

expected the plans will be completed in a few days.

OTTAWA, ONT.—Mr. J. R. Booth has purchased a block of land on Commission street, with the object of building thereon the car shops for the Parry Sound railway. The organ in St. George's church is to be partially rebuilt at a cost of \$1,000. The site for the proposed Dominion Reformatory at Alexandria will be selected at an early date. The City Council has resolved to issue debentures to the amount of \$50,000 for the drainage of Da'house ward. The entire work is estimated to cost about \$200,000. Tenders for the erection of a monument at Chrysler's Farm, in the County of Stormont, will be received by A. Benoit, Secretary Militia Department, until Tuesday, the 30th inst. Plans may be seen at the above department.

MONTREAL, QUE. The question of erecting a new fire station for the West Ward is under consideration by the Finance Committee. A sub-committee has been appointed to report.—At a recent meeting of the Chambre de Commerce it was decided to abandon for the present the idea of erecting a new building suitable for their purpose.—Mr. H. R. Falboid, architect, has prepared plans for six tenement buildings to be built by a syndicate; for two three storey stone houses on St. Denis street for E. Trudel; for a three storey house on St. Dominique street for H. Cranger; and also for a three storey house on St. Dominique street for T. C. O'Brien.—The church of the new parish of St. Elizabeth at St. Henry will probably be commenced next spring.—The extensions to the Fabrique of the parish of Notre Dame will also be commenced next spring.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Mrs. G. A. Holland, one two storey stone and brick residence on Pine avenue, cost \$5,500; Frs. Lamoureux, one two storey brick tenement building on Beaudry street, cost \$1,500; A. Labelle, one three storey brick tenement building on Moreau street, cost \$1,300; M. Rochon, three three storey stone and brick tenement buildings on Tupper street, cost \$4,500 each; S. D. Vallieres, one three storey brick tenement building on Fullum street, cost \$1,700; S. Sleep, one two storey tenement brick building on Charron street, cost \$2,200.

TORONTO, ONT.—The by-law authorizing the City Council to expend the sum of \$120,000 in widening the Queen street subway was carried by the ratepayers on Saturday last. The work will now be proceeded with at an early date.—Tenders are invited by Mr. Edmund Wragge, local manager Grand Trunk Railway, until Friday, the 26th inst. for steam heating apparatus for the new Union Station. Plans may be seen at the office of the architects, Messrs. Strickland & Symons, Victoria street.—At the last meeting of the Parks and Gardens Committee, of the City Council, Commissioner Chambers submitted plans and estimates for work to be done in the Queen's park. The total cost of the works, which include a granolithic sidewalk and a carriage drive, is placed at \$4,523. Before taking any action, it was decided to find out what portion of the expense would be borne by the Provincial Government.—Regarding the Island improvements, the Commissioner reported that it would cost approximately \$11,000 to fill up the lagoons at Island Park, \$1,500 to make a proper roadway across the waterway, and \$4,000 for a new bridge with a 22 foot roadway, having stone buttresses, a span at each end of 30 feet, and a central span of 60 feet. The Committee decided to ask the Council to sanction the expenditure, and tenders may be invited at an early date.—The City Council has given notice of its intention to construct the following works: concrete cement sidewalks on Adelaide street from post-office to Church street; Queen street, from John street to Spadina ave., and Lombard street, from Church street to Victoria street, estimated cost, \$708, \$5,275 and \$1,280 respectively; cedar block roadway on Bloor st., from

