

Rivor Manufacturing Co.—The Queen's avenue Methodist church at London, Ont., together with the Wesley hall, was totally destroyed by fire on Saturday last. The loss will reach \$50,000, the pipe organ alone being valued at \$9,000. Insurance, \$26,000. Reconstruction will be commenced as soon as arrangements can be completed.—The Villa hotel at Stonewall, Man., and three adjoining residences were burned on Saturday last. The buildings were owned by L. A. Nares, of Winnipeg. Loss \$8,000; small insurance.—W. L. Hibbard's saw mill at Farnham, Que., was destroyed by fire on Tuesday last. The electric light plant, situated in the building was also burned.—The Great Northwest Central Railway roundhouse, at Chater, near Brandon, Man., has been burned. The village of Coaticook, Que., was partially destroyed by fire on Thursday of last week, the following buildings being burned: Webster's building, Bachand's block, T. T. Shurleff's block, Cleveland block, and Francoeur's dry goods store. The loss will reach \$70,000, half of which is covered by insurance.—The residence of J. Lincoln, of Sparta, Ont., has been burned.—H. C. Ree's lumber and stave mill at Woodslee, Ont., was destroyed by fire on Tuesday last. Loss, \$7,000; insurance \$3,000.—At Kingsville, Ont., on the 5th inst., fire destroyed the Conklin, Dunlop and Andrew Wigle's blocks. Loss, \$20,000; mostly covered by insurance.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Mr. C. St. Jean has awarded the contract for the erection of a Presbytery at St. Mathias, P. Q., to A. Casavant, of Sorel, P. Q., for all trades.

GUELPH, ONT.—R. Mahoney & Son have secured the contract for the erection of Ald. McHardy's block of five houses on Glasgow street. The cost will be about \$6,000.

AMHERST, N. S.—Rhodes Curry & Co. have been awarded a contract by the Dominion Coal Co., for 300 cars. They have also received an order from the Dominion Atlantic railway for 13 box cars of the latest pattern.

TORONTO, ONT.—The contract for a new fence in the Rosedale ravine, through the St. James cemetery lands, has been awarded by the Parks and Gardens Committee to C. H. Clark, of Dowling ave., at 42 cents per lineal foot. The total cost will be about \$690.

HALIFAX, N. S.—Samuel Marshall has been awarded the contract to build the new structure for the Deaf and Dumb Institute. The building will cost \$43,000. The other tenderers were Messrs. Brookfield, Cawsey, Keefe and McInnis & Son. Work on the new building will be commenced at once.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Valuable stone quarries are said to have been discovered, at St. Raymond, Que.

Matheson, Cameron & Matheson is a new firm of contractors and masons in Montreal.

J. B. Tremblay & Co., sash and door manufacturers, Montreal, have commenced business.

The plant of the Hamilton Bridge Company will be offered for sale by public auction on February 18.

H. O'Brien and W. J. Ryan have formed a partnership in Montreal as painters, under the style of H. O'Brien & Co.

A statement of the affairs of Bowman & Moore, hardware merchants, Hamilton, show liabilities of \$30,522.73 and assets of \$54,197.82. T. H. Pratt has been appointed assignee.

The new C. P. R. cement works at Vancouver, B. C., have commenced operations. They have a capacity of 600 barrels a week, and are under the management of S. Warsap.

F. P. O'Leary, of Buffalo, is said to have sold to Hannaford Bros., of Hamilton, Ont., the sole right to manufacture his patent plastering cement in Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia, and the latter will establish factories for this purpose at an early date.

The Montreal Quarry Co., (Ltd.), applying for incorporation for the purpose of acquiring quarries and quarrying manufacturing building stone. The applicants are P. Alex Peterson, C. E., P. Lyall, D. A. McCaskill, W. G. Reid and George McDougall, all of Montreal. The capital stock will be \$200,000.

