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A REARRANGEMENT of the HEAVY SHOE PLANT

of W.L.Felch & Co.,

North Hatick,

M. G. www. care

M8.98.

Cambridge Mass.

March 6,1924.

Prof.A.L.Merrill, Secretary of the Faculty, Mass.Inst.of Technology, Cambridge.Mass.

Dear Sir;-

We, the undersigned students of the Mechanical Engineering Department, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, do hereby submit for your approval, Thesis, "A Rearrangement of the Heavy Shoe Plant" of W.L.Felch & Co., North Natick, Mass.

> Respectfully, Signature Redacted

Roger Cutting, Signature Redacted

Harry R.Hammond.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Signature Redacted
Signature Redacted

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OBJECT OF INVESTIGATION

Purpose

The purpose of this thesis is to rearrange the plant of W. L. Felch and Company, North Natick, Mass. for more efficient operation in view of present business conditions. A new building which would undoubtedly contribute a great deal toward better efficiency, is not considered as the present volume of business does not seem to warrant it. Our plan is to give a better distribution of power by electtic motors in place of one large steam engine, a better routing for the work through the plant, from receiving raw material to shipping the finished product, more light on the machines, and better conditions for employees. At the same time we have attempted to make the plan practical as to the expense of putting it into effect.

History

The original plant of Felch Brothers, Manufacturers of Heavy Shoes, was built in 1858. Since that time there have been nine additions to the original building until at the present time the plan view is shaped like a shallow letter U. In 1900 the firm was changed to its present organization as W. L. Felch and Company. Most of the company's trade is in the south but a general decline in the shoe trade of recent years has made it more essential than ever to bring the present haphazard arrangement due to the numerous alterations into a more compact and efficient whole.

Procedure

In order to do this it was necessary first to draw up detailed plans of the building to locate the power plant, machinery and shafting, to measure the power input to machines and to trace the present routing of work in as much as there was no data of this sort available. Then using the old building plan the machinery was rearranged by making templates of all the machines and distributing them over the floor space, keeping in mind the necessity for good routing, good light, space requirements around the machine for operatives and trucks, and the possibility of adding more equipment without disturbing the location of the present machines. Where the arrangement of the machinery, as it is, was consistent with our plan it was not moved even though its position could be improved upon in respect to grouping for overtime. We then drew up power tables, selected motors, and laid out the plant.

Present Conditions.

<u>Buildings</u>. The plant consists of a four-story main building with a one-story boiler house attached at the rear. The building is of wood frame construction throughout, with the exception of the boiler house and some pillars on the first floor which are of brick. There is no basement but owing to a sidehill slope the second floor is at ground level at the rear. The stairs are external except from the third to the fourth, and there is a light freight elevator in the front of the building. Floors are of 2" planking, rafters are 3" x 8" spaced 1 1/2' on centers, beams 8" x 10", columns 8" x 8" except brick which are 1 1/2' x 1'. All windows are 2 1/2' x 5'. There is a 5' x 8' skylight in the boiler house roof and ten 3' x 6' skylights in the main building roof. Fire escapes lead from the three upper stories to the boiler house roof anf thence to the ground.

<u>Power Plant</u>. The power plant consists of a 100 H.P. Robb Munford horizontal multitubular boiler and a 35 H.P. Parsons horizontal single cylinder reciprocating engine. The bailer is fed by a Knowles direct-acting steam pump. The engine drives the shafting from an 8' flywheel and exhausts into the heating system of the plant. All machinery in the plant is operated by this engine through belts and shafting. Main shafts are 2" in diameter, all others 1 1/2". There are numerous quarter turn drives and countershafts employed.

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Routing.

First Floor. Raw materials are received on the first floor and stored at different places throughout the plant. The hides go to the sole cutters in the north front of the first floor. The cut soles are then passed back to the splitters and from there to the toe gouger at the south end of



the floor. Outer and inner soles are tacked together by the grip tacker, stitched, and the soles moulded, doubling on themselves several times and then passing to the elevator. The heel pieces cut from the remnants of the sole leather are tacked together by hand at the south end of the Then the heels are compressed and breasted and passed floor. to the elevator.

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Second Floor.

On the second floor the uppers are cut by hand at benches along the entire front of the building. They are perforated by the crown tip puncher and then skived. They are sorted and paired by hand and



the size marked at benches near the center of the building. They then pass to the crimper at the far rear of the building, then back to the south front to the stitcher and eyeletters, doubling on themselves again. From there they take the elevator to the third floor.

