

MONTREAL, QUE.—The Minister of Public Works, after an inspection of the prison building in this city, has decided to erect an addition to the building.—Tenders are invited by the Harbor Commissioners until noon on Tuesday, the 5th. September, for supplying the following timber: 4,000 cubic feet of square pine timber; 10,000 cubic feet of square hemlock timber; 5,500 lineal feet of round and flat pine timber and 45,000 lineal feet of round and flat hemlock timber. Particulars may be obtained from Alexander Robertson, Secretary.—The Council of Cote St Antoine has passed by-laws authorizing the issue of debentures to the amount of \$250,000 for making permanent improvements.—The Board of Health, at a meeting held last week, decided to call for tenders for the construction of three incinerators, to cost between \$140,000 and \$150,000.—Tenders will be awarded in a few days for the construction of a number of sewers, tenders for which were asked during this week.

OTTAWA, ONT.—Incorporation has been granted to the Jews of Ottawa, under the name of "The Sons of Jacob." A hall will be rented until the company are in a position to build a synagogue.—Mr. H. J. Beemer, President of the Gatineau and Pontiac Pacific railways, has ordered the preparation of plans for constructing a bridge across the Ottawa river at Nepean point. A preliminary survey for this work was made some five or six years ago. It is also said that the Pontiac Pacific road will be pushed at the other end of the line, and a new bridge also constructed over the river at Pembroke.—E. F. E. Roy, Secretary Department of Public Works, invites tenders until Friday, the 29th of September for the construction of a wharf at Grand Etang, Inverness County, N. S. Plans may be seen at the post office at Grand Etang, and at the above department in this city.—The Joint Bridge Committee of the City of Hull and Gatineau Point has decided to call for tenders for the erection of the bridge across the Gatineau river, tenders to be sent in by the 15th of September.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

GUELPH, ONT.—Mr. Thos. Matthews has secured the contract for the new buildings at the Ontario Experimental Farm.

PETERBORO', ONT.—The contract for constructing a new bridge over the Otonabee river at Smith street has been awarded to Mr. Chas. Wynne.

OTTAWA, ONT.—The contract for furnishing three new tubular boilers for the Parliament buildings has been awarded to Mr. W. J. Campbell, of this city.

PEMBROKE, ONT.—Mr. James Shearer has been awarded the contract for heating apparatus for the new County buildings. The price is in the neighborhood of \$3,000.

KINGSTON, ONT.—The contracts for the new buildings at Rockwood asylum have been awarded as follows: For the new infirmary, A. Cameron, carpentry; McKelvey & Birch, plumbing; Robinson Bros., painting; A. Chown & Co., hardware. For the root house, A. Newlands, mason work; A. Cameron, carpentry.

TORONTO, ONT.—The Board of Works awarded contracts for pavements as follows on Saturday last. Asphalt, Parliament street, from Gerrard to Carlton, Warren-Scharff Company, \$5,858; College street, from McCaul to Bathurst, Construction & Paving Co., \$23,378. Brick pavement, Dundas street, from Arthur to Jameson avenue, Shannon, Williams & Co., \$23,326. College street, from Bathurst to Dufferin, McKeown & Co., \$25,973.—The Harbor Commissioners have awarded the contract for crib work and piling at the western gap of Toronto bay to Messrs. Medlar & Arnot.

BIDS.

WILLODALE ONT.—The following were the tenders received for building 1 1/4 miles of 4 ft. sidewalk on the Davenport Road as advertised in CONTRACT RECORD on 17th inst., per hundred ft. board measure: Jones, \$22.00; Burns & McCormack, \$20.90; Cleland, \$20.00; Le Roy, \$19.95;

