

of the harbor was considered. Mr. Elias Rogers urged that plans should be prepared as soon as possible for diverting the Don river, while Mr. W. G. Goodeham and Mr. Kivas Tully advocated the early construction of a trunk sewer.—A. R. Denison, architect, is taking tenders for the club house at Kendal, Ont., referred to in a former issue.—D. B. Dick, architect, invites tenders in this issue for a bank building and store to be built at Simcoe, Ont.—Tenders close on the 21st inst. for a residence for Reuben Armstrong, from plans by Simpson & Ellis, architects.—The Confederation Life Association have had plans prepared by J. Wilson Gray, architect, for a new building to be erected on the south side of Queen street, between Yonge and Victoria streets.—Mr. G. W. Gounlock, architect, has prepared plans and will invite tenders in our next issue, for the remodeling of a large residence into a pair of semi-detached houses, also for erecting a new pair of semi detached houses on Bloor St. west, for J. Fisher Eby, estimated cost \$15,000.

FIRES.

Wm. McKeever's grocery store and A. Hermiston's furniture store at Listowel, Ont., were burned on Saturday last.—The store of G. W. Savage, at Novar, Ont., was damaged by fire last week to the extent of \$3,000, covered by insurance.—Buildings on Front street west, Toronto, owned by the Worthington Estate, were damaged by fire recently to the extent of \$10,000, the loss being covered by insurance.—The Gananoque Furniture & Undertaking Co.'s building at Gananoque, was destroyed by fire on the 14th inst; loss \$3,500, small insurance.—The Oxford hotel at Oxford, N. S., owned by Edward Thompson, was gutted by fire last week.—The public school building at Rat Portage, Ont., has been burned.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

STRATFORD, ONT.—The tender of E. A. Cawsey, for building the new city hall, has been accepted; price \$29,000.

PENETANGUISHENE, ONT.—A. Tessier, of this town, has secured the contract for building the Simcoe county house of refuge; price \$14,966.

SARNIA, ONT.—The tender of John McDougall, of the Caledonia Iron Works, Montreal, for a 3,000,000 gallon Worthington pump, has been accepted by the town; price \$8,180.

TORONTO, ONT.—Mr. F. H. Herbert, architect, has awarded contracts for new residence on Maple avenue for James Henderson, barrister, as follows: Brickwork, Dancy Bros.; carpenter work, Hutchins & Burns; painting, John W. Knott; plastering, Dancy Bros.; galvanized iron, Ormsby & Co.; roofing, Rennie & Son; plumbing, Bennett & Wright Co.—A. R. Denison, architect, has accepted the following tenders for the erection of a building for the Cawthra Estate, corner Temperance and Yonge streets: Masonry, Thompson Bros., \$15,150; iron work, Dominion Bridge Co., \$7,300; carpenter work, George Henry, \$7,950; plastering, Beaver Bros., \$640; painting and glazing, J. Stewart, \$1,440; plumbing and heating, W. J. Maguire, \$3,850; roofing, Hutson & Son, \$284; sheet metal work, Douglas Bros., \$2,902; elevators, Fensom & Co., \$900; other trades not yet let. Same architect has let the contract for the Don Rowing Club's building to John E. Russell.

THE O. A. A.—A CRITICISM.

The following communication, having been received too late for insertion in the March number of the CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER, for which it was intended, is, under the circumstances, given a position here:

Editor CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER.

DEAR SIR,—It has occurred to me very forcibly since reading an account of the convention of the O. A. A. in the last number of the CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER, that one of the great causes of the Association's want of success is the inconsistency of its members. When an outsider hears so much talk about ethics, conduct in competition, etc., it rather disgusts him to see results. If it were only ordinary members who sinned, the case would not be quite so bad, but when, as in the late London competition for a hospital, three members of the Council entered a competition in which the whole association through the Council had been insulted, a most extraordinary example of association ethics is shown to the outsider.

It would be hard to find a worse example of public competition than this one, and yet these three Council men (who, if they were not mere figureheads in the Council, must have known the fraud imposed by the conditions on architects) submitted their drawings apparently with quite an elastic conscience as to the

duties required of them as members of the Council.

It seems to me a crime of no small magnitude for any man to accept such a position unless he fully intend, to live up to it. The example and influence from a member of the Council is very far-reaching and will either greatly help or greatly hinder the cause which the conscientious men in the Association are trying to advance.

As an outsider I merely venture to suggest this as one probable cause for the want of new members. What is to be gained by becoming one under such conditions? Certainly no prestige or extra recognition from the public. As to more material advantages there seem to be none. If the Council would investigate and advise members as to the character of competitions, a great deal of good would be accomplished, much more than by some of the Council entering every shoddy competition that comes along.

There is a grand opportunity for the Council to distinguish itself in the St. Thomas city hall competition, conditions of which have just come to hand. Let it show outsiders that the Association means something.

Awaiting with keen expectancy some results from that august body the "Ontario Association of Architects," I remain,

Yours faithfully,

A YOUNG ARCHITECT.

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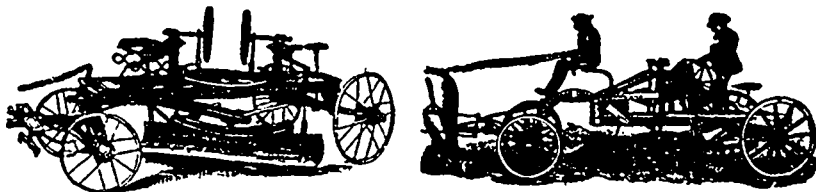
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