Third Floor. On the third floor the uppers are tacked by hand to the inner soles at benches along the front of the floor and then lasted. The soles are again tacked by a grip tacker and then loose nailed or pegged, the routing here being fairly good. Then they



are levelled and the heels attached. The heels are shaved and the edges trimmed. Then the heels are sanded, staired and burnished. The shoes then go to the elevator.

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Fourth Floor. Upon reaching the fourth floor the soles are finished on sand wheels at the north end of the building and polished. Then the soles are stamped and the uppers treed in the south wing of the building. The shoes are polished and the vamps creased.



Lighting. Many of the machines in the building are not placed so as to give the most advantageous lighting and artificial illumination is resorted to, using electric fixtures of the old direct type. Also there is considerable obstruction of light, as well as waste of space, due to the storage of discarded machinery and surplus material about the building.

Sanitary Conditions. Toilet facilities are rather meagre and poorly placed. There is a toilet and sink on each floor but no lockers are provided in which the employees may leave their clothing.

Proposed Plan.

<u>Power Distribution</u>. In the first place we purpose to discard the present steam engine, supplanting it by electric motors which will operate on 60-cycle, 220 volt alternating current supplied by the Natick Edison Company from their power wires which are convenient to the plant. We would retain the present boiler for heating purposes in cold weather. We recommend the use of General Electric Company Types KT and KQ From C Induction motors for driving shafting, and a General Electric Type 3AC, 5 H.P. motor for the elevator. These motors are listed in the Appendix. The shafting will require eight motors, ome 15 H.P., one 10 H.P., and six 5 H.P., totalling in all 55 H.P. Three of the 5 H.P. motors however are operated only for overtime work. The motors are arranged as follows.

First Floor. On the first floor there are two 5 H.P. motors, each driving a group consisting of two sole cutters and two splitters, one group being regular and the other overtime. Each group is driven by one 1 1/2" 300 r.p.m. overhead shaft, to which the motor, hung on the ceiling, is directly belted.

<u>Second Floor</u>. On the second floor are a 15 H.P. and a 10 H.P. motor. The 15 H.P. motor drives a 2", 200 R.P.M. shaft hung from the ceiling, the motor being mounted on a bench. This shaft drives a group consisting of one grindstone, one tip puncher, one regular and one overtime

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skiver, one marker and one crimper. From the shaft belts runmthrough the floor and ceiling to 1-1/2" 300 R.P.M. shafts hung from the ceiling of the first and third floors pespectively. The first floor shaft drives one grinder, one toe gouger, one grip tacker, one stitcher and one moulder. The third floor shaft operates one regular and one overtime leveller, one heeler, one heel shaver and one knife grinder.

The 10 H.P. motor is mounted on a bench and drives a 2" R.P.M. shaft hung from the ceiling. This shaft drives a cutter block planer and grinder on the same floor. which will be only infrequently used. Belts run through the floor and ceiling to 1-1/2" 300 R.P.M. shafts, on the ceiling of the first floor, and beneath a bench on the third floor, respectively. The first floor shaft drives one heel compressor, one grinder and two heel breasters, only one of which is used at a time. The third floor shaft is belted to two regular and two overtime edge trimmers, and one regular and one overtime burnisher.

<u>Third Floor</u>. On the third floor are 5 H.P. motors. A 5 H.P. motor mounted on the floor drives a $1-1/2^{s}$ 300 R.P.M. overhead shaft which operates a overtime consisting of two lasters, one grip tacker, one grinder, one loose nailer and five polishers. A second motor operates a similar regular group except that the loose nailer is replaced by a pegger and the five polishers are operated from a

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separate shaft, both shafts being driven from a jackshaft on the ceiling over the motor. A third 5 H.P. motor mounted on the wall drives, from a 1-1/2" 300 R.P.M. overhead shaft, two tree-ers and a stamper, the stamper being driven from a countershaft. A belt runs from the main shaft through the floor to a 1-1/2" 300 R.P.M. shaft mounted under a bench on the second floor. This shaft operates nine stitchers, and, by means of two countershafts, an eyeletter.

The fourth motor operates an identical overtime group.

Fourth Floor. The 5 H.P. elevator motor is mounted at the top of the elevator shaft.

Routing.