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers was held on January 24th and 25th. There were present Messrs. Stuart Howard, N. McNab, R. M. Hannaford, W. McLea Walbank, A. Brittain, E. A. Stone, Granville C. Cunningham, T. R. Henderson, E. S. M. Lovelace, G. de G. Languedoc, J. W. Lesage, E. de B. Leprohon, J. G. McGregor, E. Marceau, James Ewing, Harry Nelson, P. A. Peterson, K. W. Blackwell, R. Bickerdike, Jr., Cecil B. Smith, John Kennedy, J. H. Antliff, Duncan McPherson, G. H. Duggan, P. W. St. George, J. M. McCarthy, F. R. Redpath, C. J. Armstrong, E. P. Hannaford, J. M. Shanly and H. J. Sproule, of Montreal; Thos. Breen, L. A. Vallée, A. Rhodes and E. A. Hore, of Quebec; Hugh D. Lumsden and Henry A. Gray, of Toronto; J. A. Wilde, of Sault Ste. Marie; R. L. Sheraton, of Boston; E. E. W. Dodwell, of Halifax, and M. J. Butler, of Deseronto.

Mr. P. A. Peterson was in the chair. The minutes of the annual general meeting held on the 9th and 10th of January, 1894, were read and approved. The following gentlemen were appointed scrutineers of the ballot for the election of officers and members of council: Messrs. R. N. Hannaford, E. S. M. Lovelace and E. A. Stone. The following were appointed scrutineers for the ballot of the nominating committee: Messrs. W. McNab, F. R. Henderson and R. Bickerdike, Jr. The President then announced that two excursions had been arranged for and that the members could go on whichever they preferred. A dinner had also been arranged for in the evening and the Secretary took the names of those who wished to attend and the meeting then adjourned to Friday the 25th, at 10 a.m.

The following day the convention reopened with Mr. P. A. Peterson in the chair, and the Secretary, Prof. C. H. McLeod read the report on the work of the Society during the past year. It was moved by Prof. Bovey, seconded by Mr. Dodwell that the report be amended so as to include the names of the Committee on "An International Gauge," and that it be adopted and printed in the transactions of the Society.

In the absence of Mr. Macdougall, of the Committee on Professional Status,

Mr. Walter Shanly was requested to read the report of the committee appointed to consider the advisability of making the Society a close corporation. No special recommendations were made in the report but a general recommendation. Mr. Macdougall found that in Chicago and other places that the recommendations made here were not favorably received by other corporations and so the committee had agreed in giving this in very general terms. Mr. Dodwell said the subject was of most vital importance to the Society and the profession at large and regretted that the time at the disposal of the committee had been too short to have a bill prepared to be presented and discussed at this convention. It was moved by Mr. Shanly, seconded by Mr. Dodwell and resolved "That the report of the Committee on Professional Status be received and the Committee be continued." Some discussion followed as to whether power should be given to the Committee to obtain legal advice, and it was finally moved by Mr. M. J. Butler seconded by Mr. Thos. Drummond. "That the Committee on Professional Status be continued and that they prepare a draft bill for a close corporation to be submitted to the Council at the earliest moment. That the Council be authorized to secure counsel's opinion on such bill if in their judgment they think advisable." An amendment was made to this to the effect that the opinion of the members be first secured and then that the committee proceed with the work of formulating bills of incorporation. Being put to vote this amendment was carried.

In the afternoon session of the 25th the following were elected officers and members of Council:—President, Thos. Monro, Coteau Landing; 1st Vice-President, Herbert Wallis, Montreal; 2nd Vice-President, Martin Murphy, Halifax; 3rd Vice-President, Wm. T. Jennings, Toronto; Treasurer, K. W. Blackwell, Montreal; Secretary, C. H. McLeod, Montreal; Librarian, William McNab, Montreal.

Council—H. T. Bovey, D. MacPherson, W. J. Sproule, J. M. Shanly, G. C. Cunningham, Montreal; H. D. Lumsden, J. Galbraith, Toronto; J. D. Barnett, Stratford, Ont.; R. Surtees, Ottawa; W. G. Thompson, St. Catharines, Ont.; H. N. Ruttan, Winnipeg; H. B. Smith, Vancouver; L. A. Vallée, Quebec; P. S. Archibald, Moncton, N. B.; C. E. W. Dodwell, Halifax.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION.

Jos. Ling & Bro., 312 Main street, Dallas, Texas, invite architects to submit plans for a three-story and basement building to be erected in that city, the cost not to exceed \$35,000. The first prize will be \$150, the second \$100 and the third \$50, the author of the design awarded first place to have the preference of superintending the work.

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