken the whole floor covering. This is what cheap soaps do. Use Ivory Soap, it will not injure. IVORY SOAP IS 99% PURE. EVERY CENT PURE.

WORN OUT BLOCKS MUST GO

Rotten Wood Pavement on North Twenty-fourth Street to Be Removed. DIRT ROADWAY IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED

City Attorney Gives It as His Opinion that it is Duty of Council to Put Thoroughfares in Passable Condition.

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SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE NEXT TEN DAYS. Sterling Bicycles. The Highest Grade Made. \$10 down, \$1.50 and \$2 per week. A chance for everybody to buy the best wheel made on easy payments. GAS AND OIL Bicycle Lamps. Biggest Line. Lowest Prices. Gas Lamps.....\$1.75 to \$3.00 Oil Lamps..... 50c to \$2.00. OMAHA BICYCLE CO., ED T. HEYDEN, Manager. Cor. 16th and Chicago Sts.

It is a Well Known Fact— That we sell pianos on such easy terms that the payments stretch out like a coupon railroad ticket—Things that you should remember—That we have only one price—You pay no more when you buy from us on time than if you paid us all cash—That we have over thirty different makes, including such pianos as the Knabe—Kimball—Kranich and Bach—Hallett and Davis and Hospe pianos, that have won their high standing by actual merit.

A. HOSPE, We celebrate our 25th business anniversary Oct. 23rd, 1899. Music and Art. 1513 Douglas.

You've Heard of Balduff— The man that made the gold medal bon bon that the Transmississippi Exposition—well, he is still making them—same way—same kind—better, if that is possible—if you can't get these famous confections at home just send to Balduff—he packs them in tin boxes, so that they can be sent anywhere—40c a pound—you pay the express. In looking for a good place to eat you should not overlook us—the best service in the city. BALDUFF'S, Lunch—10 to 2:30. Supper—5:30 to 8:00. 1520 Farnam St.

MUNYON'S INHALER CURES CATARRH Colds, Coughs, Hay Fever, Bronchitis, Asthma and all Diseases of the Throat and Lungs. Close of Medicated Vapor are inhaled through the mouth and emitted from the trachea, cleansing and vaporizing all the inflamed and diseased parts which cannot be reached by medicine taken into the stomach. It reaches the sore spots—It heals the raw places—It opens the bronchial tubes—It acts on a drug and tonic to the whole system—\$1.00 a bottle and sent by mail. 1008 Arch St., Phila.

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