SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT

Henry Le Chatelier called and gave me the names of a number of persons who have made a greater or less application of scientific management in France.

He says they have had translated 16,000 copies of Taylor's book; 4,000 of these was given away and 12,000 sold. Mr. Taylor consented to this translation if there should be no profit realized, so the profit on the 12,000 has gone to pay for the 4,000.

He says there is great interest among manufacturers and that there are numbers of experiments going on, engineers and managers applying the principles in their own way, so that it is quite impossible to tell just what the extent is. Some of the greatest experiments are quite unknown. For instance, de Freminville has been working at Cruzot which is entirely closed to the public. Michelin has made application in his factories, but here again it is unknown. He has given a million francs to the placing of the Taylor system in the engineering and mining schools.

Bertrand Thompson is here. Le Chatelier tells me that he does not like him - that he demands too much. He thinks Gilbreath something of the same type as Thompson, but likes Gantt's book. Wants list of the best books.

Says that the workman here are not opposed as a rule to the Taylor system - that where it has been applied carefully and quietly so that the workmen understand there is no difficulty.

The Socialists generally think it a good thing, but will not support it because it works more to the interest of the capitalist than to the workman, but they would use it if Socialism were general.

Speaks of Puget's book and his mis-quotation of Frazier - old story of Baldwin factory and the manager who told the French visitor that he had no old workmen - that they were all in the cemeteries. Also the story about Taylor's attempt to make an ox out of a man.

Speaks of the strike two years before the war at Ranaud where speeding was demanded. If I understood him, this was done by the engineers who had quarreled with the management who wanted to disquiet the workmen.

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Digital Images, 2010. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944. Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

appointment for 3 o'clock - Tuesday

[C Reinert]

# Henry Le Chatelier

1850 - 1936

Membre de l'Institut.

*Professeur à la Faculté des Sciences*

*Professeur à l'Ecole des Mines*

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Digital Images, 2010. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890