

extension to fuselage building, 180 x 80 ft., and a seven bay extension to fuselage building, 120 x 14 ft.

All details of construction are what might be termed standard; that is, all steel is of standard size and lengths. All partitions, etc., throughout the plants are in small units and standardized, so as to permit them being moved from place to place and put up again without cutting.

Quantity Surveys for Buildings

Competitive methods are more vicious today than ever. The age of efficiency in which we are at present developed, is producing many fine high class specialists, but in reality the whole scheme is nothing but a most scientific method of price reduction. For instance, if through your efficiency man you can save a dollar a thousand in laying brick, what becomes of the dollar? The next job you figure you reduce that bid a dollar a thousand on brick and pass the result of your scientific organization work over your head back into the pockets of capital.

Out of all the chaos there finally comes a ray of light, more than a hope, a sure, time proven process that will eliminate the evils of the present day competitive menace.

This acknowledged remedy is known as the "Central Quality Survey" method. Under its guiding hand a full value and uniform competitive list of quantities can be established in any market; it gathers statistical information of inestimable value, to be in turn imparted to all. It covers costs, estimating, standardization, credits, insurance, and such legal matters as must necessarily come under its scope. It has full association powers and has proven to be a direct producer of profits for those who have had the perseverance to incorporate the work.

We all know each item on a plan represents a certain value, and every item omitted is an absolute loss. The items on a plan represent the material you will be obligated to buy, and the labor you must pay for in executing the work. Therefore, the interpretation of every plan must be as near perfect as possible, free from confusion, and the only way to stop confusion is to have a job listed by one man carefully and properly and all competitors accept this uniform and correct interpretation. In fact, it is the most economic, most efficient, most properly applied principle ever submitted to the building interests.—C. E. Flamboe in a Builder's Bulletin of the Master Builders' Association of Wisconsin.

Commercial Restrictions Withdrawn

Important cable dispatches have been received by Mr. G. T. Milne and Mr. F. W. Field, the British Trade Commissioners at Montreal and Toronto respectively, from the Imperial Department of Overseas Trade in London pointing out that since the armistice was signed many restrictions on commerce have been withdrawn, while in the case of those which remain, licenses are being granted much more freely than previously. Particulars regarding these relaxations will be published weekly in the "Board of Trade Journal," the official organ of the Imperial Government for notices regarding trade.

Orders placed during the war period now have good prospects of being executed, and arrangements for new business should be made without delay.

The following relaxations in particular should be noted:—

1. Permits to manufacture and Priority Certificates in connection therewith are no longer necessary.

2. Firms are at liberty to accept civil or commercial orders for immediate execution, thus freeing the engineering industry among others, for commercial work.

3. All the principal kinds of raw materials may now be used for the commercial manufacture of goods for export, but these raw materials themselves may not be exported in certain cases without licenses. Among those to which this condition applies are the following:—

Aluminum, Brass, Iron, Nickel, Steel, Antimony, Copper, Lead, Spelter or Zinc, Tin.

In general, restrictions on the export of manufactured goods have been removed, while they have been retained in the case of raw materials.

The following list indicates some of the most important items the export of which was formerly prohibited to all countries, but which are now permitted to be exported to any part of the British Empire:—

Articles—manufactures of asbestos; belting, cotton—including belting impregnated with balata or rubber; copper—and manufactures of—except wire bars, plates, rods, sheets, stripe tubes; galvanized sheets—corrugated or flat; iron and steel rivets, nuts and screws; iron and steel wire cloth, linoleum, magnesite and magnesite bricks, nails, (wire), steel sheets, (black), tools, (small).

Certain factors will continue to hamper the export trade, notably (1) shortage of labour till the army is demobilized, (2) shortage of tonnage, (3) the need for reorganization of plant in certain industries before resuming normal work, but it is considered that the effect of these factors will diminish greatly in a few months.