

connected by means of a covered way with a central administration building, the cost of the whole being estimated at \$100,000.—The Road Committee has decided to call for tenders for paving Jacques Cartier square with asphalt in the center and stone blocks on the sides.—Building permits have been issued as follows: J. R. Wilson, three-storey house, 955 Sherbrooke street, cost \$40,000; R. A. White, architect; Dominion Transport Company, three storey stable, Notre Dame and St. Ignace streets, cost \$50,000, Hutchison & Wood, architects.

LONDON, ONT.—The county council have passed a resolution in favor of the erection of a consumptive sanitarium in this county.—H. C. McBride, architect, has taken tenders for the excavation necessary for the Sanitary Dury Co.'s new building.—The county council has instructed the bridge commissioner to prepare plans and secure tenders for the construction of the following bridges: Buttery's flats, over Sydenham river, Mud creek bridge; bridge opposite lot 16, con. 16, London township, and a bridge opposite lot 1, con. 2, London. Regarding Beattie's bridge on the townline, between Dorchester and London, the committee suggested that a steel structure be erected, but that definite action be deferred until the January meeting.

OTTAWA, ONT.—Plans have been prepared for increasing the capacity of the power house of the Capital Power Co. at Deschenes, Que.—Jas. R. Roy, acting secretary Department of Public Works, will receive tenders up to Tuesday, January 1st next, for erection of post office at Nelson, B.C. Plans at above department and at office of J. A. McDonald, architect, Nelson.—It is said that at the coming session of Parliament an appropriation will be granted for a new departmental building to accommodate the supreme court.—The Public School Board have decided to purchase the Pinhey property on which to build a school to replace the one destroyed by fire on Wellington street in April last.—The Ottawa Improvement Commission are obtaining figures from manufacturing firms for the supply of a steam road roller. They are also taking tenders for supply of 2,000 tons of rubber stone.—The authorities of St. Patrick's asylum for the orphans and aged have decided to build an addition to the institution, to cost about \$12,000.—Parliament will likely be asked at the coming session to appropriate from \$50,000 to \$60,000 for a new wing to the printing bureau.—The following building permits have been granted: John Black and Theo. St. Germain, brick veneered house, Gilmour street, cost \$1,500; Madrick Linderville, brick stable, Albert street, cost \$5,000; Ald. S. J. Davis, three brick veneered dwellings on Hickey street, cost \$6,000; Albert Lester, frame dwelling, Bay street, cost \$1,100; L. R. Gauthier, six tenement brick veneered houses, Lorne avenue, cost \$3,600; H. N. Bate, dairy building, Canal street, solid brick, 33x80, cost \$7,500.

TORONTO, ONT.—It is reported that arrangements have been made for the erection of a large residence and a smaller one on Lowther avenue, at the corner of St. George street.—The plans of the National Sanitarium Association include the building of a large sanitarium at Gravenhurst within a year, and at a later date a receiving hospital for advanced cases and an institution for incurable cases.—Tenders are wanted for slating, roofing, tinsmithing, plastering and painting of pair of houses, corner Bathurst and Uster streets.—The council will be asked to take some steps towards paving the approaches to the York street bridge.—At the municipal elections on January 7th the ratepayers will be asked to declare whether or not they are in favor of the city

purchasing and operating the gas works.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Authorities of Bishop Strachan's school, three storey brick addition to present building, cost \$7,000; W. J. Brown, two storey brick residence, 105 Tindill avenue, cost \$3,000; F. H. Little, two two-storey brick dwellings, 254 6 Avenue road, cost \$5,000; Mrs. Mirjire Murray, two storey store and dwelling, 26 Westmoreland avenue; The Separate School Board, two storey brick and stone school, Bond street near Wilton avenue, cost \$20,000, A. W. Holmes, architect, William Kean, contractor; John McIvor, pair semi-detached brick dwellings, 44 and 46 Pearson avenue, cost \$2,400, James Harvey, architect, Dunkley Bros., contractors; King Bros., pair semi-detached brick dwellings, west side Albany avenue, near Bloss street, cost \$4,000, Self Bros., builders; W. C. Jephcott, two storey frame and plaster summer residence on Conner avenue, Island Park, cost \$1,200, J. F. Brown, architect, Whitlan Bros., contractors.

FIRES.

