

Director of Mines for Canada, in which he deals with the Swedish electric furnace, its design and efficiency.

Although electric smelting is still in the experimental stage, the measure of success that has attended the working of this new furnace leads one to expect that within a few years it will be perfected so that as a commercial scheme electric smelting will shortly be established in Canada.

EDITORIAL NOTE.

The Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, are preparing a list of Canadian firms, their addresses and the articles they manufacture. With this list as a basis they expect to be able to assist the export trade of Canada in addition to being able to assist in the inter-provincial trade. It is to be hoped Canadian manufacturers will assist, as the Department has taken upon itself a large task, but if carried out should do much for Canadian trade.

OCTOBER MEETINGS OF A.S.M.E.

Meetings of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers are to be held during the month of October as follows:

In New York, on Tuesday evening, October 12th, at 8 o'clock, in the Engineering Societies Building, with a paper by Prof. R. C. Carpenter, of Cornell University upon the High-Pressure Fire System of New York City.

In St. Louis, jointly with the Engineers' Club of St. Louis, on Saturday evening, October 16th, when Prof. Carpenter will again present his paper upon the high-pressure fire system.

In Boston, on Wednesday evening, October 20th, at 8 o'clock, jointly with the Boston Society of Civil Engineers in Chipman Hall, a paper will be presented by Prof. Gaetano Lanza and Lawrence S. Smith on Comparison of Results obtained by the Use of Three Theories of the Distribution of the Stresses in Reinforced Concrete Beams, with the experimental results.

In conducting meetings in St. Louis and Boston the Society is entering into broader activities than ever before and affording the membership a greater opportunity to attend meetings, participate in the discussion of papers and meet members and engineers in attendance at the meetings. The meetings in St. Louis and Boston as well as in New York are to be regular meetings of the Society, with the same standards maintained in regard to papers, discussion and general conduct of the meetings that have been established by the conventions and other regular meetings of the Society held in previous years.

Of the two papers to be given in October, that by Prof. Carpenter, gives a technical description of the high-pressure fire system of New York City and the results of tests made upon the pumps and distributing mains. The first high-pressure fire system in the country was installed at Detroit in 1888, where it was designed to fill the mains by means of steam-driven pumps on boats. There are now systems installed or in process of construction in Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Baltimore, Boston, Buffalo, San Francisco, Toronto, and possibly other places. In some of the installations multi-stage centrifugal pumps are employed and in others plunger pumps are used. There is, therefore, an opportunity for discussion of high-pressure systems, as such, and also of the relative advantages and characteristics of different types of pumps for high-pressure work.

The paper by Professor Lanza and Mr. Smith gives the results of extended experiments upon full-sized reinforced concrete beams with well-developed theories, forming an important contribution to the all-important subject of reinforced concrete construction.

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA.

The second general annual meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada was held at Toronto, October 5th and 6th.

Mr. A. F. Dunlop, the president, in his opening address, remarked that the main object of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada is the better education of its members in the principles of coming art. The society has this one great object in view, and is bending all its efforts to the accomplishing of it. He also referred briefly to the association's position in the Province of Quebec, and gave an emphatic contradiction to the rumor that members had been taken into the association from that Province illegally.

Addresses were also made by Mr. Eden Smith, President of the Toronto Society of Architects, and by Mr. G. W. Gouinlock, President of the Ontario Association of Architects. Mayor Oliver was to have made an opening address to the society, but in his absence the President read a letter of congratulation and regret from him. Routine business occupied the balance of the session.

The Treasurer's report showed total receipts of \$1,032.10, and a balance on hand of \$803.61. Last year's balance was only \$190.85.

Most of the afternoon was taken up with a discussion on the federation of the various architectural bodies. Last April a conference took place in Toronto between representatives of the various architectural associations in Canada, and five resolutions were drawn up to be submitted to the present meeting of the Canadian Institute. The resolutions of the joint meeting were finally approved, and will now come before the council or executive of the Institute for consideration. They are as follows:—“(1) The conference recognizes the necessity of the Architectural Institute of Canada as a representative Canadian body. (2) The conference considers that each province should have an official body and that membership in the Architectural Institute of Canada should be composed solely of members of the Provincial bodies. (3) That architects should qualify for and pay entrance and annual dues to the Provincial bodies only, and the Provincial bodies contribute a per capita fee to the Architectural Institute of Canada. Members of the Provincial bodies shall thus become members of the Dominion body. That voting in the Architectural Institute of Canada should be by delegates of the provincial bodies. That provision should be made for existing members of the Architectural Institute of Canada who do not now belong to Provincial Associations.”

A discussion then took place on “The possibility of a national status for architects in Canada.” Papers were read by Messrs. J. W. H. Watts, of Ottawa, and J. P. Hynes, and H. B. Gordon of Toronto.

The Treasurer's report showed total receipts of \$1,032.10, and a balance on hand of \$803.61. Last year's balance was only \$190.85. The present session of the association is attended by about 30 delegates from all parts of the Dominion.

The National Association of Railway Commissioners will hold their annual meeting at Washington, D. C., beginning Tuesday, November 16. The secretary is William H. Conolly, Washington.