

# The Canadian Engineer

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## The Canadian Engineer

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### CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE.

|                                  | Page. |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Editorial:</b>                |       |
| The Quebec Bridge .....          | 641   |
| <b>Leading Articles:</b>         |       |
| Precipitation for August .....   | 642   |
| Application of Oil Burning ..... | 643   |
| Concrete Retaining Wall .....    | 645   |
| Smoke Abatement .....            | 646   |
| Kokomo Steam Turbine Plant ..... | 651   |
| <b>A Page of Costs:</b>          |       |
| Concrete Sidewalks .....         | 647   |
| Precise Levelling .....          | 647   |
| Asphalt Pavements .....          | 648   |
| <b>Correspondence:</b>           |       |
| The Metric System .....          | 649   |
| Montreal Letter .....            | 649   |
| Construction News .....          | 652   |
| Market Conditions .....          | 23    |

### TO OUR READERS.

If you are coming to the Canadian National Exhibition  
in Toronto in September, we would be pleased to have you  
call on us. Have your mail forwarded in care of our office  
if you do not know where you will be staying. It will be  
pleasure to look after it for you.

### THE QUEBEC BRIDGE.

The announcement has been made, and already the three members of the Commission entrusted with the design and erection of the new Quebec Bridge are at work.

Very little comment on the selection has been made, but it is generally believed that the Government has secured men of wide knowledge, varied experience and accustomed to handling large undertakings. They are engineers also who are as familiar with design and its details as with construction—and this is very necessary.

Some months ago we suggested the advisability of an all-Canadian Commission, or at the very least a Commission, the majority of which were engineers resident in Canada. It is to be regretted that in the appointments Canadian talent, Canadian skill and Canadian ability and industry were not more fully recognized by those entrusted with the selection. Half a dozen Boards of Engineers could be selected, the majority of each board being resident in Canada, who would carry the undertaking to successful completion.

We do not object so much to engineers from other countries drawing Canadian fees—the money will be well and justly earned. We do object to Canadian money erecting at our Eastern gateway a design that will, say, through the coming years: “Canada did not contain in 1908 engineers capable of undertaking the engineering work the country required.” If Canadian engineers were capable of investigating the wreck, Canadian engineers are competent to re-erect. One familiar with the past thirty years in Canada must admit that during that period no work requiring engineering skill has been completed by the foreign engineer, but that there were resident engineers capable of undertaking equal tasks.

With the experience of the past to guide there was no excuse for seeking shelter under the phrase, “The best the world can furnish,” and refuse to recognize men of standing in the engineering profession in Canada.

The Canadian practitioners in surgery, medicine and law have developed a professional spirit which has permeated into our life until it is never suggested that members of these professions be imported for important work. Canadians have made good in other professions; they have made good—they are making good in engineering, and should have a larger representation on the Quebec Bridge Commission.

The Government should at once appoint a fourth member to the Commission, and in so doing must not forget the members of the profession in Canada. Such an appointment would give Canadians a better representation, and would require a more thorough understanding by all members of the Commission of controversial points.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

The comparative statement as to building permits issued by the city of Toronto shows an improving condition in the trade. The total value of permits issued for August was \$1,274,185, as against \$1,201,410 for the corresponding month of last year. The total value