

OWING to the state of war existing, the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia has decided to postpone, until a more favorable time, the competition for the design of the Federal Parliament Houses to be built at Canberra. It was intended that the competition should be open to architects from all parts of the world, and that it should close in London and Melbourne during March, 1915.

* * *

THE damage done to Rheims Cathedral is officially given in a note issued from Bordeaux by the French Under-Secretary of State for Fine Arts, which says:

"Rheims Cathedral was shelled several times. It had all the roofing burned and the stained-glass windows riddled, and to a large extent broken. The northern tower of the facade, which was struck by shells in the upper part over the portal, was seriously damaged by flames. The sculptural decorations and statues are irreparable. Inside the church, straw, which had been collected for the wounded, caught fire, generally damaging the stonework. The wall facings are burnt and the masonry charred. Instructions have been given to protect the vaults by building temporary roofing."

* * *

BRUGES, A RECORD AND AN IMPRESSION, is the title of a new book by Mary Stratton. This treatise contains one hundred and twenty illustrations by Charles Wade, all of which furnish an added interest on account of the pleasing and expressive technique so characteristic of all the artist's work. This book, which has been in preparation for some time, should be of lively interest to-day, when the valor of the Belgians has aroused the admiration of the whole civilized world. What is written of Bruges is typical of Belgium. The spirit of the men who built the old Flemish city, who fought for its freedom and sacrificed their lives in its defence, is the same spirit that has impelled the heroic resistance with which the Belgians have met their invaders.

Bruges is one of the most beautiful mediæval cities in the world. Travellers of all nationalities have felt her fascination. Much remains to recall the days when Bruges, the capital of West Flanders, was distinguished both as a centre of commerce and a meeting place of scholars, poets, artists and men famed for their rank and valor. An added interest is given to the book by the end-papers, which consist of a useful map of Bruges drawn in Mr. Wade's characteristic manner. The work is published by B. T. Batsford, Ltd., 94 High Holborn, London, at a cost of \$1.25.

* * *

SEVERAL novel features have been introduced into construction of the Morris Folding

Tubular Steel Tripod, described in bulletin Y17, a copy of which has been submitted to us by the Herbert Morris Crane & Hoist Company, Limited. One feature which will appeal to contractors, structural engineers, stone workers and other users of this kind of lifting gear is the ability to fold up the tripod without removing any bolts or pins. A broad flange is provided on each foot to enable the tripod to carry a load on soft ground, and a square point gives a good "grip" on harder surfaces. Another new feature is the provision of a small pulley at the top of the tripod by which a small rope can be used to haul up the heavy lifting block or to handle very light loads quickly. It is also worthy of note that even in the one-ton capacity the tripod is light enough for one man to carry on his shoulder.

* * *

THE American Gas Institute and the National Commercial Gas Association have authorized a joint committee to offer a prize of \$150.00 for the best designs of a replace heater, burning gas. The committee wants the design of a heater which may be placed in the open fireplace of the library, living-room or dining-room of an artistically furnished dwelling, appropriate for the purpose and artistically consistent with the furnishings of the room. The appearance when unlighted, is of equal importance with the appearance when lighted, and in awarding the prize, these two features will be given equal prominence.

The award will be made by the committee on the recommendation of a jury composed of three members, an architect (to be nominated by the American Institute of Architects) a member of the American Gas Institute and a member of the National Commercial Gas Association. The competition will close on March 1st, 1915, at which time the designs must be in the hands of the Chairman of the Joint Committee, Wm. J. Serrill, 1401 Arch street, Philadelphia, Penna. Mr. Serrill will also furnish further information upon request.

* * *

"CERTAINTY"

is what is sought for by everyone. With the Architect and Engineer this is particularly true

The Dietzgen Instruments and Materials are manufactured in our own Factories under the discipline of establishing Accuracy and Dependability; always with the idea of the exacting purpose for which they are intended, and not simply as merchandise to sell—to co-operate and verify with exactness the thought behind their use.

EUGENE DIETZGEN CO., LTD.,
116 Adelaide St. W., Toronto.