

BRANTFORD, ONT.—A resolution has been passed by the Public School Board, making a demand on the council to issue debentures for at least \$40,000 for the erection of a new central school.

NEW GLASGOW, N. S.—Sir Hector Langevin has assured a deputation from this place that early in the spring he will send an engineer to investigate their claims for a survey in the East Pictou river and the deepening of the channel to 18 feet at low water.

WINDSOR, ONT.—The Board of Trade is urging the M. C. Railway to erect a new depot.—The School Board has decided to erect two two-room school houses between the third and fourth wards, to cost \$7,500, and an eight-room building to cost \$16,000.

PORT ARTHUR, ONT.—The Board of Trade recommends that an additional bonus of \$15,000 be granted towards the construction of the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western Railway, and that aid should be given by the Dominion and Provincial Governments.

GRANBY, QUE.—Tenders will be received by the School Commissioners of the Village of Granby up to the 25th March next, for building an Academy in said village according to plans and specifications, to be seen in the office of J. A. Tompkins, Sec.-Treas.

BROCKVILLE, ONT.—The street committee is authorized to advertise for tenders for 100,000 feet of pine and cedar for street purposes.—The James Smart Mfg. Co., will erect new buildings.—The Wall St. Methodist church congregation contemplate the erection of a larger building.

PETERBOROUGH, ONT.—The Fire and Water Committee of the council and the water company have decided that three miles of water pipes should be laid, and twenty-three new hydrants placed, at an estimated cost of \$18,000. The approval of the council will be sought.

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION.—The sewerage question will be taken up by the Board of Works immediately, with a view to the construction of a complete system before next winter.—It has been decided by the council to engage an expert to report at once on the best system of sewerage for the town.

EXETER, ONT.—At a meeting of the official board of the Trivitt Memorial church, Exeter, held last week, it was decided to proceed at once with the erection of a new rectory and school house in connection with the church. The building it is estimated will cost in the neighborhood of \$8,000.

OTTAWA, ONT.—There is little doubt that the Bill to authorize the construction of a bridge from Hull to Ottawa will pass.—Sir Hector Langevin, in reply to Mr. Prior, said the other day that the Dominion Government was now in correspondence with the Imperial Government in regard to the lengthening of the dry dock at Esquimaux.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—The Dominion Government will be urged to appropriate money for the improvement of the Red river during the present year.—The Provincial Government estimate for public works is \$219,310, as against \$202,703 last year. The bulk of the increase will be spent in the erection of the reformatory, the deaf and dumb institute and the home for incurables.

GUELPH, ONT.—Ald. Kelly is about to erect a fine residence, filled with modern improvements.—It is recommended that the balance of the \$15,000 voted by the people for water works purposes, be applied in the extension of the mains and in the erection of suitable dwelling houses and buildings for the men at the works.—A special committee of the council will consider and report upon methods of sewage disposal.

HAMILTON, ONT.—Mr. Stewart, architect, is preparing plans for a new club house on the beach, estimated to cost about \$6,000.—The new railway to which Hamilton has given a bonus, will enter the city by a tunnel, and this circumstance will render necessary the diverting of some of the principal sewers. The estimated cost of this work is placed at about \$50,000.—The School Board will expend \$15,000 in remodeling the present Central School building.

KINGSTON, ONT.—Two new Public schools will be built this year.—The managers of the Renfrew Methodist church are taking active steps regarding the enlargement of the edifice.—It has been decided to purchase a site and erect thereon a new fire hall. W. Newland, architect, will prepare the plans.—The Collegiate Board have decided to erect a new Institute building to cost about \$25,000.—An official report from the Royal Military College says new buildings are required for the undemoted purposes, named in the order of their urgency, 1. hospital, 2. drill courts, Royal engineers' modelling room, recreation courts, workshop, gun and artillery store, gymnasium; 3. magazine. Many of those bracketed together against No. 2 may probably be grouped under a common roof and external walls. The floor space required for all of them is approximately 150 feet by 200.—Two or three factory schemes are being worked up.—Permits have been granted Messrs. Conroy & Gaskin on King St., for modernizing their stores, and one to Dr. Hickey for a store on Wellington St.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The Legislature of Quebec has been asked for a loan of \$50,000 to complete the construction of the Protestant Insane Asylum and pay off the floating debt.—The School Commissioners of the village of Cote St. Louis have decided to build a school for boys at a cost of \$17,000.—Profile plans have been prepared, showing the new drainage system of Cote St. Antoine, and the necessary land is being acquired to enable the

corporation to carry out the work.—At a meeting of property owners of St. Lambert, the following resolution was passed: "That this meeting approves that a vote of the property owners be taken, as provided by the Municipal code, empowering the council to undertake the construction of drains, and give a water supply to the municipality on the most feasible plan recommended by the best engineering advice obtainable."—A strong syndicate of Montreal men have purchased a large block of land on the opposite side of the river, adjacent to the Grand Trunk junction and Riverside stations, St. Lambert West, for a new suburb about to be developed on the other side of the river.