Dufferin st. to Lansdowne ave., cost \$6,550; asphalt pavement on Leader Lane, cost \$1,164; granolithic sidewalk on Leader Lane, cost \$1,420. Messrs. Denison & Fellows, architects, have prepared plans for a new hotel to be erected at Hanlan's Point. In connection with the project there will also be constructed a bicycle track, a pavilion capable of seating 3,000 persons, and an electric light tower 300 feet high with an electric search light at the top. The cost of the several works will exceed \$100,000.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Geo. A. Elliott, 176 Roxborough st., pr. s. d. 2 story and attic bk. dwellings, 62-4 Roxborough ave., cost \$6,000; Toronto Street Railway Co., one story bk. car house, w. side Roncesvalle ave., cost \$20,000; C. Parker, 17 Boswell ave., 4 det. 2 story and attic bk. dwellings, s. e. cor. Avenue Road and Scollard st., cost \$12,000; John Trick, 95 Bloor st. w., det. 2 story and attic bk. dwelling, 42 Avenue road, cost \$6,000; Corporation of Toronto, an additional story and alterations to south end of St. Lawrence market, cost \$3,500.

FIRES.

The Northern Elevator Co.'s grain elevator at Portage la Prairie, Man., was burned last week. Loss \$25,000; insurance, \$12,000.—The premises of Stewart Bros., general merchants, Renfrew, Ont., were damaged by fire last week to the extent of \$2,500.—At St. Jerome, Que., on the 19th inst. fire destroyed Campeau's hotel, loss \$9,000; insurance \$4,000; a store and house owned by T. Lapointe, of Terrebonne, loss, \$8,000; insurance, \$5,000; Castonguay's house, loss \$4,000; insurance \$2,400; E. Guilbault's house and adjoining buildings, loss \$4,000; covered by insurance, N. Labelle's house, loss \$1,200; insurance \$800.—A frame building at 46 Wellington street, Toronto, owned by Barlow Cumberland, was damaged by fire on Sunday last to the extent of \$1,500.—An hotel building at Belocil Station, Que., owned by Mr. Loiseau, was consumed by fire last week. Loss, \$7,000.—The round-house of the Intercolonial Railway at Riviere du Loup, Que., was totally destroyed by fire on the 20th inst. The loss is estimated at \$200,000.—The Continental hotel at Madoc, Ont., has been destroyed by fire. Loss \$5,000.—A terrace of fifteen houses at Little River, Que., owned by Dr. Elliott, were destroyed by fire on the 23rd inst. The loss is \$17,000 and the insurance \$11,000.—The premises of W. C. White, boiler-maker, corner Brennan and Nazareth streets, Montreal, were damaged by fire on Tuesday to the extent of \$5,000, covered by insurance.—The Toronto House at Collingwood, Ont., has been burned. Loss, \$3,000; insurance, \$1,350.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—The contract for erecting a mission church on Dufferin avenue has been let to Robinson & Ames. The plans were prepared by Mr. Andrews.

LONDON, ONT.—The Middlesex County Council last week awarded the contract for a bridge at Bryon to T. E. L. Talbot, at \$1,745, on condition that he agree to complete the work by Dec. 20. Otherwise the next lowest tenderer, Tracy Bros. will receive the contract at \$1,748.

COLLINGWOOD, ONT.—The contracts for building a field stone half-timbered

house on the Mountain for Mr. B. B. Osler, Q. C., of Toronto, have been awarded as follows: masonry, R. Burdett; woodwork and finishing, Bryan Bros.; plumbing Wm. Anderson. The total cost of the house will be about \$10,000. The architect is Mr. E. B. Jarvis, of Toronto.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Mr. E. C. French, Canadian agent for the Babcock & Wilcox Co., of New York has recently closed contracts for 630 h.p. of boilers for the Dominion Coal Company, Sidney, C. B., and 372 h.p. for the new Union Station, Toronto.—Mr. H. R. Falbord, architect, has awarded contracts as follows: reconstruction of a school on Dorchester st., for R. E. Painchaud, plastering, T. Leclaire; two three storey stone front buildings, Rachel st., for Miss H. Picotte; carpenter and joiners' work, S. Paquette; plumbing and heating, Blouin, Girard & Collard; reconstruction of a store and tenement on St. Lawrence st., for H. Granger, general contractor, N. Lavoie; four three storey brick buildings at St. Henry, for A. Lawrence; excavation and stone work, Gauthier & Coté; carpenter and joiners' work, done by proprietor, other trades not let.

