

Lansing Automobile Works

Another of Lansing's twentieth century manufacturing institutions, which bids fair to become one of the representative industries in its field, is the Lansing Automobile Works. This firm is composed of J.W. Post and George J. Bohnet. The latter is the designer of the automobile manufactured by the concern, and Mr. Post handles the business end of the company. Their plant is located at 219 Washington Avenue North, and the business, although still in its infancy, gives every indication of rapid growth. It is altogether probable that in another year, larger quarters will be required by the firm.

The automobile manufactured by this company is propelled by steam, that being the most reliable motive power known. The auto complete is a machine combining great power, ease of operations, and economy. It is compact, durable, odorless, noiseless and without vibration. The material used is of the highest grade and the work is done by skilled mechanics. The body of the auto contains the engine, boiler and tanks. No changing gear is used, connections being made directly from the engine to the compensating gear on the rear axle. Change of speed is had by means of the throttle, just as in a locomotive. The engine is double-acting, link motion, with or without ball bearings. The frame is of phospho-bronze, with gray iron cylinders, larger than any other in use, and the other parts are of drop forged steel. The boilers are seamless steel sheets, one-quarter inch thick. Asbestos coverings and steel jackets enclose them and they are perfectly safe, there being no chance for an explosion. An automotive steam pump supplies the water to the boiler.

The burner is of late design and the base contains hundreds of little holes for the gas to come through. It will burn a powerful blue flame, generating 150 pounds of steam

in three minutes. An eight-gallon seamless tank holds the gasoline, which is used for fuel. This is placed under the footboard, away from all danger. The tanks are carefully tested and supplied with check valves. The tank, in the back of the vehicle, will hold from 28 to 32 gallons of water, so arranged that it cannot splash about. Strainers make it impossible for any dirt to reach the boiler. The engine exhaust heats the coils of copper tubing through which the water passes on its way to the boiler, and thus enables a great saving of fuel. The exhaust passes through a condenser, an invention of Mr. Bohnet's and it consumed entirely, also preventing any noise.



The running gear is made of the best Shelby steel tubing, seamless, and is covered with five coats of enamel. The hubs are turned from bar steel, the wheels are 28 and 30 inches, with three-inch tires. A clever steering device, which is directly in front of the operator, is a feature of the automobile. It is adjustable to any height or angle and has a ten inch ball bearing head. It will not jar or vibrate. The reverse lever is on the outside of the carriage, by the side of the operator. The machines are equipped with tops of the best

equality and special design. The aim of the Lansing Automobile Works is to please its customers, and a full guarantee accompanies every machine sold.