TORONTO, ONT.—The Lakeside Home for sick children on the Island is to be enlarged.—The members of St. George's Society expect to proceed forthwith with the erection of a building to suit the purposes of their charitable and other work on the lot on Elm street owned by the society.—The congregation of Ruth St. Presbyterian church are taking steps to provide increased accommodation.—Mr. Wanless, jeweller, is about to make extensive alterations to his premises on Yonge street.—The Sites and Buildings Committee of the Public School Board recommends that the Orphan's Home be provided with a four-room school; that the Church street school be enlarged to a twelve-room school; that a twelve room school be erected in the north-east part of St. David's Ward; and that the Girl's Home be provided with a school.—Plans have been prepared and approved for a new Presbyterian church to be erected in St. Mark's Ward.—The construction of a small fire-proof building to contain the pictures and curiosities bequeathed to the city by the late J. G. Howard, is recommended by his executors.—The Management of the Home for Incurables recommend that a number of hydrants be placed in the immediate vicinity, that iron doors be placed in the corridors to prevent the spreading of the fire should one occur, and that fire escapes be provided.—Improvements are to be made to the exterior of Osgoode Hall.—The following building permits have been issued: J. D. Matheson, 2 storey and attic bk. dwelling, Beverley St., north of Cecil, cost \$4,000; J. H. Howard, pr. s. d. 2 storey bk. fronted dwellings, University St., south of Christopher, cost \$3,200; Geo. & G. W. Flint, pr. s. d. 2 storey and attic bk. dwellings, east side Markham St., north of College, cost \$7,000; Miss Ash, pr. att. 2 storey and attic bk. dwellings, John St., south of King, cost \$3,000.—Tenders will be called for in our next issue for the iron work of the Freehold Loan Co. building.

### CONTRACTS AWARDED.

WOODSTOCK, ONT.—The Globe Furniture Co., of Walkerville, has been given the contract for seating the new Methodist church, for the sum of \$2,000.

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION.—Mr. Geo. R. Cumming has been given the contract for the erection of new fire halls. The amount of his tender was \$8,790.

HESPELER, ONT.—Mr. Wm. Markle has secured the contract from the Dominion Government for the alterations to be made to the drill shed and the construction of a new armory.

TORONTO, ONT.—The contract for the seating of King St. Methodist church, St. Alban's Ward, has been let to the Globe Furniture Co., of Walkerville, at the price of \$3,750.

GUELPH, ONT.—The following tenders have been accepted for material required by the Department of Works:—Messrs. Moore & Vandusen, 2 inch pine plank, \$12.50 per 1,000; do 3 inch tamarack plank, \$11.50; Alonzo Birge, cedar scantling, \$10; Ralph Richardson, cedar blocks, \$5.20 per cord; Haivey & Co., nails, \$2.73 per 100 lbs.

LONDON, ONT.—The city has accepted tenders for supplies as follows: Lumber—Wm. Howie, at \$13 per thousand; pine, cedar and tamarack; nails—Wheeler & McLean, at \$2.58 per keg; cedar blocks—Harding & Leathorne, 40 cents per yard; stones for crossings—M. Baldwin, 20 cents per foot; gravel—J. & W. Donohue for Nos. 1 and 2 Wards; Wm. Anthistle for Nos. 3 and 4 Wards; Wm. Anthistle for No. 5 Ward, north; Charles Barfit for No. 5 Ward, south; paving stone—M. Shea, Nos. 1 and 2 Wards; J. & W. Donohue, Nos. 3 and 4 Wards; Charles Barfit, No. 5 Ward; river gravel—M. Shea, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Wards; J. & W. Donohue, No. 4 Ward; Charles Barfit, No. 5, all the Ward.—The Water Committee have awarded tenders as follows: Lumber, oak, Robt. McEwen, cedar, W. Howie; pine, Ferguson Bros.; lead pipes, Ontario Lead & Barb Wire Co., Toronto; hardware, Wheeler & McLean; pipe laying, W. P. Turner; 4-in. pipe, Harding & Leathorne; 6-in. and 8-in. pipes, brass works and stop cock boxes, Stevens & Burns; valves, 4-in., to Harding & Leathorne; 6-in., Stevens & Burns; 8-in., to Harding & Leathorne; hydrants, Stevens & Burns; valve chambers, W. P. Turner.

### ESTIMATING.

It is safe to assert that one-half the trouble that arises in building operations between the architects or owners and the contractors and sub-contractors, is due to the fact that the estimates of cost are inaccurate. For this the present system of taking bids is largely responsible. When half a dozen builders compete, and each of them obtain estimates from seven or eight sub-contractors, a loss is put on some thirty or more