

Tenders will be asked this week for a site for a new cattle market.—The city engineer expects to complete, at an early date, specifications for a commercial power plant, after which tenders for same will be invited. —The Toronto Electric Light Co., G.N.W. and C.P.R. Telegraph Companies will jointly construct a conduit for carrying the wires of the different companies on Yonge street from King to the Esplanade. The cost is estimated at \$29,000.

### FIRES.

The following buildings have recently been destroyed by fire: Burgoyne Hotel at Paisley, Ont. The owner is Mr. Hartley.—The Hillard opera house, the Golden restaurant, Brent's flour and feed store, Mrs. Sharp's dwelling and several other buildings at Rat Portage, Ont.—Residence of Wellington Bristol, near Moosomin, N.W.T., no insurance. —Furniture factory of John McGuire at Winnipeg, Man., together with machinery; loss \$5,000, no insurance. —Hotel of James Johnson, Simmons' residence and a grocery store at Haganan, near Amsterdam, Ont.—Residence of John H. Lewis at Niagara, Ont.; loss between \$1,000 and \$2,000. Hospital building at St. Hyacinthe, Que.; loss \$20,000. Baptist church at Ingersoll, Ont.; loss \$15,000, insurance \$12,000.—Large stone structure on James street south, Hamilton, known as the Spectator Building. The property was owned by John Proctor, and was valued at nearly \$50,000.

### CONTRACTS AWARDED.

MADOC, ONT.—W. H. O'Flynn has let contracts for new brick block.

LYNDHURST, ONT.—School building. Taber Bros., of Morton, contractors.

ESSEX, ONT.—Town hall building: John Woth. Essex, contractor, price \$5,250.

CORINTH, ONT.—Methodist parsonage: William Andrews, of Richmond, contractor.

BATH, ONT.—Rectory for St. John's church: Dunwoody & Brown, Newburg, contractors.

HINTONBURG, ONT.—Public school building: Austin & Flood, contractors, price \$6,637.

OUTREMONT, QUE.—Sewer on Hutchison street: Keegan & Heffernan, contractors, price \$3,000.

MOOSE JAW, N. W. T.—Sub-structure of steel bridge over Qu'Appelle river; J. A. Ferguson, contractor.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—Residence on Canterbury street for Leonard B. Knight: Mooney & Sons, contractors for masonry; Edward Bates, carpenter work; Thomas Campbell, plumbing.

EDMONTON, N. W. T.—Brick block for J. H. Gariepy; P. Anderson, contractor; building of solid brick, 25 x 75 feet, 3½ storeys high, with stone foundation and mansard roof.

COLLINGWOOD, ONT.—Bryan Mfg. Co., this town, have received contract from the Midland Elevator Co. to furnish 600,000 feet of two inch dressed plank for new elevator there.

SUDBURY, ONT.—J. G. Henry, this town, has secured the contract for building trestle, 1,330 feet in length, for the Canadian Copper Co. The work will require 400,000 feet of lumber.

ST. MARKS, ONT.—Pullyblank Bros. are building a brick residence for Thos. Marriot, a \$3,000 residence for Hugh McCorquodale, Embro, and a residence for George Thurlow, East Nissouri.

STRATFORD, ONT.—Cambria street and Well street sewers: L. A. Causey, contractor Well street, price \$5,772.79; William Stuart Stevenson, Port Huron, contractor Cambria street, \$5,425.85.

SARNIA, ONT.—Brick laundry and driving shed at hospital: masonry, Robert Corrick; carpenter work, George A. Proctor; tin-smithing and plumbing, W. J. Barrie; painting and glazing, J. N. Watson.

ST. THOMAS, ONT.—Bridge over Otter Creek between townships of Middleton and Bayham; James Finney, contractor, \$475.

Other tenderers: Gerhard & Griffin, \$500, R. Conley, \$480, R. Forsyth, \$505.

