

ENGINE WHICH REQUIRES NO PETROL.

MAY REVOLUTIONISE PRESENT METHODS.

An invention which may revolutionise engineering has been made by Mr. Lester Hendershot. He has given a demonstration with a motor which derives its power from the electric currents of the earth. The model he has made is of 45 horse power. In a test in the presence of Colonel Charles Lindbergh it developed 1,800 revolutions a minute. This, it was claimed, it would do for 2,000 hours. If it is possible to make more powerful motors of the same kind it will mean that petrol and steam engines will be superseded. The 45 horse power model cost £2 10/ to manufacture (says a special message to "The News," Adelaide, from its Vancouver correspondent).

Col. Lindbergh and Major Lamphier tested the new type of motor at Selfidge Field. It derives its power from electric magnetism instead of from petrol.

Some authorities predict that it will revolutionise power for aeroplanes, and possibly for automobiles.

The motor uses no fuel, but is based upon the principle of electromagnetism as applied to the rotary motion of the earth.

Mr. Barr Peat is the business partner of Mr. Hendershot. Both come from Pittsburgh.

Details are being kept secret, but friends of the inventor claimed that the test to which it was put by Col. Lindbergh exceeded all hopes.

Mr. Hendershot says that his motor has no moving parts, and thus cannot wear out. It is large enough to supply 45 horsepower, and can be manufactured for £2 10/.

Mr. Hendershot foresees the day when light, heat, and power will be supplied by turning a lever.

Mr. Hendershot declined to reveal the secrets of his so-called

veal the secrets of his so-called magnet box.

Leading mechanics of several countries were disposed to laugh at the claims of Mr. Hendershot, which received great advertisement through the association of Col. Lindbergh with him and the fact that one official of the Guggenheim Foundation would take a directorship in his company.

Wall Street took sufficient notice of the story to sell off aeroplane manufacture stocks in huge blocks to a new record in low prices.

The invention is in no sense connected with the idea of perpetual motion, although tests suggest that the motor may turn almost indefinitely.

The Guggenheim Foundation for Aeronautics announces that it has arranged for an immediate conference in New York between Col. Lindbergh, Major Lamphier, Mr. Hendershot, and others interested. On test blocks to-day the motor turned 1800 revolutions a minute. It will run at this rate for 2000 hours before it becomes necessary to re-charge the magnet centre.

The Department of Commerce and aviation officials declared that they had no doubt that Mr. Hendershot had found a method of obtaining convertible energy from terrestrial magnetism by which power could be supplied for a long period without fuel. Whether the process could be conducted on a large scale they declined to express an opinion.

Officials said that the invention was still in the experimental stage.

It was stated officially that reputable electrical engineers had reported to the Government that the small sized Hendershot motor had operated successfully.

All mechanical America is agog over the Hendershot invention.

Mr. William Stout (aeroplane manufacturer) said that the demonstration was impressive if not actually uncanny. He would like

demonstration was impressive and actually uncanny. He would like to see how a large model, designed to develop sufficient power to lift an aeroplane would operate.

The present model is about the size used to operate a vacuum cleaner. Its chief characteristic is the entirely new method of winding the armature and drawing energy direct from elective currents.

Mr. Hendershot appears to have tapped the hitherto unused wave of current from the earth, which recharges itself.

A radio tube is the best equivalent of how it works. A magnet

picks up earth currents as it runs much as a radio tube picks up sound waves.

Mr. Stout said that he could have detected any fraud, if there had been any, in the demonstration.

The question in his mind was whether the range of current discovered was powerful enough to run a large horsepower engine. If this principle is proved to be a success it will mean the end of petrol and steam engines.