

will receive tenders until the 15th of September, for the erection of a dwelling house at their mines at Dillington. Plans at their office, this place.

NIAGARA FALLS SOUTH, ONT.—Tenders are being called for the erection of a new brick high school, in the township of Stamford. P. Prist, Secretary.

QUEBEC, QUE.—Mr. Jamieson, C. P. R. grain elevator superintendent, was in town recently arranging for the erection of a large grain elevator and flour shed.

LACHINE, QUE.—James W. Raitt, Secretary-Treasurer, will receive tenders until to-day, (Saturday), for the supply of water pipes, also until Thursday, the 1st of September, for the construction of waterworks for Lachute Town.

STRATHROY, ONT.—The Town Council are considering an offer from Mr. E. Harrison, to rebuild the knitting factory here.—Tenders will be received by Rev. Albert McKeon until to-day, (Saturday), for the erection of All Saints Catholic church.

OWEN SOUND, ONT.—It is now definitely stated that the North Shore Navigation Company will build a magnificent new steamer during the coming winter. It will be larger than the City of Midland, the cabins to accommodate 200 persons.—The Owen Sound Cement Co. will erect four new kilns.

SELKIRK, MAN.—It is stated that new tenders will be asked for the erection of the fish hatchery, owing to the contractor whose tender was accepted refusing to proceed with the work. The Dominion Government has, however, decided to postpone the erection until next year.

VICTORIA, B. C.—Mr. John Teague, architect, has been instructed by the directors of the National Electric Lighting and Tramway Company to prepare plans for a substantial structure of brick, stone and iron, to replace the power houses recently destroyed by fire.—Mr. Moore, who arrived here a few days ago from England, is looking for a suitable site for the chemical works which he proposes to establish.

OTTAWA, ONT.—E. F. E. Roy, Secretary Department of Public Works, will receive tenders until Friday, the 1st of September, for the erection of a post-office at Dartmouth, N. S.—The Marine Department is calling for tenders for the erection of a new lighthouse at Corunna, Lambton County.—A brick store on the corner of Bank and Slater streets is being pulled down to make room for a new three-story building.

KINGSTON, ONT.—Messrs. Frost Bros., J. M. Clark, F. A. Bethune, and Capt. Foster have purchased the Ward mill and water power at Sly's Rapids, Smith's Falls. The syndicate intend to utilize it for electrical purposes, and machinery will be put in to furnish running power.—Mr. Frank Davis has purchased a lot on Alfred street, near Brock street, on which he will erect four detached residences.—It is said that the Thousand Island Steamboat Company will erect a new hotel at Alexandra Bay next summer.

HAMILTON, ONT.—The Council are discussing the best means of introducing water into the new fair grounds. It is possible that a mile of six-inch main will be laid, at a cost of from \$2,600 to \$3,000.—Wm. Stewart, architect, is calling for tenders for the erection of a dwelling house on South Hughson street.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Bowman Hardware Company, alterations to store, corner King and Catharine streets, cost \$1000; William Fairley, alterations to two-story brick dwelling on King William street, opposite Walnut street, cost \$1000; Canada Screw Company, brick addition to its building on the corner of Wellington and South streets, cost \$3700; Thomas Hayes, two one-and-a-half story dwellings on John street, between Macaulay and Wood streets, cost \$1,400; Bush & Hennessey, four two-story brick dwellings on Euclid avenue, cost \$4,800; and four two-story detached brick dwellings on Ontario avenue, cost \$6,000; John Lindner, five two-story brick houses on Grant avenue, between Main and Stinson streets, cost \$5,200; Edward Lindner, two two-story frame houses on Myrtle avenue, cost \$1,200.—Tenders are wanted until the 31st inst., for the brick and stonework of three houses on Barton street east. Plans at store, cor. King William and Hughson streets.—Mr. Thomas Meston will

receive tenders until the 29th inst., for the erection of a grand stand for the Central Fair Agricultural and Industrial Company. Plans at office of James Balfour, architect.

TORONTO, ONT.—A new steel steamer will be built this winter for the Niagara Navigation Company. The plans are being prepared by Mr. Frank Kerby, of Detroit.—The City Solicitor has received a communication from the Department of Public Works at Ottawa, stating that the plans for the new bridge over the Don river at King street have been approved. Copies are now being prepared for submission to the Railway Committee of the Privy Council, after which the work will be proceeded with.—G. M. Miller, architect, 1 Queen street east, will receive tenders until the 1st of September for the erection of a residence on the corner of St. George and Bloor streets.—Tenders are wanted at 35 Richmond street west, for the erection of a solid brick, two-story house.—Building permits have been granted as follows: C. S. Rathbone, two det. 2 story and attic bk. dwellings, s. s. King st., near Jameson ave., cost \$10,000; Land Security Co., 2 story bk. stable, rear of 407 and 409 Queen st. w., cost \$1,000; J. Baker, three att. 3 story bk. stores and dwellings, 1084 to 1088 Queen st. w., cost \$9,700; A. Jacobs, two pr. s. d. and one det. 2 story bk. dwellings, e. s. Macdonnell ave., cost 6,500; Samuel Young, bk. alterations to dwelling, 30 Prince Arthur ave., cost \$3,000; H. Pellatt, mansard roof to rear of dwelling, 559 Sherbourne st., cost \$1,000; J. B. Andrews, det. 2 story and attic bk. dwelling, 159 Jameson ave., cost \$4,000.—F. H. Heibert, architect, Yonge st. Arcade, is preparing plans for a residence on Bedford ave.—A fire hall and large assembly room is to be erected at Wychwood Park, North Toronto.

