

EDISON PERFECTS STORAGE BATTERY

**On a Three-Minute Charge It
Runs Sixty Miles, He Tells
Electric Light Delegates.**

WILL FIT IN A SUITCASE

**Inventor Receives an Ovation In the
Convention—Believes Companies Are
Giving the Public a Square Deal.**

Thomas A. Edison, whose name is part of nearly every big electric light plant in the United States, attended yesterday afternoon for the first time in his life a session of the National Electric Light Association. He made his visit memorable by announcing that he had perfected a new storage battery for surface cars and trucks which would revolutionize the street traction business.

Mr. Edison had been only a few minutes in the Engineering Society Building, where the association's thirty-fourth annual convention is being held, when a TIMES reporter found him, with Samuel Insull, President of the Commonwealth Edison Company of Chicago, about to enter the hall.

"And what may be your line of sorrow?" asked the inventor, thinking the reporter was with the electric lighting business.

When told that it was "newspaper sorrow," Mr. Edison laughingly admitted that while there might be differences in the character of the sorrow, there was not in the degree.

Though Mr. Edison's name is the biggest in the electrical world, few of the several thousand delegates, who come from every part of the United States, ever had seen him before, or heard his voice. The reporter had hardly opened the interview before delegates from every direction flocked to where the inventor stood, listening eagerly to his words and frequently prompting the reporter with questions concerning technical matters about which they wanted to hear.

When asked about the success of his storage battery, recently invented, which is now used to run the surface cars on Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Streets, Manhattan, he said:

"I have done far better than that now, and nothing has come out about it. I have perfected a battery which can be recharged in three or four minutes and which will run fifty or sixty miles without being recharged.

"The trouble with the first battery was that the recharging took a long time. When charged a car would run all day, but then it took the better part of the night to recharge it and get it ready for the next day. But I have done away with all that. I have now a battery which can be put into a suit case, it is so small and light, and it can run a car, truck, automobile, or vehicle of any kind until the power is used up, and then recharged in less than three minutes, ready for service as before."

"I suppose," said one of the electric light men present, "that one of these new batteries could be used to take a street car over the line once or twice, and then run through the recharging station and out again in three minutes."

"That is it exactly," replied Mr. Edison, with enthusiasm, "or there could be small recharging stations along the line, where batteries might be recharged as much as they needed in a minute or less. The beauty of this battery is that the power can be put into it in small quantities or large without waste of time."

Mr. Edison told of a truck to which he had attached the battery, which, he said, would run sixty miles without being recharged, and which can be recharged in five minutes or less. Asked what he thought of the electric light manufacturers, Mr. Edison said:

"I like their looks first rate. But this is the first time I ever saw them, for I never before attended a session of the association."

"What do you think of the pension and profit sharing plans outlined in the report of the Public Policy Committee, which was adopted on Wednesday night?"

"I haven't read the report yet," he replied, "but I am going to. I have a copy in my pocket now. They sent me a package of them out to my home by express."

When Mr. Edison was asked if he thought the electric light companies needed regulating by the Government, or if they were to be regarded in a class with the Standard Oil and American Tobacco Companies as bad trusts, he replied with emphasis that he certainly did not so regard them. He wasn't so sure about the regulation, but he was sure that they gave good service at most reasonable rates, and that their conduct had been square and upright.

"I certainly believe," he declared, "that they are giving the people a square deal—both the electric light and the power companies."

Mr. Edison said in parting that he was enjoying himself greatly at the meeting, and he entered the hall, where a greeting nothing less than an ovation awaited him. As he appeared in the door he was recognized, and the delegates arose and cheered. Throughout the meeting he was the object of much attention and at its close was forced to hold an impromptu reception.

Charles A. Coffin, President of the General Electric Company, was elected an honorary member of the association and made a short address.

W. W. Freeman, President of the association, was in the chair in the afternoon and introduced Mr. Edison. The delegates will attend performances this evening at three theatres.

IGNORE EYESIGHT WARNING.

**Few School Principals Ask for New
Labels, and Most of Them Are Women.**

Public school Principals are not co-operating over enthusiastically with the Board of Education in its new plan for saving the pupils' eyes, for it was learned yesterday that less than 10 per. cent. of their number has applied for the precautionary labels for school books, telling pupils how to save their sight.

Not long ago the Board of Education ordered that instructions for the care of the eyes be pasted in each school book, and had printed 5,000,000 labels, but up to the present only 139,000 have been asked for. This is the label:

READ THIS FREQUENTLY.

1. Take care of your sight; upon it depends much of your safety and success in life.
 2. Always hold your head up when you read.
 3. Hold your book fourteen inches from your face.
 4. Be sure that the light is clear and good.
 5. Never read in the twilight, in a moving car, or in a reclining position.
 6. Never read with the sun shining directly on the book.
 7. Never face the light in reading.
 8. Let the light come from behind you or over your left shoulder.
 9. Avoid books or papers printed indistinctly or in small type.
 10. Rest your eyes frequently by looking away from the book.
 11. Cleanse your eyes night and morning with pure water.
 12. Never rub your eyes with your hands, or an unclean towel, handkerchief, or cloth.
- It was due to the Women Principals' Association that the Board of Education adopted the labels, and thirty-four of the fifty-five School Principals which have asked for them are women.

Delaware Starts for the Coronation.

Bound for England to represent the United States Navy at the coronation of King George, the big battleship Delaware left the New York Navy Yard yesterday afternoon. The Delaware, which will be the biggest warship in the review off Spithead, dropped anchor off Tompkinsville, S. I., where she will remain until to-morrow, taking on coal and oil for the trip across the Atlantic.