

Temple Building.

THE illustration on the opposite page represents the magnificent Temple at the corner of Richmond and Bay Streets, Toronto, which is the home of the INDEPENDENT ORDER OF FORESTERS. The building has been erected under the special superintendence of Dr. Oronhyatekha, Supreme Chief Ranger of the Order, and will be, if not the best, certainly among the best and most complete of its kind in the Dominion. The erection of this handsome edifice was commenced in the spring of 1895, the corner-stone being laid by his Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen, Governor-General of Canada, on the 30th day of May in that year.

The first two stories are built of Credit Valley brown stone, and the remaining eight stories of brownish red brick, trimmed throughout with Credit Valley and Connecticut brown stone. The whole structure is lined with, and the steel therein is protected by fire-proof porous terra cotta of superior manufacture. As a matter of fact the whole building is as thoroughly fire-proof as modern science can make it, there being nothing to burn except the window frames and sashes.

The building contains two thoroughly fire-proof elevator shafts, in which are three of the largest and finest elevators in the city, besides the stairs, which are of steel, slate and marble.

The roof, also, is of absolutely fire-proof material, on which bonfires might be built without injury to it or the building.

There are four tiers of fire-proof vaults in the building, extending from the basement to the ninth story. To guard against any possible danger from fire, within or without, two standing water pipes have been placed in the building with steam pump to make pressure, and hose connections on every floor.

The Temple is heated by steam, and lighted by electricity produced on the premises by the latest and most improved machinery. Ventilation has received special attention, and the sanitary arrangements are in every way up to date.

The Temple is intended as an office building, but a portion of it will be devoted to other purposes. A bank occupies part of the main floor while near it is another large monetary institution, and a public house occupies rooms on three floors. In the fourth and fifth stories of the western wing are magnificent Court Rooms and necessary adjuncts for Forestry and other society meetings. A magnificent assembly room is immediately above these, occupying the sixth and seventh stories. The eighth story is wholly occupied by the Supreme Court Offices and staff. The ninth and tenth stories are handsomely fitted up for the use of the Masonic fraternity.

The Temple has been erected under the professional supervision of Mr. George W. Gouinlock, who has certainly succeeded in producing an excellently planned and ornate building, and so well proportioned that few would realize when looking at it that it is the highest building yet erected in Canada. As a matter of fact, it is 140 feet high, exclusive of the tower, which adds 45 feet, making a total height of 185 feet from the sidewalk to the top of the tower. From the roof of this eminence an extensive view may be enjoyed of the city and surrounding country, and even Niagara Falls may be seen.

The building is most conveniently located, being only half a block from the new City Hall, less than 200 feet from the City Registry Office, a block distant from Osgoode Hall, and the same distance from several lines of electric cars.

The Temple Cafe, lately established, is a welcome addition to Toronto's justly popular places of refreshment. It is an innovation in restaurants, for hardly will there be found its superior on the continent. On the ground floor or basement are the restaurant and lunch counters. On the first floor are dining rooms superbly furnished and equipped with all that modern art can command; no expense has been spared, and the cuisine challenges comparison with the best. Mr. T. G. Davey, the manager, is a man of long experience, and his record is one of continued success.