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Rail Coach

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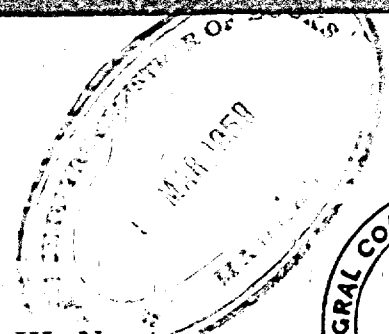
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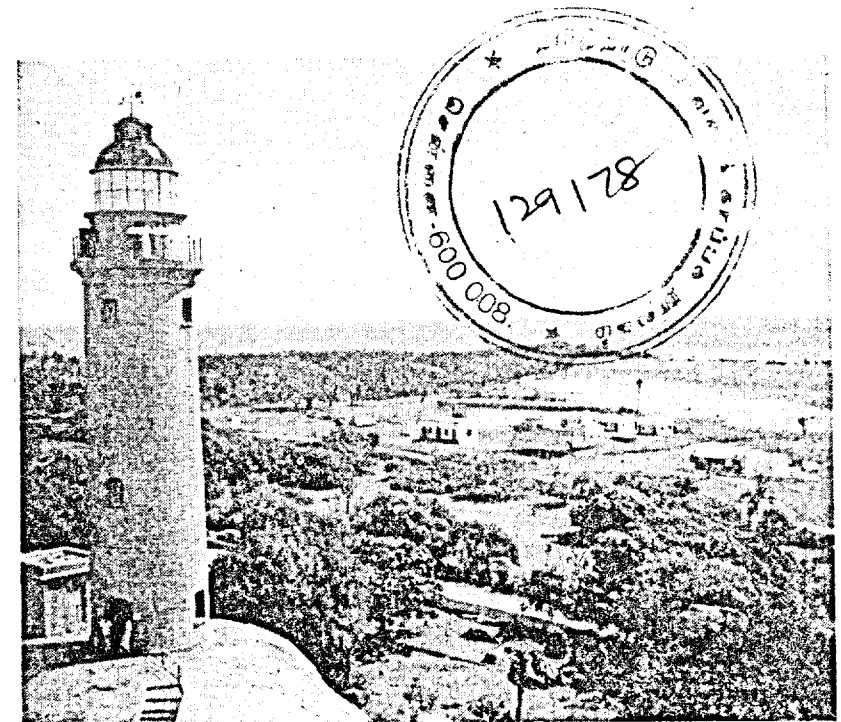
RAIL COACH



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JANUARY 1959



The Light-house positioned on the rock at Mamallapuram together with a panoramic view of the surrounding area

—Photo by R. Somasundaram, Dycos's Office

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editorial

NEW DESIGNS OF COACHES

Elsewhere in this issue is published a report of the function held in the Main Assembly Shop of the factory on 3-1-1959 for launching the first light-weight third class-cum-luggage van fully designed and manufactured in the factory. The designing and manufacture of the T.L.R. Coach in our factory is a forerunner for further development in coach building in our factory and in the country.

Though we are still in the initial stages and are yet to attain capacity to meet the entire requirements of the Indian Railways in respect of coaching stock, we could hopefully foresee a future when we may be in a position to export coaches to other countries in the world and thus compete with industrially advanced countries in marketing coaches.

As our Chief Administrative Officer, Shri K. Swarup, said, with the launching of this coach a new era dawned in the industrial growth of our country.

coaches, wagons, underframes were no longer being imported. He called upon Indian industrialists to assist in the development of production of stores at present imported, including rail cars, electric multiple coaches, electric signalling equipment, etc.

Shri Ramaswamy said that special attention must be paid to the manufacture of railway stores by small-scale industries, as sole reliance on big industries alone would not result in a balanced economy.

Shri Ramaswamy disclosed that he had requested the Railway Ministry to undertake "quantity budgeting" of the Railways' requirements of stores. This, he said, was a novel idea in India and the results of this, when passed on to manufacturers in the country, would enable them to gear themselves to produce goods according to the planned needs of the railways. A booklet on the rough estimate of future requirements of imported railway stores was at present under preparation and would be ready for supply to Indian industrialists in the near future.

Six-fold increase in production of railway wagons

Production of railway

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

(Published through the kind courtesy of the Consulate-General of Switzerland, Bombay)

Switzerland's national income

A provisional estimate reveals that Switzerland's net national income for 1957 was 26.9 milliard Swiss francs, an increase of 1.3 milliard francs or 5% over the figure for 1956.

Telephone in Switzerland

Switzerland has the second most developed telephone network in Europe. For every hundred inhabitants, there are over 25 telephones. Only Sweden can boast of a higher figure, namely 31.5%.

Franking machines in Switzerland

per cm²). When these two ribbons are placed so as to touch each other, the hooks enter into the loops and thus ensure a remarkable adhesion. The ribbons can resist a traction of about 14 pounds per square inch. Tests have proved that the "VELCRO" closure can be used 10,000 times, without suffering any apparent deterioration, which shows that its "life expectancy" is much greater than that of the articles to which it will be applied. Among the many advantages of this new invention, are to be mentioned the simplicity of its use and application, the absence of any rough places or bits of metal and the possibilities it offers for boiling, dry cleaning, sterilisation, ironing and dyeing. Moreover, "VELCRO" ribbons can be cut to the required length, without any waste.

A new Physics Institute in Zurich

After lengthy studies and twenty-one months of work, the new Physics Institute, attached to the University of Zurich, has just been inaugurated officially. There are a big auditorium and a vast laboratory, equipped with a crane with a capacity of fifteen metric tons. This laboratory can be sub-divided into sixteen laboratories of normal dimensions by means of movable partitions and floors. Surrounding the lecture-rooms are to be found 35 further normal laboratories which can

MARCH OF SCIENCE

Atom may help make long-lasting paper

By using radioactive carbon, a peaceful product of atomic energy, the life-span of books, newspapers, magazines and other printed matter could be extended to as much as 20,000 years, according to Dr. Willard F. Libby of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

Dr. Libby says that in recent experiments it was found that when a small fraction of radioactive carbon was added to alanine, an amino acid containing carbon that enters into plant structures, the extremely slow rate at which the alanine decomposes could be measured—about one part in 5,000,000 days.

"We could do much the same experiment with a sheet of book paper," Dr. Libby explained. "The technique would be to place a sheet of the paper in a closed container and collect the carbon dioxide liberated by oxidation due to the attack by air, and compare this with similar tests on other

GOOD HEALTH IS MAN'S BIRTHRIGHT

BY

DR. A. RAMDAS

(Divisional Medical Officer, Southern Railway)

(Continued from December 1958 issue)

3. *The air we breathe*: The earth we live upon is 'blanketed' by a layer of air, miles thick. Air contains chiefly oxygen and nitrogen and also other less important gases. All living beings 'breathe in' the air in some way or other. Creatures living in water 'breathe in' a solution of air in water. Oxygen contained in the air we breathe is taken up in the lungs by the blood and supplied to all tissues. The tissues utilise it to burn the body-sugars we ingest from food, thereby liberating energy that is required for maintaining life. Without adequate amount of oxygen in the air we breathe, the vital processes slow down, waste products accumulate in the body and death ensues from as

from the

