

well required by the town in connection with their water-works extension.

TORONTO.—The Board of Control have decided to recommend to Council that the hose contract be given as follows: 2,500 feet to Gutta Percha Company, and 500 feet each to the Canadian Rubber Company, Montreal, the Dunlop and the Durham Rubber Companies, in order that the fire department might learn by experience the value of these brands of hose.

Manitoba.

WINNIPEG.—The new tenders for the supply of lumber to the City of Winnipeg have been opened. T. D. Robinson & Sons tendered at \$21.45; D. E. Sprague at \$22.30. The old price was \$28.45. There are several prices in each tender, as the city requires different dimensions of lumber and prices are submitted on each dimension. The city, however, uses far more of the dimension on which the Robinson price is \$21.45, than of any other. Hence that figure is used to compare with the corresponding price in the present Sprague contract and the saving to the people by letting a new contract is thus approximately determined.

Saskatchewan.

REGINA.—The contract for the construction of the new Parliament Buildings for the Province in this city, has been awarded to Peter Lyall & Sons, of Montreal. The contract price is \$1,424,150, which is \$94,110 less than the architect's estimate for the work. It is intended that work shall be commenced early in July. On the recommendation of Professor Nobbs, chairman of the commission which passed upon the plans for the buildings, and that of Mr. Maxwell, of Montreal, the architect who will supervise the work, the construction will be of brick and stone. The stone will be brought from Tyndall, Man., and Menominee red brick will be used. Six tenders were submitted for the work.

RAILWAYS—STEAM AND ELECTRIC.

Quebec.

RICHMOND.—It is rumoured that within a few weeks construction work will be commenced on the O. M. Railway to complete the line to North Troy, connecting with the C.P.R. at that point. It will take some months to finish the work.

Manitoba.

BRANDON.—The Canadian Northern Railway has large gangs of men at work ballasting the new line from Brandon to Regina, and it is expected it will be thrown open for freight and passenger traffic in the course of a few weeks. It is expected that on the completion of the road a through passenger service will be put on between Winnipeg and Prince Albert.

Saskatchewan.

SASKATOON.—The G.T.P. track laying force working west of here has laid down a record stretch of thirty miles of steel, or an average of five miles per day. When it is remembered that even three miles is splendid work, the above record stands out as exceptional.

British Columbia.

PRINCE RUPERT.—Three more sub-contracts have been let by J. B. L. McDonald, superintendent of construction for Foley, Welch & Stewart, and several other contractors who have looked the ground over will no doubt be allotted work shortly. John Albi, of Spokane, has taken four miles, 27 to 31 located just east of Aberdeen; Antonio Filigno, of Spokane, has mile 38, and D. A. Rankin, of Spokane, took two miles at Hole-in-the-Wall, about fifty miles east of Prince Rupert and where the work is extremely heavy.

PRINCE RUPERT.—Continued fine weather during the week has greatly facilitated progress in every branch of construction work on the Grand Trunk Pacific, and, while the contracts have not all been signed, it may be stated that Foley, Welch & Stewart have sublet all of their roomile contract, with the exception of about fifteen miles north of Graveyard Point. The Prince Rupert Construction Co. have taken a contract of four miles of road on the west

side of Kaien Island; Dan Stewart has two miles above Telegraph Point; and Fred Peterson has three miles north of Graveyard Point, seventy miles east of Prince Rupert. In addition to grading contracts, McDonald & Perry have been given six miles of right-of-way clearing, commencing at a station eight miles east; and Dudley Bros. four miles from Aberdeen. A. Ross also has a clearing contract above Aberdeen.

SEWERAGE AND WATERWORKS.

Manitoba.

WINNIPEG.—The City Council have struck out of the estimate the \$35,000 required to operate the softening plant in connection with the water supply. This will mean the shutting down of the plant.

RECENT FIRES.

TORONTO.—With the sudden roar of an explosion fire burst out on July 8th in the basement of a four-storey brick building at 18-20 Sheppard Street, owned by Jones Brothers & Company, makers of show cases, and occupied by Smith & D'Entremont, comb manufacturers, in the basement and first floor; P. T. Corcoran, builders' contractor, in the second floor, and Jones Bros. & Co., on the top flat. Loss about \$68,000.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Quebec.

MONTREAL.—The management of the Merchants Cotton Company are taking advantage of the idleness of their mill, at St. Henri, to make a number of improvements in their machinery and equipment. The boiler plant is shut down and Jones Underfeed mechanical stokers are being installed under five return tubular boilers of 125 horse-power each. The installation should be completed in about two weeks, and is taking place under a guaranteed saving of 20 per cent. in the fuel bills.

Ontario.

COBOURG.—The Cobourg Town Council are preparing to erect a number of concrete bridges to replace wooden bridges within the town. The price of timber is so high that it is felt that this will be most economical in the long run.

KENORA.—The season's cut of the Rat Portage Lumber Co. is estimated at sixty million feet, or about twenty per cent. under last year.

KINGSTON.—The Council has decided to engage Mr. William Newlands, architect, to prepare plans and specifications for a new shed, and to call for tenders for its construction. The shed will be 65 x 56 feet, of concrete, and without a roof.

PORT ARTHUR.—This town hopes in the future to have an ore dock for shipping iron ore. If a deal now pending for property goes through, the docks will in all probability be built.

TORONTO.—The civic officials inspected the new city dredge. No. 3 was built by Polson's, the contract price being \$72,500. The dredge is 130 feet long and, according to Engineer Fellowes' estimate, can dredge 1,000 cubic feet of sand in 12 hours, drawing three parts water to one of sand. The dredge will soon be sent on its special mission, the diversion of the mouth of the Don.

Manitoba.

WINNIPEG.—The total expenditure for the department for the fiscal year 1908-09 is estimated at \$83,650. The figures to show the exact expenditure for the fiscal year ending April 30th last are not yet complete, but it is thought that the amount expended was about \$59,193.82. The estimates include \$11,000 for the construction and maintenance of a new bridge over Omand Creek, on Portage Avenue. If street railway tracks are to be carried on the structure it