Hendrick, \$19.90; Hamlyn, \$19.90; Johnston, \$16.50; Ed. Graham, \$19.50; O'Brien, \$19.00; Brennan, \$18.75; Stewart, \$18.64; Kingsbury, \$18.50; T. Graham, \$18.45; Cathro, \$18.45; Kenney, \$18.00. The Engineer will make his report to the York Tp. council on Monday next, when the Council will decide to whom the contract shall be awarded.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The Road Committee have awarded contracts for the construction of sewers as follows: Chartier & Robert, Chenneville street, from Laguchetiere to Dorchester streets, 3x2 brick, \$6.47 per lineal yard, rock excavation \$3.50 per cubic yard: St. Famille street, from Prince Arthur street to Pine avenue, \$5.57, excavation, \$3.74; Metcalfe street, from Dorchester to St. Catherine streets, \$7.37, excavation \$3.50. M. Gossein, St. Hubert street, from Ray street to south line of St. Jean Baptiste ward, \$5.23, excavation \$3.50. St. Jean lane, from Fullum lane to Archambault lane, \$8.50, excavation \$4; Logan street, from Shaw street to de Lorimier avenue, \$6.99, excavation \$4, Pantaleon street, from end of existing sewer northward to Prince Arthur street, \$4.89, excavation \$4. C. Bellheumer, Dufresne street, from Logan street northward to end of existing sewer, \$6.99, excavation \$4. The contracts for Dulth ave., Rachel and St. Hubert streets, were left in the hands of the City Surveyor for a report.—Messrs. Bourgoun & Cadieux have been awarded the contract for the erection of six patrol stations, at the lump sum of \$17,800.

FIRES.

Mr. O. L. Hick's boathouse at Humber Bay was burned last week. Loss, \$3,000; partially insured.—The Edison Fitches Company's match splint factory at Etchemin, Que., was totally consumed by fire recently; insurance, \$19,700. The work of rebuilding will be commenced at once.—Miller Bros' paper mill at Glen Miller, Ont., about four miles from Trenton, was destroyed by fire on the 26th inst. The mill was valued at \$100,000, and was very lightly insured.—Latham & McCulloch's fancy goods store on Barrington street, Halifax, was burned on Monday last. Loss \$5,000, covered by insurance.—W. L. Lyall's tailor shop at Portage la Prairie, Man., has been destroyed by fire. Loss, \$2,000.—Rolph Smith, lithographing establishment, Toronto, was damaged by fire recently to the extent of \$30,000. The damage to machinery is placed at \$10,000. Insurance on building \$14,000.—The Haras National stables at Montreal, were destroyed by fire last week. Loss, \$50,000.—The large building at Montreal, occupied by the Empire tobacco factory was burned to the ground a few days ago. Loss between \$40,000 and \$50,000, said to be fully covered by insurance.—The dwelling house and store of L. H. Jenks, at Coaticook, Que., was burned on the 23rd inst. Loss covered by insurance.—R. Pincombe's oatmeal and cornmeal mill at Strathroy, was consumed by fire on the 25th inst. The building was of frame, five stories in height, with brick engine room and steam klin. Loss, \$20,000, partly covered by insurance.—John Hann & Sons' saw mill at Ten Mile Lake, near Rosseau, Ont., was burned on Tuesday last. Loss \$3,000, no insurance.—The R. & O. Company's shops at Sorel, Que., have been totally destroyed by fire. Loss on buildings and machinery, \$50,000.—A four-story building at 85 St. James street, Montreal, owned by Judge Cross, was almost completely destroyed by fire on Tuesday last. Loss on building and stock \$150,000.

SLATING FOR BLACKBOARDS.—There are quite a number of ways of doing this class of work. The great secret in putting up a good blackboard is to use no oil of any description in any of the coats. If it is plastered or papered surface you wish to slate, first give it a coat of glue size, then rub it down lightly with fine sandpaper, then give it a coat shellac varnish and lamp black enough to give it a fair body. If on wood omit the sizing. Then

give it two coats of either of the following:—1. Two quarts of alcohol, 1/2 pound shellac, 12 drachms lamp black, 20 drachms ultramarine blue, 4 ounces powdered Rochelle salts, 6 ounces powdered pumice stone. 2. One gallon of alcohol, 1 pound shellac, 1/2 pound ivory black, 5 ounces emery flour, and 4 ounces ultramarine blue. 3. Take equal parts of pumice stone and red lead, and grind them in a mixture of turpentine and best varnish; add enough lamp black to make a dark color, then thin with turpentine until it is perfectly flat. Apply with a brush and plend over. 4. One gallon of wood naphtha, 1 pound of shellac, 4 ounces ultramarine blue, 1 1/2 pounds soft water, 2 ounces pumice stone and powdered emery. The wood naphtha is cheaper than alcohol, and does as well. 5. One gallon shellac varnish, 4 pounds black manganese, 2 pounds soft water. All the above must be kept well stirred while using them, and when you are through put what you have left in a bottle and cork it up, and it will keep for a long time. If, at any time, the slating is too thick, mix with alcohol.

