

Little stories of big savings in LAGONDA tube cleaning

The case of the Insistent Engineer



Happened at an important middle western utility. One of the engineers kept insisting that the water treatment they were using should be supplemented by occasional mechanical tube cleaning, which had not been used for four years. Nobody believed him, but his persistence finally won out to the effect that they consented to clean one boiler with Lagonda tube cleaners, just to see. Result, startling increased efficiency of the unit, an unexpectedly large amount of scale removed, and the scheduling of Lagonda cleaning for all the boilers not only in that plant, but in all other plants of the system. Further result, orchids for the insistent engineer.



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More TECHNICAL BRIEFS

per hr. for the years 1949-51, inclusive, 18% of all stokers represent only 10% of the capacity sold, they constitute the selections made.

For the author's company, retort sales were conversion units installed in old refractory furnaces. Of the for installation in new were installed in new refractory furnaces and "custom designed" furnaces. Very obviously domination of boiler equipment was low first cost, but water cooling furnaces was given prime consideration. Low price is contingent on deviation from the manufacturer's design proportions; i.e., space height, application of shapes of walls, etc., to lower the type of combustion equipment. Study of the entire collection of standardized boiler applications regard to minimum flame grate to convection surfaces that only 20% of the total enable application of spread stokers satisfactory to the author's company. The remaining 80% provide adequate flame travel for stokers. Yet these units give satisfactory service.

But to provide for maximum around performance with available designs of boilers, observations are offered, drawn from experience:

- (1) Widest latitude in the use of coal comes from installing grate type of stoker in all down to the minimum in which is available, and by providing cooled furnace, at least in the case of traditional thick fuel bed is, was, a wrong approach to good maintenance. Performance will be best when operation is maintained in thinnest firebed which will support 30 to 40%. With present day operating personnel, such operation most readily obtainable by the use of careful adjustment and maintenance of the steamflow-airflow automatic combustion control.
- (2) Cinder and fly ash content relatively low with single retort

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