

Selection of Cement Materials.

The importance of careful discrimination in the selection of materials for the making of concrete is forcibly shown by Leonard C. Wason, president of the Aberthaw Construction Company, Boston, in a recent paper, which is in part as follows:—

"In the selection of sand care should be used to avoid that which is fine and not sharp. The difference in strength due to these qualities alone in some tests of the writer's on sand that was used in foundations amounted to a loss of 52 per cent. from standard sand. Dirt should also be avoided. There has been some controversy as to how much can be permitted, but the writer believes that the ordinary test which is performed on the work of throwing a handful into a glass of water is sufficiently reliable for all cases. When the water is badly muddied and remains clouded for a considerable time, the sand should be washed or rejected.

"There is little difference obtained in results of broken stone or gravel. By actual test the writer has found that a broken stone having a rough surface with angular fractures will give an increase in strength over a rough bank gravel of about 15 per

cent. in most cases. In some, however, the gravel has given the greatest strength. If the stone has a glossy surface, such as is found with some trap rocks, the gravel will always give the greatest strength. In the first instance, if the specifications required 1:3:6 broken stone concrete and there is a difference in cost between broken stone and gravel screenings of 0.02 per cubic foot, it will be cheaper to use a mixture of 1:2½:5 with gravel and still obtain an equal strength with the broken stone. The writer makes the rule never to allow the size of stone in its greatest dimension to be more than half the thickness of the work into which the concrete is to be placed. In large size work, very much larger stone can be used than is ordinarily done, with very good results, the only limitation being that of convenience in handling."

A New Cement Company.

A despatch from Deseronto says that papers in connection with the securing of a large tract of land near Shannonville were signed and the deal consummated whereby some 800 acres pass under the control of Messrs. Fred. R. Linghan, the South

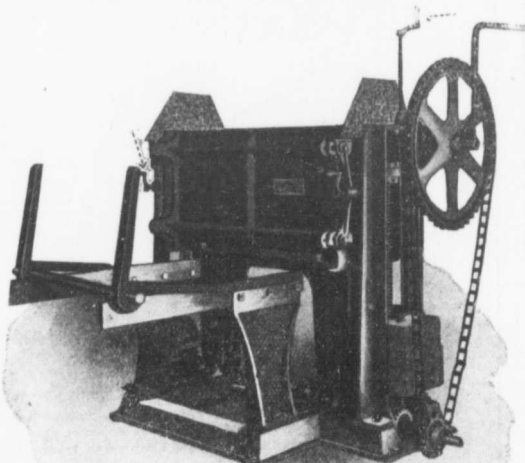
American magnate, and Mr. H. Corby, the well-known former distiller, both residents of this city. These gentlemen are said to be at the head of a company which will go into the manufacture of lime and cement on a large scale.

Owen Sound's Missing Link.

At the meeting of the Owen Sound Board of Trade the Railway Committee advocated securing the missing link between Owen Sound and Meaford under a traffic arrangement similar to that of the Guelph Junction Railway, if it is not possible to secure the construction of the line by either of the three systems of railway operating in Ontario. The local railway company would readily concur in the proposition.

Mr. John R. Booth, the great captain of industry of the Ottawa valley, celebrated his 81st birthday recently. He will be confined to his home for some weeks as a result of an accident which befell him. While superintending the making of a flume leading to his big sulphite mill, which is just approaching completion, a heavy beam fell upon him. His leg was severely bruised and sprained.

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