

CLOSE OF THE STEAM-HEAT CONFERENCE.

The Holly steam-heating engineers finished their interesting exchange of ideas yesterday and adjourned to meet at Wilkesbarre a year hence. William Ridley read his paper on the incrustation of boilers and canvassed a half-dozen preventives. The paper was discussed and the conclusion reached that the feed-water should be heated in a preliminary boiler. This topic is not applicable to Springfield, where the water is soft and clean. But in many places hard water causes an incrustation which decreases the condensation. The use of meters was taken up and it was shown that they have supplanted the contract system in all successful plants. It was also shown to be most advantageous for economy to place the meter on the low pressure or horse side of the regulator, as is done in Springfield. A valuable paper was received from Charles E. Emery of New York, one of the foremost engineers of the country. He sifted conclusions from a variety of data regarding the size of street mains, by which it is judged that Springfield started wrong some years ago, but that the work done last fall and that planned this spring is in accordance with the best light available. Wilkesbarre, Harrisburg, Lockport and Williamsport all reported experience and were found to have their steam plants in successful and prosperous order. Before leaving town, the visitors went to the Holly boiler-house on West State street and inspected the plant.