

Post-Canadian Institute
46 Richmond St.

THE Canadian Contract Record

A Weekly Journal of Advance Information and Public Works.

ITS PURPOSE: TO SUPPLY TO CONTRACTORS ADVANCE INFORMATION RESPECTING CONTRACTS OPEN TO TENDER, AND TO ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, MUNICIPAL AND OTHER CORPORATIONS, A DIRECT MEDIUM OF COMMUNICATION WITH CONTRACTORS.

ITS MERIT: ECONOMICAL AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE.

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THE CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD,
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Information from any part of the Dominion regarding contracts open to tender will be gratefully received.

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

At its Convention held in Toronto, Nov. 20 and 21, 1889, the Ontario Association of Architects signified its approval of the CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD, and pledged its members to use this journal as their medium of communication with contractors with respect to advertisements for Tenders.

The publisher of the "Canadian Contract Record" desires to ensure the regular and prompt delivery of this Journal to every subscriber, and requests that any cause of complaint in this particular be reported at once to the office of publication. Subscribers who may change their address should also give prompt notice of same, and in doing so, should give both old and new address.



NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Tenders will be received by registered post, addressed to the City Engineer, Toronto, up to noon on Tuesday, the 9th day of September, for the following works:
SEWER—Symington ave., Earnest street to C. P. Ry.; Batty street, Broadview ave. to Bowden street; Joyce street, Perth street to Symington ave.; Mowat ave., King street to south terminus; Curzon street, Queen street to Sproull ave.; Howard Park ave., Dundas street to Roncesvalles ave.; Christie street, present terminus of sewer to north city limit; Radcliffe ave., Eastern avenue to Queen street; Davenport road, Yonge street to Hazelton ave.
PAVEMENTS—Tuzzel ave. to Pape ave; College street, north side, Major street to Borden street.
STONE FLAGGING—Yonge street, west side, Queen street to College Street.
Plans can be seen and forms of tender obtained at the City Engineer's office, on and after the 2nd day of September.

A deposit in the form of a marked cheque, payable to the order of the City Treasurer, for the sum of 1 per cent. on the value of the work tendered for under \$1,000, and 2½ per cent. over that amount, must accompany each and every tender, otherwise it will not be entertained. All tenders must bear the bona fide signatures of the contractor and his sureties (see specifications) or they will be ruled out as informal.
The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS.

Property owners on the above named streets are here by notified by order of the City Engineer, that unless private drain connections, water and gas services, where required, are made before the construction of the pavements, a charge of \$2.50 per square yard of surface to be broken will be made if permission is asked to lay them afterward.

JOHN SHAW,
Chairman Committee on Works.
Committee Rooms, August 25th, 1890.

CLERK OF WORKS

Desires an engagement; first-class testimonials, English and Canadian. Address, "K. R.," 17 Elgin Avenue, Toronto, Ont.

TENDERS

Will be received by the undersigned up to 5 p.m. on SATURDAY, 13TH INST., for the various works required in the erection of a Cottage in Cote St. Antoine.

R. FINDLAY,
N. Y. Life Buildings, Montreal.

TENDERS WANTED.

Tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned until FRIDAY, SEPT. 12TH, for all works, except carpentering, required to erect and complete houses on Major Street and also on Fuller Ave.
The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. Contractors will be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their ability, financial and otherwise, to properly execute the work.

ROBT. OGLVIE, Architect,
9½ Adelaide St. E., Toronto.

WATERPROOF WHITEWASH.

A formula for a whitewash which can be applied to lime walls, and which afterwards becomes waterproof, so as to bear washing, is given in a German paper. Resenckek, of Munich, mixes together the powder from three parts of silicious rock (quartz), three parts of broken marble and sandstone, also two parts of burned porcelain clay, with two parts of freshly slaked lime, still warm. In this way, a wash is made which forms a silicate if often wetted, and becomes, after a time, almost like stone. The four constituents, mixed together, give the ground color, to which any pigment that can be used with lime is added. It is applied quite thickly to the wall or other surface, let dry one day, and the next day frequently covered with water, which makes it waterproof. This wash can be cleansed with water without losing any of its color; on the contrary, each time it gets harder, so that it can even be brushed, while its porosity makes it look soft. The wash, or calcimine, can be used for ordinary purposes, as well as for the finest painting. A so called fresco surface can be prepared with it in a dry way.—Invention.

LIEN LAW PRECEDENT.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania recently decided in two separate cases that a sub-contractor engaged in the erection of a building has no lien against the building if the contract between the owner and principal contractor proves that the building should be delivered free of liens. All contracts contain that proviso, but heretofore it was not supposed that it affected sub-contractors and material men, who are not parties to the contract and whose lien is given to them by statute as an extraordinary remedy. This interpretation of the law practically wipes out the Mechanics' lien law, which has been in operation since 1806, and makes all people who do work on or furnish material for a new building look to the principal

contractor alone for their money. Under the old ruling a dishonest contractor could underbid all competitors, do part of the work, draw about half the money and then refuse to pay the men. With the fear of a lien hanging over his property the owner was compelled to pay the men, although he had already paid the contractor.—Architecture and Building.

TO STRENGTHEN ROPES.

It has been suggested by a French exchange that in order to insure greater strength and, consequently, more safety in ropes used for scaffolding purposes, particularly in localities where the atmosphere is destructive to hemp fibre, such ropes should be dipped, when dry, into a bath containing twenty grains of sulphate of copper per litre of water, and kept in soak in this solution of water some four days, afterward being dried; the ropes will thus have absorbed a certain quantity of sulphate of copper, which will preserve them for some time both from the attacks of animal parasites and from rot. The copper salt may be fixed in the fibres by a coating of tar or by soapy water, and in order to do this it may be passed through a bath of boiled tar, hot, drawing it through a thimble to press back the excess of tar, and suspending it afterward on a staging to dry and harden. In a second method the rope is soaked in a solution of 100 grammes of soap per litre of water. The copper soap thus formed in the fibre of the rope is stated to preserve it even better than tar is capable of doing, which acts mechanically to imprison the sulphate of copper, which is the real preservative in the case.

FIREPROOFING EXTERIOR SURFACES.

It is found that a most effective composition for fireproofing exterior surfaces may be formed by slacking a sufficient quantity of freshly burned quicklime of the best grade, and when the slacking has become complete, adding such an amount of skim milk, or water in its absence, as will make a liquid of the consistency of cream. To every ten gallons of this liquid are added, separately and in powder, and with constant stirring, the following ingredients in the order named: two pounds of alum, twenty-four ounces sub-carbonate of potassium, or commercial potash, and one pound of common salt. If white paint is desired, no further addition is made to the liquid, though the whiteness is found to be improved by a few ounces of plaster of Paris. Lampblack has the effect of giving a number of shades from slate color to black. But whatever tint is used, it is incorporated at this stage, and the whole, after being strained through a sieve, is run through a paint mill. When ready to apply, the paint is heated nearly to the boiling point of water, and is put on in hot condition. It is also found that the addition of a quantity of fine white sand to this composition renders it valuable covering for roofs and crumbling brick walls.