First Floor. The same machines are retained on the first floor with the exception that two unused sole cutters, a former, and three unused butters have been discarded. A stock room running the entire To 3rd flo length of the south end of the building has been partitioned off, with a receiv-



ing door cut through the outer wall at the rear. The sole leather leaves this room from a sliding door at the front

and passes to the sole cutters in the front of thebuilding. Each sole cutter has an adjacent splitter, from which the soles pass to the toe gouger, tacker, stitcher and moulder at the north end of the floor, and then to the elevator. The heel pieces go to the tacking bench, compressor and breasters at the rear of the builing and thence to the elevator. All machines are arranged about the outside walls and the middle of the floor is clear.

Second Floor. On the second floor the upper leather

is received from the stock room and cut at the present benches. Then the uppers pass to the tip puncher, divers, markers, and crimpers at the north end of the floor and from there to the stitchers and eyeletters at the south end and to the elevator. A



splitter, a butter and two eyeletters have been eliminated on this floor, and the cutter block planer moved into a corner and housed to leave the floor clear.

Third Floor. Upper soles and heels are received from the elevator at the third floor, and go to the lasters, tackers and peggers, which have been arranged in parallel rows along the front of the building. Then the shoes pass

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to the levellers, heelers and heel shavers at the north end and to the trimmers, burnishers, staining bench and polishers along the rear. The packing and shipping room on the third floor has been removed to the fourth, and the fourth floor chemical



laboratory placed in the rear of the south wing of the third floor. This leaves sufficient space to bring down the tree-ers and stampers from the fourth floor, which are arranged, with the vamp creasers, along the south end.

Fourth Floor. The shoes then pass by elevator to

the fourth floor for packing and crating. We recommend the installation at the rear of the building a spiral gravity conveyor to carry cases to the shipping platform below.

Lighting. As far as p

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space for storage on the fourth floor front for racks and other articles that might obstruct lighting.

Sanitary Conditions. We have retained all the present toilet facilities and recommend adding on the rear of the fourth floor two locker rooms for the employees. These rooms are to be equipped with toilets, washstands and lockers as shown in plans appended.

Schedule of Operation in Heavy Shoe Factory

Sole Leather Department.

Soles and heel pieces cut

- " " " split
- " fitted (toe gouged)
- u tacked (double sole)
- " stitched (double sole)

" moulded

Heel pieces tacked

- " compressed
- " breasted

Upper and Stitching Department.

Uppers cut

- " perforated
- " skived
- " paired and fitted
- " size marked
- " crimped
- " stitched
- " eyeletted

Making and Finishing Department.

Uppers tacked to inner soles

" lasted " " "

tacked

" nailed or pegged

Shoe levelled

Shoe heeled

Heels shaved

Edges trimmed

Heels sanded

Edges stained

" burnished

Soles sanded

" polished

" stamped

Uppers treed

Vamps creased.

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Machine	Pulley Dia. Inches	Pulley Width Inches	Belt C Width abo	.L.Pulley ove floor Inches	R.P.M.	Belt Speed 1/min.	H.P./ Inches Width	H.P. for <u>Machines</u>	Number Machines
Sole Cutter USMC Hawkins	26 16	5 5	5 4-1/2	18 18	2 25 225	1530 940	1.53 .94	7.65 4.70	22
Splitter Stowe Worcester	10 14	2-1/2 3-1/2	2-1/4 3-1/2	48 36	360 360	1050 1320	1.05 1.32	2.36 4.62	2 2
Grinder	2	2	1-1/2	42	1 660	870	.87	1.30	5
Toe Gouge	r 6	3	3	18	750	1180	1.18	3.54	1
Grip Tack	er 6	2	1-1/2	54	480	760	.76	1.14	3
Stitcher	3	1/4	1/4(dia.	.) 48	1340	1050	1.05	.26	19
Moulder	16	4 ′	4	12	1900	790	.79	3.16	1
Heel Compres	sorl8	3	3	12	325	1530	1.53	4.60	l
Heel Breaste	r ll	2	1-3/4	48	200	570	•57	1.00	2
Eyeletter	8	2	1-1/2	4 5	245	510	.51	.76	2
Planer	9	4-1/2	4	84	330	780	.78	3.12	1
Grindston	e 15	2	1-1/2	28	100	400	. 40	.60	l
Tip Punch	er 8	2-1/2	2	36	270	570	.57	1.14	1
Skiver	8	2-1/2	2	36	200	420	. 42	.84	2
Marker	5	1/4	1/4(dia)) 48	300	390	.39	.10	1
Cri,per	12	3-1/2	3	68	360	1140	1.14	3 .42	l
Laster	9	3	3	12	425	985	.985	2.95	4
Pegger	7	2-1/2	1-1/2	60	545	1000	1.00	1.5	1
Loose Nai	1e r1 0	3	3	12	290	760	.7 6	2.28	1

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POWER TABLE (CONT.)