ST. CATHARINES, ONT.—Stone: Queenston Quarry Co., contractors, price \$1, \$1.10 and \$1.20 per yard for 3 inch, 2 inch and ¾ inch stone. —Granolithic walks, Newman Bros., contractors, price 11½ cts. per square foot.

OTTAWA, ONT.—Rebuilding St. Patrick's church: Joseph Bourque, of Hull, contractor, cost \$25,000. Improvements will include tower 200 feet high and possibly a chime of bells. —\$7,000 of debentures: W. H. Brouse, of Toronto, purchaser.

LONDON, ONT.—Following are lowest tenderers for Collegiate Institute addition: masonry, J. Luney; carpenter work, John Shopland; painting and glazing, Lockhart Bros.; plastering, Robert Gash; galvanized iron work, H. J. Boyd; slating, J. Whittaker; plumbing, F. C. Hunt; electric wiring, London Electric Co.

HALIFAX, N. S.—Henry Busch, architect, has let contract for a business block for Dillon Bros. to S. A. Marshall.—J. C. Dumaresq, architect, has let contracts for the following buildings: St. Andrews Presbyterian church, North Sydney, C. B., to contractor McMillan, of that place, to be of wood, heated by hot water, cost \$8,000; residence for R. Silles, North Sydney, to same contractor, hot water heating, cost \$4,300; Pine Hill College library, this city, to Rhodes, Curry & Co., of Amherst, brick with stone trimmings, hot water heating, cost \$8,000; Dimock's block at Windsor, N. S., to Mr. Brown, of that place; T. F. Conrney's store, this city, to M. E. Keefe, brick and stone. —H. S. Tremaine, architect, has let the contract for the Duggles building at Bridgetown to Curry, Brown & Birch.

MONTREAL, QUE.—C. St. Jean, architect, has awarded contracts for a residence for Mr. Doheny, Verdun, as follows: Masonry, etc., Chapeau & Lemay; brickwork, Michael Bracken; porous tile partitions, Adolphe Vervort; carpenter and joiner's work, Henry Raith; plumbing, roofing, heating, electric wiring, etc., Z. Cusson; plastering, Charbonneau & Godford; painting and glazing, O. Canchon.—Gamelin & Huot, architects, have accepted tenders for five houses for Estate Victor Beaudry, Mayor street, as follows: Masonry and brickwork, Boucher & Huberdeau; carpenter and joiner's work, G. & E. Bagg; electric wiring, Canada Electric Co.; other contracts not let.—Alterations to town hall and fire station of St. Louis: Juteau & Co., of Mile End, contractors.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—The Finance Committee have recommended the acceptance of the tender of E. Kennedy, Salmon River, Newfoundland, for \$10,000 worth of 15 years 4 per cent debentures at 104, and \$10,000 40 year 3½ per cent. debentures at 97. —Alterations to Caldwell block: Mason work, D. D. Wood; carpenter work, Thomas Harrington; steam heating, Cotter Bros; painting and glazing, James Payne; electrical work, J. A. Torrey; cost \$20,000.—Lawrie Bros' store at Morris: (S. Hooper, architect): Carpenter work, Murray & Osbourne; masonry, Davidson Bros. —Contracts for grading on the Southeastern railway have been let to Messrs. Sinnott, Fisher and George H. Strevel.—The tender of Dick, Banning & Co., for the annual supply of lumber, has finally been accepted by the city.

