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TO ADVERTISERS.

For the benefit of Advertisers, a copy of this Journal is mailed each week to persons mentioned in the CONTRACT RECORD reports as intending to build, with a request to consult our advertisement pages and write advertisers for material, machinery, etc.

AN agreement has been entered into Trade Combines. between the Granite Dealers' Association of Aberdeen, Scotland, and the Boston Wholesale Granite Dealers' Association, whereby the former binds itself not to sell to anyone in the United States who is not a member of the Boston Association, while the latter Association binds itself not to purchase granite from any person outside the membership of the Aberdeen Association. Our recollection is that there are on record instances in which the courts have compelled combines of this character to sell to outsiders who were desirous of purchasing their goods. The legal view appears to be that when an individual or a company engage in the business of publicly selling any material they are bound as far as possible to supply the public demand for such material, or at all events they have not the right to draw a distinction between the would-be purchaser who is a member of a trade organization and one who is not.

Proof of Qualification by Architects and Builders.

THE many disasters which have occurred in recent years due to the ignorance and carelessness of persons practising as designers and constructors of buildings, have in some measure directed public attention to the necessity of compelling such persons to give proof of qualification for their important duties. While the efforts put forth by the architects of the State of New York and the Province of Ontario to obtain legislation of this character, have so far failed of their purpose, it is gratifying to know that the necessity of such legislation is becoming more widely recognized, and if those who have been pressing for reform in this direction do not become weary in well doing, there is little doubt that the desired object will be attained in the near future. From the National Association of Building Inspectors convened last month at Buffalo, comes the following resolution on the subject: "That it is the opinion of the National Association of Building Inspectors that public safety demands that persons practising the profession and trade of architect, civil engineer and builder should do so under license, to the end that those who practice such responsible professions and trades should first show their fitness to do so; therefore, we recommend the passage of State laws leading to the accomplishment of this end." Building inspectors are daily brought in contact with the work of incompetent architects and builders, and have the opportunity of knowing, as few can, the danger of loss