

## MONTREAL.

(Correspondence of the CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER.)

## MASTER PLUMBERS' ASSOCIATION OF MONTREAL.

THE Master Plumbers' Association held their first annual banquet at the Queen's Hotel on Monday, the 25th February. Over a hundred and fifty guests sat down at the tables, and amongst those who occupied seats of honor on the right and left of the President, Mr. Joseph Lamarche, were Acting Mayor Leclerc; Aldermen Beausoleil, Hurtubise, Grothé and Jacques; ex-Alderman Clendinneng; Mr. J. E. Doré, Sanitary Engineer; Messrs. T. J. Clark, Jas. Robertson, W. Robertson and Lieut.-Col. Massey. The first toast proposed by the President was that of Her Majesty the Queen, after which Mr. John Date proposed The Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen. The next, The President of the United States, was responded to by ex-Alderman Clendinneng.

The corporation of Montreal having been honored, Alderman Beausoleil, the Chairman of the Health Committee, was the first to respond. "If plumbing work is well done," he said, "it is a public boon, but if badly done it is a public menace." As member of the Health Committee he had great pleasure in assisting at the passage of the Sanitary By-Law recently passed.

Acting Mayor Leclerc addressed a few words of greeting to the Association, and then came one of the happiest speeches of the evening, from Mr. J. W. Hughes, who gave "Our Guests." Mr. S. C. Stevenson, Secretary of the Council of Arts and Manufactures, also spoke, and entered into details concerning the work of the Council of Arts and Manufactures, in so far as the plumbing trade is concerned. Mr. McLaren and Lieut.-Col. Massey also spoke, as did ex-Ald. Clendinneng, wishing success to the Association. Songs and recitations then became the order of the evening.

The Committee deserving credit for this most successful banquet was composed of Messrs. Joseph Lamarche, J. C. Jacotel, Joseph Thibault, W. A. Stephenson and Fred. Hortan.

## THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS.

The report of the examiners on the examination for admission as students and members of the above Association held in Quebec in January last, and recommending that Messrs. E. B. Staveley, D. O. Turgeon and Louis Bélanger be accepted as student associates, and Mr. Caetan Dufort as member, was adopted at the last Council meeting of the Association, held on the 12th March.

The Committee appointed by the Association to revise the Montreal building by-laws, as requested by the Fire Committee of this city, have completed their task, and the new by-laws, as drawn up by the Association, are now in the hands of the civic authorities. The work has been found very onerous, the Committee having held semi-weekly meetings for the purpose for the last ten months. The by-law comprises one hundred and forty-one type-written pages of foolscap size.

At the request of the Ontario Association of Architects several members of this Association are preparing to send drawings for their approaching exhibition. All drawings will have to be delivered at the store of Messrs. W. Scott & Sons, 1739 Notre Dame street, not later than the 1st April at noon.

## MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY BUILDING.

The Grand Jurors of the Court of Assize have brought in a verdict of "Not Guilty" in the case of Messrs. E. C. Hopkins, A. Gravel and Foreman McLaughlin, accused of criminal negligence in connection with the Street Railway building. Mr. G. T. Hammond, architect, of Cleveland, Ohio, has now charge of the building, the interior of which he intends to completely tear down, and have rebuilt ready for occupancy by the end of next autumn.

## CUSTOMS DUTY ON ARCHITECTURAL PLANS.

IN order to insure uniformity in the collection of duty on architects' plans imported into Canada for use in the erection of buildings therein, the Controller of Customs has, under the provisions of sub-section 2 of section 65 of the Customs Act, determined the value of duty of such plans to be as follows:

Each set of original drawings or single set of blue prints of same, if brought into Canada as a substitute for the original drawings, 2 per cent. of the estimated cost of the building to be erected thereon.

Same, if accompanied by details, 3 per cent. of such estimated cost.

Details, or blue print of same, if imported separately, 1 per cent. of the estimated cost of such detail.

When additional sets of blue prints of the same set of drawings are imported, such additional sets of blue prints are to be valued for duty at \$5 per set in addition to the value of the original drawings, or first set of blue prints imported in lieu thereof, as above.