FIRES.

The Great Western flour mill at Woodstock, Ont., owned by Messrs. McDonald & Thompson, was burned on Saturday morning last. The insurance on the building was \$10,000, and on machinery, \$15,000.—Mr. John Allen's saw mill on Snow road, near Kingston, was burned last week. Loss, \$2,000, no insurance.—Abbott & Co.'s Metropolitan Rolling Mills in Delor miere avenue, Montreal, were destroyed by fire on Wednesday last. The loss is said to be \$125,000, which is nearly covered by insurance.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

WIARTON, ONT.—The contract for the intake pipe to the waterworks has been awarded to L. W. Henderson & Co., of Toronto, at the price of \$3,147.

LONDON, ONT.—The Ontario Stained Glass Company, of this city, has secured the contract for the windows for the new Methodist church at Amherstburg.

OTTAWA, ONT.—The Department of Public Works has awarded the contract for the erection of a new post office at St. Henri, Que., to Messrs. Dionne & Lachance, of Hull.

CAMPBELLVILLE, ONT.—The Ontario Terra Cotta & Brick Co. have received the contract from H. Walker & Sons, of Walkerville, for \$12,000 worth of terra cotta and brick.

OWEN SOUND, ONT.—The contract for the extension of the Bay st. sewer has been let to Mr. Thomas Farley, of Toronto, at \$2,731. The Standard Drain Pipe Co. will supply the pipe.

VICTORIA, B. C.—Mr. J. W. Carter has secured the contract for the erection of the Yates building on Wharf street. The block will be 66x90 feet, two stories, and will cost about \$14,000.

TORONTO, ONT.—The Dominion Government has awarded the Forsyth Granolithic Concrete Pavement Company the contract for the sidewalks round the Custom House in Front and Yonge streets. Mr. Henry Kerby is the representative of the company in Toronto.

VANCOUVER, B. C.—The contract for the erection of the new C. P. R. station and general office buildings has been awarded to Mr. Thos. Tompkins, of Brockville, Ont., who has the contract for the new Government buildings. The amount of the tender is in the neighborhood of \$160,000.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—Mr. John Farquhar has received the contract to erect a residence for Mrs.

Rowand, on Kennedy street, to cost \$4,000. Mr. Chesterton is the architect.—Messrs. John Inglis & Sons, of Toronto, are manufacturing two large steam boilers for additional power for the Northwest Electric company. The contract for enlarging the power house has been let to Messrs. Gray Bros.

WALKERVILLE, ONT.—The Globe Furniture Company, of this town, have secured the contracts for seating the following churches; Baptist church, corner of Walmer Road and Lowther avenue, Toronto; Baptist church at Carman, Man.; Presbyterian churches at Niagara Falls, and Harrow, Ont.; Siloam Methodist church at London, Ont.