TORONTO, ONT.—The John L. Lawlor Estate, through their attorney, Messrs. Foy & Kelly, has awarded contracts for the entire remodelling of the property, No. 12, 14 and 16 King street west. Brickwork, Edward Gearing; carpenter work, Moir & McCall; plastering, George Rudler; iron and steel work, St. Lawrence Foundry Co.; painting, C. Davies & Co.; lighting, Luxfer Prism Co.; galvanized iron, A. B. Ormsby & Co. The architect is Mr. F. H. Herbert.—Store and dwelling on Berkeley street for Richard Magone (Simpson & Ellis, architects): Carpenter work, Scott &

Cross; masonry, W. J. Chick; painting, Green & Son; heating, Hallam Furnace Co.; roofing and metal work, Hutson & Son; plumbing, Edward Aikins; plastering not settled.—Residence for Reuben Armstrong (Simpson & Ellis, architects): Masonry, Schultz & Butt; carpenter work, Scott & Cross; heating and plumbing, S. Riding; painting, J. Wells; plastering, Hoidge & Son; roofing and iron work, W. Matthews.—F. H. Herbert, architect, has awarded the carpenter, brick and painting work of an Island cottage for L. G. Christie to David Youle, of Ontario street, and the mason and brick work of a residence on St. George street for Thomas W. Horn, to Oakley & Homes; other trades not let.

### UNFAIR TREATMENT OF TENDERERS.

TORONTO, May 17, 1898

To the Editor of the CONTRACT RECORD.

SIR,—That many of the advertisements published by municipalities and intended to catch the eye of Toronto contractors asking for tenders on public works, are merely for the purpose of using the outside tenderer to prevent the local contractors from exacting high prices is well known by sad experience to the Toronto trade.

In response to such an advertisement sent me from St. Catharines for cement walks, I visited that city on the 5th inst. Having learned after my arrival there that the council of last year had permitted the amending of tenders by local men, in order to throw out an outside one that was the lowest, I accompanied my tender with a letter of conditions, enclosing the tender in a separate envelope with postage prepaid and endorsed "If not opened by Board of Works of St. Catharines to be mailed to No. 242 George street, Toronto." My letter was as follows:

To the Chairman of the Board of Works, St. Catharines Ont.

DEAR SIR,—In response to your advertisement for tenders for concrete sidewalks, I enclose one in a sealed envelope, and which I submit only on the following conditions: 1st, that if my tender is the lowest, in form and otherwise satisfactory, it shall not be passed over in favor of a local tenderer unless the difference is less than 5 per cent., a local tenderer to be construed as a citizen whose name is on the last assessment list, and that amending of tenders shall not be allowed after one tender has been opened. 3rd, if the work is not awarded on present tenders that neither the enclosed price nor my name shall be made known to other than your chairman. 4th, if the work should be retendered for without material change in the specifications, that you will recommend to your council that the lowest tenderer be indemnified for his trouble and expense to the extent of say \$20.

If these conditions do not meet with your approval, please do not open my tender, but kindly mail it to destination as endorsed thereon. I am led to make these conditions, as I have been put to much expense in responding to advertisements of municipalities whose only object was to use outsiders as a check upon local contractors. As I am not yet convinced that my mission in this world is to fix prices for my fellow tradesmen, I respectfully decline to be made use of for that purpose longer. I am, gentlemen,

Yours most respectfully,  
THE ENCLOSED TENDERER.

I do not think any of my conditions were onerous or unreasonable, but on the contrary recognize their right to prefer a local man to a limited extent. My tender arrived here the following day unopened for I had stitched and waxed it to prevent its contents being discovered without first consenting to my terms.

Apart from being robbed of my time and expenses I am satisfied with the result, for I have succeeded in getting the City Fathers of St. Catharines to admit by their action (if not in words) that their advertising for tenders was not bona fide.

It is for the purpose of informing the trade of the result that I trouble you with this letter.

Yours truly,  
E. FARQUHAR.

BELLHOUSE, DILLON & CO., 30 St. Francois Xavier St., Montreal

Sole Agents for the Compagnie Generale des Asphaltes de France (Rock Asphalt).

PORTLAND CEMENT NORTH'S CONDOR

Paving and Fire Brick a Specialty

SITTING LION and WHITE CROSS Brands

NORTH'S "CONDOR" BRAND AWARDED FIRST PRIZE AND GOLD MEDAL AT THE ANTWERP EXHIBITION