At the recent annual meeting of the Toronto Radiator Mfg. Co., the reports presented by the Secretary and Manager, Mr. John Taylor, were of a most satisfactory character. The Company have established agencies as follows: Canada—Montreal, Que.; Quebec, Que.; St. John, N.B.; Hamilton, Ont.; Winnipeg, Man.; Victoria, B. C. Foreign—London, Eng.; Edinburgh, Scotland; Glasgow, Scotland; Belfast, Ireland; Antwerp, Belgium; Hamburg and Berlin, Germany; Auckland, N. Z. The directors and officers of the Company were re-elected as follows:—Joseph Wright, President; David Carlisle, Vice-President; F. W. Doty; John M. Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer and General Manager.

Door or other openings through division walls must not exceed in their united width one-third the length of wall.

All openings through division or party walls shall have tight-fitting doors and frames of iron; or else, if of wood, constructed of two thicknesses of solid boards, and covered with asbestos and sheet metal.

Each section of floor area divided from the rest of building by division walls and fire-resisting doors shall have a separate stair and exit to street.

All fire-proof buildings, built as described for fire-proof buildings under section . . . . . of this by-law, shall be exempt from the restrictions as to floor area.

PROTECTING STRUCTURAL IRON WORK.—All metal columns and beams supporting walls, except first floor and basement columns on street fronts shall be efficiently protected by non-combustible materials.

There is a misconception on the part of the public as to what constitutes a fire-proof building. The opinion is held that buildings such as the Simpson and McKinnon buildings recently destroyed, constructed with iron supports, were intended to be fire-proof. This is altogether an error. It was perfectly well understood by the architects of these buildings that the safety of these structures was in no way enhanced, but rather endangered, by the use of an unprotected iron frame work. The advantage sought to be gained by the use of this method of construction was rather in the direction of securing larger floor and light areas. As was pointed out in an article on this subject in the CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER for January, iron should not be used for the support of a building unless covered with fire proof material such as porous terra-cotta, and it is hoped that the proposed new building ordinance of the city will render this imperative.

A provision which would to a considerable extent enhance the safety of buildings from injury by fire originating on adjoining premises, would be one which would compel the owners of business buildings to protect with iron shutters the windows in the rear walls abutting on adjoining property. Two of the greatest sources of danger are windows and elevator shafts. The windows are broken by the heat, thus setting in motion currents of air by which the flames from burning buildings adjoining are sucked in through the openings, carrying with them destruction to the interior of the building. It is too much to require owners of office and other business buildings to disfigure them by placing iron shutters on the windows of the principal street elevations, but no such objection could be urged as regards the protection of windows on rear walls.

Yet another valuable protection, to our mind, would be moveable iron floors in elevator shafts, which should be employed at night to shut off each flat of the building. One of the recommendations of the committee of the O. A. A. is, that such shafts should be lined with fire-proof material and should have fire-proof doors at the entrances on each flat; that the shaft should extend three feet above the roof and be covered with glass, which would be easily broken by heat. This provision is a wise one as far as it goes, its object being to confine the fire to the shaft and prevent its spread laterally throughout the building. There is danger, however, that combustible material would be carried through the top of the shaft to the roof of the building and to buildings adjoining. Such a provision as we have mentioned would act as a more complete safeguard, tending to prevent the fire from extending beyond a single flat where, thus confined, it could effectually be dealt with by the firemen.

Some attention should be given to the construction of floors in a manner that would offer greater resistance to fire. The plastering of ceilings is quite a protection to the under side of the floor, and if floors were lined with asbestos or laid in mortar, a much longer time would be required for them to burn out.

## ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS.

THE annual meeting of the Ontario Land Surveyors' Association held in Toronto a fortnight ago, was one of much interest. Papers were read on "Good Streets," by H. J. Brown, of Berlin, Ont.; "Highway Bridges," by Peter S. Gibson, of Willowdale, Ont., and on "Mining," by J. D. Evans, of Trenton, Ont. The proceedings terminated as usual with a banquet. The following gentlemen were nominated for the Council of Management, the election to be by ballot of all the members of the society in the Province:—P. S. Gibson, Willowdale; Jas. Dickson, Reeve of Fenelon Falls; A. Nieven, F. B. Speight, Toronto; Geo. Ross, Welland; J. D. Evans, Trenton; Wm. M. Davis, Woodstock; Harry Brown, Toronto; T. H. Jones, Brantford, and F. S. Foster, Toronto; Auditors, H. B. Proudfoot and W. A. Brown, Toronto.