Machine	Pulley Dia. Inches	Pulley Width Inches	Belt Width	C.L.Pulley above floor Inches	R.P.M.	Belt S pee 1/min.	d H.P./ Inches Width	H.P. for <u>Machines</u>	Number Machines
Leveller Hercule Tripp	s 16 12	4 4	4 2	24 42	420 420	1755 132 0	1.755 1.32	7.02 5.28	1 1
Heeler	23	5	4- 1/2	13	120	730	.73	3.28	l
Heel Shav	er 5	3	3	13	1300	1700	1.70	5.10	l
Knife Grinder	4	1-1/2	3/4	48	600	630	.63	. 472	1
Edge Trimmer	5	2-1/2	2	12	1220	1620	1.62	3.24	4
Burnisher	6	2-1/2	2	12	7 65	1400	1.40	2.80	2
Polisher	4	2-1/2	2	48	1 510	1300	1.30	2.60	10
Stamper Brewer Fifield	12 12	3 3	2-3/4 2-3/4	16 16	400 400	1260 1260	1.26 1.26	3.46 3.46	1 1
Tree-er	16	3-1/2	3	28	120	490	• 49	1.47	4

DISTRIBUTION TABLE

Mach- ine	Pt	Dia. In.	Pulley Width Width Win.	Belt Width In.	R.P.M. Driv. Shaft	Dia.of Driv. Pulley In.	H.P. per Mach- ine	Regular Group Net H.P.	Overtime Group Net H.P.
Sole Cutters	3								
2 Hawkir Splitter	18 :8	16	5	4-1/2	3 300	12	2		4
2 Worces ter	3-	14	3–1/2	3-1/2	300	17	1/2		<u>1</u> 5
Sole Cutters	3								
2 U.SMC.		26	5	5	300	20	2	4	
2 Stowe	. 0	10	2-1/2	2-1/4	4 300	12	1/2	$\frac{1}{5}$	
Grinder Tœ Goug	geo	2 6	2 3	1-1/2 3	3 300 300	11 15	1/6 1/6	1/6 1/6	
Grip Tacker		6	2	1-1/2	3 300	10	1/2	1/2	
Stitcher Moulder	C	3 16	4	/4(dia 4	300 3 00	13 10	3/4 1-1/2	3/4 2 <u>1-1/2</u> 3-1/12	
				د النام عليم عن النام عليم النام عليم النام ال					
Grind- stone		15	2	1-1/2	3 200	8	1/4	1/4	
Puncher 2 Skiver	с Св	8 8 5	2-1/2 2-1/2	2 2 /4(dia	200 200 1) 200	11 8 8	1/4 1/4 1/8	1/4 1/4 1/8	1/4
Crimper		12	3-1/2	3	200	21	2	2-778	1/4

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DISTRIBUTION TABLE (CONT.)

Mach- ine	Pulley Dia. In.	Pulley Width N In.	Belt R Width D: In. SI	.P.M. riv. haft	Dia.of Driv. Pulley In.	H.P. per Mach- ine	Regular Group Net H.P.	Overtime Group Net H.P.
Level- lers								
niles	16	4	4	300	22	1-1/2	1-1/2	
1 Tripp	12	4	2	300	17	1-1/2	• .	1-1/2
Heeler	23	5	4-1/2	300	10	2	2	
Heel Shaver	5	3	3	3 00	22	2	2	
Knife Grinde:	c 4	1-1/2	3/4	300	8	1/2	<u>1/2</u> 6	1-1/2
Heel Con	np-		77	700	20	0	2	
Tessor	18	32	3	300	20 11	۵ ۱/۶	ĩ/6	
2 Heel	ູມ	ພ	± ±/~	000	خلف علم	<i>,</i> 0	_, •	
Breaste	ersll	2	1-3/4	300	7	3/4	$\frac{3/4}{2-11/12}$	<u>3/4</u> 3/4
			adali antis aray					
Planer	9	4-1/2	4	300	10	3		3
Grinder	2	2	1-1/2	300	10	1/6		$\frac{1/6}{3-1/6}$
4 Edge	ra 5	2-1/2	2	300	20	1-1/2	3	3
2 Burn-		ລ−⊥/ ວ	ພ	000	20	/ ~		
ishers	6	2-1/2	2	300	15	1/4	$\frac{1/4}{3-1/4}$	$\frac{1/4}{3-1/4}$
			میں پریم میں اور					
2 Groups	s of		1. 1m 5		n –		<u>.</u>	0/1
9 Stitch	ners 3	1	/4(Dia)	300	13	1/4	9/4	9/4
ter	8	2	1-1/2	30 0	7	1/2	$\frac{1/2}{2-3/4}$	$\frac{1/2}{2-3/4}$

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DISTRIBUTION TABLE (CONT.)

