

es is concerned, as statistics show, the panic of 1877 did not result in increased steel exports, but rather a decrease. While British makers of pig iron, as Mr. Talbot says in his complaint, are willing to part with their raw materials after they have carried them but one step toward the finished state, as seen in their relatively large exports of pig iron, the policy of our steel manufacturers is not to sacrifice their valuable iron and coal by dumping steel, either semifinished or finished, in foreign markets.

Like some other British manufacturers of steel Mr. Talbot speaks in no very cheerful terms of the outlook under the continued operation of free trade. Out of the \$35,000,000 worth of iron and steel imported by Great Britain in 1908, he considers that iron and steel workers there lost several million pounds sterling in wages, and he adds in that pessimistic vein which has become quite common yonder in the discussion of economic questions, "it is no wonder we are short of work, neither is it surprising that our works are depreciating in value."

Vacuum Cleaners in Industrial Plants.

The vacuum cleaner has been developed with much aggressiveness by its various builders, and has now become of recognized utility in industrial as well as residential life. The modern shop and factory are well ordered institutions, and cleanliness is a prime requisite. The vacuum cleaner is a most complete remover of dust and dirt and finer débris of all sorts. The vacuum system of cleaning promises exceptional usefulness in ridding works of those kinds of dust which are injurious to the health of employees. The manufacturers believe that they can be of great service to factories which do wet grinding, by collecting the dried sediment of particles of abrasive and metal. Where an exhaust system is installed, the apparatus is designed to be attached at conveniently spaced stations. The self-contained unit, with an electric motor attached to the fan, can be employed in any works having electric wiring. The blower and exhaust have a great usefulness, extending over a wide field. The vacuum cleaner is an addition to the scope of effort, which will undoubtedly be adopted quite generally in the next few years.

be compelled to make public their private business affairs through which other corporations, partnerships or private individuals might obtain valuable information to the detriment of such corporations.

It further invites the evasion of the law by the maintenance of apparent net profits below the amount stipulated on which the tax is to be levied, and incurs added expense in order that bookkeeping be conducted under the provisions of the new law, and it is further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of the association and that a copy thereof be forwarded to the Senators and Representatives in Congress representing the State of Pennsylvania.

The application of Wm. F. Lowry, district manager of the American Car & Foundry Company, Berwick, Pa., for membership in the association was received and favorably acted upon.

A discussion of the general foundry situation followed. Representatives of the steel casting trade reported business very active. Makers of soil pipe are experiencing a dull condition of business, while in other branches of the trade a better flow of orders was reported. Unfavorable weather conditions, as well as the season of the year, have not been conducive to the general foundry business.

The paper for discussion at this meeting was on "The Moyer Overhead Tramrail System," by A. W. Moyer of the J. W. Paxson Company, Philadelphia. Mr. Moyer, by means of numerous lantern slides, fully described this system, particularly as to its application in carrying iron from the cupola to the pouring floors, lifting and carrying flasks, coal, coke, sand, pig iron, castings, &c., from and to cars and different parts of the foundry. At the conclusion of the paper Mr. Moyer was given a unanimous vote of thanks for his interesting review of that subject. After adjournment luncheon was served in the dining room of the club, and informal addresses were made by a number of those present.

Canadian newspapers state that E. R. Wood, J. H. Plummer and Robert Fleming are promoting a plan to merge the Dominion Iron & Steel Company, Dominion Coal Company, Lake Superior Corporation, Atikokan Iron Company, Montreal Rolling Mills, Hamilton Steel & Iron Company, Canadian Foundry Company, and probably some other Canadian manufacturing interests. Mr. Fleming is the representative of large British financial interests, so that the flotation, if carried through, will be largely by English capital.

For the first time in nearly three years practically all departments of the plant of the Westinghouse Machine Company, East Pittsburgh, Pa., are being operated overtime.