HAMILTON, ONT.—The following are the separate tenders accepted by the Markets, Fire and Police Committee for the erection of a weigh house on the John street market. Masonry and brickwork, Martin & Smith, \$374; carpenter work, T. Meade, \$300; plastering, James McKee, \$38; painting and glazing, F. W. Kirk, \$28.50. Tinwork, John E. Riddell, \$17.—The Board of Works have awarded the contract for the construction of pipe sewer on Main street, between Ontario and Grant avenues, and on Grant avenue, from Main to Stinson streets, to J. J. Armstrong, at 33 3/4 c. per foot.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Messrs. C. Lefebvre & Co. have been awarded the contract for the entire decoration of the Church of St. Anthony. The cost will be about \$6,000.—Messrs. Wright & Son, architects, have awarded the tender for alterations to the building, cor. of St. Antoine and Cathedral sts., to W. McDonald.—Perrault & Mesnard, architects, have let the contracts for the Monument National as follows: Masonry, Plant & Dubuc; carpenter work, Lambert & Son; Roofing & Plumbing, Brodeur & Lessard; Brickwork, Jos. Brunet & Son; Structural Iron, Canadian Bridge & Iron Co. They have also awarded contracts for a Seminary of Philosophy as follows: Masonry, Boucher & Huberdeau; Carpenter work, Paquette & Godbout; Plumbing, Paquette & Godbout; Brickwork, J. Morache; Plastering, J. Morache; Iron work, Canadian Bridge & Iron Co.; also for a residence on Hutchison street; Masonry, Boucher & Huberdeau; Carpenter work, A. Renaud; Roofing, Brodeur & Lessard; Plastering, J. Pelletier; Painting, O. M. Lavoie; Brickwork, J. Brunet & Son.—W. E. Doran, architect, has awarded contracts as follows for a 3-story dwelling on Notre Dame street, for P. Wright, Esq.: Masonry, E. Gauthier; Carpenter work, J. B. Gratton; Roofing, Montreal Roofing Co.; Plastering, J. B. Mailhot; Painting, E. Belanger; Plumbing, D. Hill; Brickwork, Alfred Gauthier.—Fowler & Bowe, architects, have accepted the following tenders for a three-story residence on Seymore ave., for W. Scott, Esq.: Masonry, W. Owen; Carpenter work, John O'Leary; Roofing, Campbell & Co.; Plastering, O. H. Vidal & Lesage; Painting, W. H. Lsherwood; Plumbing, W. H. Duckrill; Brickwork, W. Lavers.—J. A. Chausse, architect, has awarded contracts for two four-story dwellings on Church street, for A. Guenette, contractor.

The case of Bottems v. the Mayor and Corporation of York, heard in the Court of Appeal last week, is no doubt one containing a serious warning for contractors. The plaintiff had contracted to make a sewer of several miles run, and after an apparently superficial examination of the ground, had sent in a tender which turned out to be the lowest, and which, in fact, was so unexpectedly low that his attention was called to it and he was given the opportunity of reconsidering his estimate, but on doing so adhered to it. No excavations or trial-holes had been made from which the nature of the soil could be ascertained, and when the work was commenced the soil was found to be of such a muddy and porous nature that not only was extensive timbering necessary, but a great deal of the work was ordered by the engineer (who was quite within his rights on this point) to be re-constructed owing

to the manner in which the brickwork had been crushed by the pressure of the soil. The contractor found the work would be ruinous to him, and claimed that the reconstruction ought to be counted as new work. Mr. Justice Mathew decided against him with reluctance (though there could hardly be any doubt as to legal obligation of the contractor) and on appeal there was the same result: judgment for the defendants, accompanied by judicial expression of sympathy for the plaintiff. The practical lessons, from this important and unfortunate case are, that contractors should take every pains to ascertain the nature of the ground before undertaking such a contract, and that it is desirable, in fairness to both parties, that some clause should be inserted providing for special modification of the conditions on the judgment of the engineer, on the discovery of any exceptional difficulties which could not be ascertained beforehand. But there is perhaps a moral consideration suggested also. The defendants in this case claimed only their legal rights; but what about their moral duties? The additional cost of the works was not the fault of the contractor; the condition of the ground being such as it proved to be, the cost in any case must have been far greater than the contractor's estimate; and we must say that the spectacle of employers availing themselves of the want of caution of a contractor to compel him to execute work for half the sum which it must in any case have cost is not an edifying one, and we do not think the Corporation of York have any reason to be very proud of their position.—*The Builder.*

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING.

Whether the time will ever come when our knowledge and our application of the knowledge will be so exact as to bring about the perfection of the human being, we cannot tell, but the knowledge we already have proves that the fate of man is largely in his own hands and that if he uses the knowledge he has the world would speedily change for the better. The duty of the sanitary authority is simple and definite. It is not to use the authority as a club to promote the tenets, or creeds, or opinions of any sect or party. It is to carry out the various Public Health and other Acts which have for their object the improvement of the health and comfort of the people; to this end and to no other should the members of every authority devote their energies. On economical grounds alone it is to the advantage of a community to spend a portion of its earnings on the sanitary improvements of its district; in a word, to raise the district or borough rate, and to decrease the poor and police rates. Statistics clearly show that the expenditure in the larger towns has resulted in a saving to the community, and that the neglect of expenditure on needful improvements has resulted in loss and suffering. Who can estimate the benefits accrued in our large and crowded centres by the introduction of pure air and water, the widening of thoroughfares, and the attendant demolition of hotbeds of vice and filth, the establishment of parks, open spaces, and places of recreation for the rising generation? and yet the difficulties met with in large bodies of people when such improvements are mooted are many and the originators of them are subjected to all kinds of abuse and misrepresentation. Roads, sewers, and means of water supply have been and still are constructed on too meagre a scale. A few years pass, and the works prove inadequate; then the town is forced to spend large sums in acquiring additional property, which has

*Abstract of inaugural address of the president of the Association of Municipal and County Engineers, England.