Planing mill of W. F. Lawrence at Maple Creek, N. W. T., almost totally destroyed; loss \$2,500, insurance \$500.—Building of Whitby Evaporating Co. at Whitby, Ont., partially destroyed.—Fire at Parkhill, Ont., on 9th inst., destroyed Owen's furniture store, the Bell Telephone office and Dr. Caw's residence.—The following business places in Winnipeg were destroyed by fire last week: Joseph Watson, confectionery; Charles Dowell, tobacco; Jas. Collins, tailor; Bowes & Reeves, hatters; Roberts' cobbler shop; Auer Gas Company's ware-rooms.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

HULL, QUE.—Pressed brick residence on Main street for N. Page: Christie Lynott, contractor.

SHAWINIGAN FALLS, QUE.—Carrier, Luine & Co., of Lewis, have secured the contract for supply of 10,000 feet of water-works pipe to be used here.

ST. THOMAS, ONT.—Steel bridge for Lake Erie & Detour River railway: Superstructure, Walkerville Steel Co.; masonry, Ponsford Bros, this city.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—Thos. Gilliland has been awarded the contract to build new wharves at Gondola Point and at Dunham's, on the Reach above Oak Point.

TORONTO, ONT.—The Board of Control have accepted the tender of G. N. Reynolds & Co. for 400 chairs for the new technical school building, at the price of \$1,470.—The Separate School Board have accepted the tender of W. J. McGuire for the heating, ventilation and plumbing of St. Michael's school, at \$4,100.

VANCOUVER, B. C.—Mr. T. Bradbury, has secured contract to build the government building at Rossland.—Mr. E. Cook has contracted to build a brick and stone building on Carrall street, for Messrs. Todd & Son, of Victoria; Mr. Thos. Hooper, architect.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—Tenders have been accepted by the city as follows: E. Doidge, 1,500 cords cedar paving wood, at \$9.70 per cord; W. F. Lee, sewer on Nena street and Elgin avenue, \$1,705; Dobson & Jackson, granolithic walk on Bannatyne avenue, \$440.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The harbor commissioners have accepted the following tenders for stone work for the flood protection wall: Cut stone for coping, O. Martineau & Fils; cut stone for ashlar, Roche & Lemay; rubble stone, Martineau & Prenouveau; broken stone, Z. Dufresne; sand, Montreal Sand & Gravel Company; cement, F. Hyde & Co.

OTTAWA, ONT.—Three tenders were received by the city for supply of steam

fire engine, as follows: American Fire Engine Company, Seneca Falls, N. Y., weight 7,000 pounds, capacity 750 gallons per minute, with a five year guarantee, \$5,619.25; Waterous Engine Company, Brantford, same capacity and otherwise in concurrence with the specification, \$4,995; Manchester Locomotive Works, Manchester, New Hampshire, \$6,150. The tender of the Waterous Co. has been accepted.

THE ASBESTOS HOUSE OF COUNT VON WALDERSEE.

Readers of the Engineering Record who have taken part in military operations may be interested in the asbestos house which has been shipped to China as the field headquarters of Count Von Waldersee. It was made by the firm of Alfred Calmon in Hamburg from the plans of Mr. H. Hagn, a German civil engineer. When first assembled 8 hours were necessary to put the house together, and 3 hours were needed to take it down. This time was apparently considered a trifle long for military operations, and the designer was induced to prepare a "carefully worked-out plan of setting up," which was followed when the house was put on exhibition in Bremerhaven, resulting in a marked reduction in the time required. The beams, timbers and similar long pieces of the structure can be made up into bundles, and the asbestos plates, doors, windows and the like can be packed in 150 chests, each provided with four handles "for easy transportation."

The house has a length of 55½ ft. a width of 37 feet, and a height to the top of the walls of 11¼ feet and 15½ feet to the ridge-pole. Internally it is divided into five rooms of 195 to 450 square feet floor space each, for the field marshal and his adjutants, a bath-room, and a room for two servants. The timber framework is made of selected fir put together with screws and mortises so as to be easily assembled and taken apart. The floor girders, which are laid on the leveled surface of the ground, are three in number and carry 16 crossbeams on which the flooring is laid and to which the timbers of the walls are bolted. The framing is further strengthened by guys of wire rope. The asbestos plates are very light, water-tight and incombustible. The outer walls are double, with a ½-inch air space between them, while the partitions consist of but one thickness of these plates. Each is held by a light wood frame which fits into the framing of the house. The plates for the roof are held by clips. The planks forming the floor have been given an asbestos protection on their lower side in order to keep out the cold, dampness and "vapors from the ground." Mats of cocoa fiber and carpets have also been provided. The glazed windows are provided with shutters and window screens to keep out insects. Five German stoves with stovepipes of plate iron have been provided to heat the rooms.