BUSINESS NOTES.

McGuire & Bird, plumbers, Toronto, have assigned to F. Barton.

Depatie & Pelteer will carry on a plastering business in Montreal.

The firm of John Sim & Co., plumbers and steam fitters, Toronto, has been dissolved.

Naylor & Son, plumbers, of Halifax, N. S., have opened a branch store in Dartmouth.

Henry Pepin, contractor, Montreal, has assigned, with liabilities estimated at \$30,000.

J. B. Mailhoit & Fils, contracting plasterers, Montreal, have assigned with liabilities of \$6,277.

Alexander Coallier and Louis Tauthier, Montreal, have formed a partnership as builders and contractors.

Messrs. Briggins, Clarkson & Co., contractors and builders, Woodstock, Ont., have dissolved partnership.

James McShane and James Devine, of Montreal, have formed a partnership to carry on a general plumbing business in that city.

Messrs J. B. Matson & H. W. Matson, builders and contractors, of Toronto, have dissolved partnership, Mr. H. W. Matson continuing the business under the style of Matson & Son.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

STABLES IN CITIES.

It is justly claimed by physicians that stables in cities, unless very carefully handled, are dangerous to the public health. In the June *Sanitarian* the dangerous condition of the stables in New York and Brooklyn, as now conducted, are pointed out. It is shown by the recent report of Dr. Tracey, chief of the Bureau of contagious diseases, to the New York Health department, that the death rate is considerably higher in houses located near stables than in those further removed; this increased death rate is particularly noticeable among children.

The editor of the *Sanitarian* makes the following comment on these reports, which the *Southern Architect* desires particularly to impress upon the health authorities of Atlanta and other southern cities:

That it is in the power of the health authorities to prevent the danger of stables to health cannot be doubted by any one who will take the pains to inform himself on the subject. As frequently pointed out in these pages, the danger consists primarily, for the most part, in the construction of stables with basements and areas around the walls used for storage of manure, with open grating over, between the walls and the pavement, permitting the escape of foul odors and mephitic gases: vaults, usually under the

pavement, for mature storage; porous and commonly undrained floors; too long keeping and piling up manure in the stables, as well as in the areas and vaults until it purifies, and the most intolerable nuisance of all—the process of delivering the manure from the areas, vaults and stables, across the pavements, to carts in the streets, offending the whole neighborhood! Why, in the exercise of common sense, should not the cart be compelled to load up in the stables instead of the streets? Is it because the stirring up of the too-long-retained manure in the stables and vaults for such delivery would be stifling to the stable men and horses, and the health authorities' greater concern for the comfort and health of the stable men and horses than for the people roundabout? Have not the health authorities the power to prevent such accumulations, to prohibit storing manure in areas, vaults and piles, promotive of its putrefaction—authority to require more frequent removals, and that the carts be loaded up and covered in the stables, instead of the streets?

Gas Tar Macadam Roads are built in Harrowgate, England, in the following manner, according to the Borough Engineer, B. Stead: The foundation material is first prepared by forming a heap of 2 1/4 inch broken limestone 6 feet wide, 15 to 18 inches high, and of any convenient length. A fire of wood and cinders is then made on top and the stones gradually turned over until all are at the same temperature. The stone is then spread on an iron plate while warm and mixed with gas tar, after which it is stacked in a heap for a few months. The surface material is formed by preparing a 9-inch bed of furnace ashes. This bed is 6 feet wide and 12 to 15 feet long, and is covered by one of the same dimensions, but of 3/8-inch stone. A fire is then kindled on the stone covered with ashes and allowed to burn three or more days. A pan is afterwards formed, as in slaking lime, with 6 inches of material on the ground and tar enough poured on to thoroughly coat the separate pieces. This material is allowed to stand for about 12 hours after the tar has been mixed into it, and is then mixed again. In forming a roadway a 3-inch layer of the foundation stone is first put down and rolled with a 10-ton steam roller, after which enough 3/4-inch chippings are spread over the top to even up the surface. These chippings are rolled and then covered with a thin layer of the surface material, chippings and ashes. This is rolled and the surface finished with a thin sprinkling of fine, well rolled limestone screenings.

DEBENTURES WANTED.

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