Mach- ine	Pulley Dia. In.	Pulley Width In.	Belt F Width I In. S	R.P.M. Driv. Shaft	Dia.of Driv. Pulley In.	H.P. per Mach- ine	Regular Group Net H.P.	Overtime Group Net H.P.
2 Groups 2 Tree-s 1 Stamps	s of ers 18 er 12	3-1/2 3	3 2-3/4	300 300	7 16	1 3/4	$\frac{2}{3/4}$ $\frac{3}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{2}{3/4}$ $\frac{3}{2-3/4}$
2 Laster	:s 9	3	3	300	13	1/3	1	
Grip Tacker Pegger 5 Polish Grinder	6 7 ners 4 2	2 2-1/2 2-1/2 2	1-1/2 1-1/2 2 1-1/2	300 300 300 300	10 13 20 11	3/4 1-1/2 1/8 1/6	3/4 1-1/2 5/8 1/6 4-1/24	
2 Laster	:s 9	3	3	300	13	1/2		1
Grip Tacker	6	2	1-1/2	300	.10	3/4		3/4
Loose Nailer 5 Polish Grinder	10 ners 4 2	3 2-1/2 2	3 2 1-1/2	300 300 300	10 20 11	1-1/2 1/8 1/6		1-1/2 5/8 <u>1/6</u> 4-1/24

MOTOR TABLE

Elevator Motor - General Electric Type 3AC 5 H.P. Motor.

Motor No.	Full Net	Load H.P. + Frict. All.	Overlo Net	ad H.P. + Frict. <u>All.</u>	H.P. of Motor	% Over- load	Speed R.P.M.	Pulley Dia. In.	Dia. Shafting In.	Shafting Speed R.P.M.	Shafting Pulley Dia. In.	Belt Speed 1/min.	Belt Width In.
I	5	5.88	0	0	5	17.6	1740	4-1/2	1-1/2	300	26	2040	4 s.
II	5	5 .88	0	0	5	17.6	1740	4-1/2	1-1/2	300	2 6	2040	4 s.
III	3-1/1 2-7/8 6	2	0 1/4 1-1/2										
-	11.96	14.08	1-3/4	2.06	15	7.6	1755	4	2	200	3 5	1830	5 d.
IV -	2-11/ 3-1/4 6-1/6	12 7.26	3/4 3-1/4 4	4.71	10	19.7	1740	4- 1/2	2	300	26	2040	6 8.
۷	2-3/4 2-3/4 5-1/2	6.48	0 0 0	0	5	29.6	1740	4-1/2	1-1/2	300	26	2040	4 s.
VI	$\frac{2-3}{4}$		0										
	5-1/2	6 .48	0	0	5	29.6	1740	4-1/2	1-1/2	300	26	2040	4 в.
VII	4-1/2	4 4.75	0	0	5	0	1740	4-1/2	1-1/2	300	2 6	2040	4 s.
VIII	4-1/2	4 4.75	0	0	5	0	1740	4-1/2	1-1/2	300	26	2040	4 8.

All motors General Electric Company Types KT and KQ Form C Induction Motors, 40°, Belt Drive, 2 Bearing. 60 Cycles, 220 Volts, 4 Poles. Synchronous speed 1800 R.P.M.

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TABLE OF DRIVES BETWEEN FLOORS

.

Drive	Net H.P. Trans- mitted	Driving Speed R.P.M.	Shaft Pulley Dia.In.	Driven Speed R.P.M.	Shaft Pulley Dia.In.	Belt Speed 1/min.	Belt Width In.
A	3-1/32	200	24	300	16	1260	3 s.
В	7-1/2	200	30	300	20	1570	6 s.
σ	3-2/3	300	24	300	24	1880	2-1/2 s
D	6-1/2	300	24	300	24	1880	4-1/2 s
E	2-3/4	300	24	300	24	1880	2 s.



February, 1924





February 1924











