

CONSTRUCTION

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CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Editor will be glad to consider contributions dealing with matters of general interest to the readers of this Journal. When payment is desired, this fact should be stated. We are always glad to receive the loan of photographs and plans of interesting Canadian work. The originals will be carefully preserved and duly returned.

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THE MONTREAL office of Messrs. Palmer, Hornbostel & Jones was discontinued on October 1st. Harry Edward Prindle, formerly Canadian representative of this firm, has opened an office at No. 915 New Birks Building, Montreal, for the general practice of architecture. Mr. Prindle is preparing plans for the new Union Station at Quebec, P.Q., for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

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THE Conservation Commission is to be highly commended in its selection of Thomas Adams, noted expert of the British Local Government Board, to help the various Canadian municipalities in handling the large problem of city planning. Mr. Adams has been entrusted with the bringing about the planning of Greater London.

In this connection the questions of determining the arterial roads is already under way with the 117 local authorities in Greater London and some 20 local authorities, just outside the metropolitan area. The total area represented comprises about 1,083 square miles, or 693,120 acres, and the population within the area is now nearing 8,000,000. Mr. Adams attended the International Town Planning Conference in Toronto in May and on his return to England wrote a very sympathetic appreciation of the efforts being made in Canada to accomplish town planning. He considers provision for shelter, for food supply, for work and for transit to be the fundamental things in communal life; next come facilities for education and last, though not necessarily least, the public playground and the civic centre. Mr. Adams will assume at once his duties as town planning adviser to the Conservation Commission.

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"ABOUT the supposed crudities of American life and the lack of artistic perception, I had certainly been misinformed. I must say that I found New York interesting to a fascinating degree and in certain respects beautiful. The so-called sky-scrapers are in many instances not at all bad. The architectural tendency begotten by the exigencies of lofty construction has in it a good deal of originality. If I were to forecast a complete renovation of modern architecture I should say that the influence that would be most likely to bring it about would come from New York. And there is something in this thought that should minister to the just pride of Frenchmen, for the most eminent architects of New York are pupils of our own Ecole des Beaux Arts. I say to you now, much as it may surprise some of you, that skyscrapers may be agreeable to look at, and that many of them are beautiful. Of course I do not advise the immediate adoption of this system of construction in France, where the architectural physiognomy of the cities has been a matter of long development."

—Prof. Bergson.

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THE DOLL HOUSE, conceived by Bird & Son, is an exceptionally clever example of the use of Neponset products. This playhouse of colonial design is well built, with solid wood frame, the sides being made of Neponset wall board; the roof of grayed slate color to represent shingles; the floors of Neponset flooring, part of which are covered with wall board strips; the windows of translucent fabric. The house is constructed so that all furniture can be easily moved in all the rooms on both floors. Measuring two feet six inches by one foot three inches by one foot seven inches, it demonstrates minutely the Neponset building products of fire-resisting values.