NEW COMPANIES.

MONTMAGNY, QUE.—Montmagny Manufacturing and Electric Co., incorporated; capital, stock, \$10,000; to manufacture lumber and electric apparatus.

SMITHVILLE, ONT.—Safe Lock Metal Shingle and Siding Co., incorporated; capital, \$3,000; to manufacture and lay metal roofing and ceilings, cornices, etc.

PETROLEA, ONT.—Petrolea Light, Heat and Power Co., applying for incorporation, capital \$50,000, to pump oil by electricity from wells and to light the town by electricity.

OWEN SOUND, ONT.—Georgian Bay Portland Cement Co., incorporated; capital \$95,000; to manufacture cement, brick, tiles, etc., incorporators, H. B. Harrison, W. Taylor, N. P. Horton and others.

QUEBEC, QUE.—Quebec City and District Railway Company, applying for incorporation, to construct railways and electric tramways in the city and adjoining counties. Incorporators, Hon. L. P. Peletier, P. B. Dumoulin, of Quebec and others.

TORONTO, ONT.—Gold Dredging and Placer Mining Co., seeking incorporation; capital \$40,000; incorporators, J. Annes, J. Perkins, Alex. Leslie and H. H. Dewart, of Toronto, and J. Mulholland, of Charles City, Ohio.—Reid Bros. Mfg. Co., incorporated; capital \$50,000; to manufacture billiard and pool tables, also Reid's patent bent rim wood split pulley. incorporators, J. W. Reid, W. T. Reid, W. P. Despard and others.

USES OF RESIN.

There are many useful purposes to which resin can be applied outside of those of general practice. As a non conductor of heat it is used in the protection of water-pipes, particularly in crossing bridges, where the pipe is laid in the middle of a long box and the whole filled with melted resin. Resin is also used in supporting basement doors in machine shops, which may be laid over some dry material, as

spent moulding sand, which is carefully levelled off, and the planking laid upon temporary supports separating it about two inches above the sand. Numerous holes, about two inches in diameter, being bored through these planks, melted resin is forced through them by means of tunnels until the whole space is solidly filled, and then the upper flooring is laid upon these planks. In case the floor is subjected to shocks sufficient to break the resin, it rapidly joins together in much the same manner as the relegation of ice. Resin is also used to form waterproof paper for use in butcher's shops, fish markets, and also for building purposes, and strange to say this improvement reduces the cost of a paper. All methods of applying resin in solution after the paper is finished adds heavily to its cost and also renders it very brittle; but if resin is dissolved in potash and mixed with the pulp in the heating engine, and this alkali afterwards treated with alum, it becomes neutralized and washed away, leaving the finely diffused resin throughout the whole mass. It is also used for protecting the coarser manufactured products, such as agricultural implements, against rust, by mixing it in a solution with benzine. This is applied as a varnish, and the benzine rapidly dries away leaving a coat which protects the material until it goes to the severe service of actual use.—Engineering.

USEFUL HINTS.

A mixture of litharge and boiled oil makes a cement in which there is no moisture.

Bichromate of potassium renders glue insoluble after drying and exposure to sunlight.

DETERMINING STRAIGHTNESS BY SIGHT.—The straightest thing in nature or art is a ray of light when passing through a medium of uniform density; hence the eye is enabled to test the straightness of an edge or tube by holding it as nearly as possible coincident with a ray of light, such parts as depart from straightness then intercepting the ray and causing a shade to be cast upon other parts, says Engineering Magazine. It is not known at what early period in the history of mankind the discovery was made that straightness could be thus determined. It is certain that thousands of mechanics use the method daily without being able to give a rational explanation of it. This primitive mode of testing straightness, on account of its great convenience and accuracy, is likely to continue in use to the end of the world.

The Hamilton Bridge Company, of Hamilton, have assigned, as the result of a judgment obtained against them for \$10,000. The company is said to be able to meet its obligations.

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