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ENGINEERING PROFESSION

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STEAM

The average person has a very vague idea of the meaning of the word *steam*. It may be defined as the *vapor of water*; the hot invisible vapor given off by water at its boiling point. *The visible white cloud popularly known as steam is not steam, but a collection of fine watery particles, formed by the condensation of steam.*

It is important that those who install, or have charge of boilers, should have some knowledge of the nature of steam, its formation and behavior under various conditions. This knowledge should be possessed not only that the plant may be intelligently installed and properly operated, but the person thus engaged should be sufficiently interested in his occupation that he be desirous of knowing all about the important medium he has to deal with.

There are several kinds of steam:

1. Wet steam.
2. Saturated or dry steam.
3. Superheated steam, sometimes called gaseous or steam gas.