

CONTRACTS OPEN.

ORANGEVILLE, ONT.—A new water works engine house is to be erected.

SOURIS, MAN.—Messrs. McCulloch & Harriott intend erecting a grain elevator.

PEMBROKE, ONT.—The cost of the proposed new waterworks system is estimated at \$50,000.

NANAIMO, B. C.—The ratepayers have sanctioned a by-law to light the streets with electricity.

FORT WILLIAM, ONT.—The corner stone of a new Methodist Church was laid here a few days ago.

PENETANG, ONT.—The Council have under consideration the construction of a fire alarm system.

ALEXANDRIA BAY, ONT.—It is probable that a fish hatchery may be established here at a cost of \$25,000.

ROXTON FALLS, QUE.—A bonus has been offered for the erection here of a manufactory of woolen goods.

TRURO, N. S.—Mr. D. H. Muir will receive tenders until the 15th inst., for the erection of a house on Prince street.

ANNAPOLIS, N. S.—The Windsor & Annapolis Railway Co. will shortly construct a steel or iron bridge over the Kentville river.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.—Messrs. Sharp & Maclure, architects, invite tenders for the erection of a fine residence on Clinton Place.

SPRINGHILL, N. S.—The Roman Catholic congregation will shortly erect a new church. Subscriptions are now being solicited.

MINNEDOSA, MAN.—It is stated that Messrs. W. B. Waddell, Geo. Black and R. T. Walmsey will each erect new dwelling houses shortly.

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONT.—The by-law submitted to the property holders to raise another \$100,000 for the water-power canal was carried.

NEWHURY, ONT.—A by-law has been carried by the ratepayers authorizing the council to raise the sum of \$1,000 to build a new school house.

BROCKVILLE, ONT.—An addition to the hotel at Westminster Park is to be built at the close of present season.—The new Separate School will cost \$26,000.

CHILLIWHACK, B. C.—The Chilliwack Tramway Company has been incorporated, with a capital stock of \$25,000, to construct and operate a street railway.

WIARTON, ONT.—The ratepayers have sanctioned the expenditure of \$5,000 for water works extension.—A new school is to be erected at a cost of \$6,000.

NORWOOD, ONT.—At a meeting of the ratepayers held on the 31st July it was decided to proceed at once with the erection of a large addition to the present High School building.

NORTH BAY, ONT.—A by-law has been prepared by the Council with the object of raising \$37,000 for waterworks construction.—Another by-law proposes to raise \$6,000 for a public school.

WINDSOR, ONT.—A deposit of copper having been found at Cottam, it is said to be the intention of a syndicate to erect smelting works at Ruthven, and a line to connect the same with the mines.

AMHERSTBURG, ONT.—The Water Committee has recommended the extension of water mains as follows: Maple Ave., 500 ft.; Brock St., 700 ft.; King St., 1,000 ft.; George St., 300 ft.; Sandwich St., 700 ft.; River Front, 2,000 ft.

TILSONBURG, ONT.—Mr. J. M. Moore, civil engineer, of London, has recently been making surveys with a view of estimating the cost of extending the waterworks.—By-laws will be passed for the construction of composition stone sidewalks.

ESSEX, ONT.—The Mayor will receive tenders until 4 p.m. on the 12th inst. for the construction in whole or in parts of a system of waterworks. Plans and all information obtainable at the Mayor's office or from John Galt, Canada Life building, Toronto.

HALIFAX, N. S.—The City Treasurer invites tenders until the 27th inst. for a loan of \$15,000, to be expended in the extension of the water works.—The Board of Works has decided to construct sewers on the following streets: Inglis street, cost \$1,400; Queen and Birmingham streets, cost \$1,500.

BRANDON, MAN.—A company of citizens has been organized to construct and operate an electric street railway.—The council are discussing the best means of obtaining the necessary funds for the construction of water works and sewerage systems.—The proprietor of the *Times* will shortly erect a new building.

OTTAWA, ONT.—The sum of \$3,000 is to be expended in the construction of public baths.—The General Phosphate Corporation is having a typographical map prepared with a view to obtaining estimates for a permanent plant at High Falls and Ross Mountain. The adoption of either steam or electricity as the motive power is under consideration.

LONDON, ONT.—The City Engineer is preparing plans for a sewer on Waterloo St., between York and King Sts.—It has been decided to erect the public baths, \$7,000 for which was donated by the Messrs. Leonard. Work will be commenced at once.—Mr. John M. Moore, architect, will receive tenders until the 10th inst. for alterations and additions to the Grigg House, for Mr. John M. McKinnon.

HAMILTON, ONT.—Mr. James Balfour, architect, will receive tenders until the 14th inst. for the several works required in the erection of the Unitarian Church.—Building permits have been granted as follows: John Calder, alterations to dwelling, cor. Hughson and Maria Sts., cost \$6,000; C. Johnston, bk. dwelling on East Ave., between King William and Wilson Sts., cost \$1,200; St. John's Presbyterian Church, alterations to dwelling on Main St., between Emerald St. and Erie Ave., cost \$1,200.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The plans of Mr. Hodson, architect, have been accepted for the proposed mission church to be erected on Craig street. The building will cost about \$12,000, will be built of stone and brick, and will be three stories high.—The city council have notified the ratepayers of their intention to widen St. Catherine street, between Parthenais street and Fullum street, and to extend Viger Square easterly as far as Campeau street and westerly as far as south line of said square.—The excavating has been commenced for the new asylum for the poor, at the corner of Dorchester and Seigneur streets.—The citizens of St. Henri intend to present a new petition to the Minister of Public Works concerning the erection of a new post office. Citizens have pronounced themselves in favor of having the new building on Notre Dame St., near the railway station.—A loan of \$50,000 for public improvements has been negotiated by the municipality of St. Henri.

TORONTO, ONT.—The Separate School Board have instructed Messrs. Post & Holmes, architects, to prepare plans for a four-roomed school in St. Helen's Parish, to be used by the French-Canadian population.—The Balmy Beach Palace Hotel Co., of Toronto, is the name of a company proposed to be formed for the purpose of erecting a \$75,000 hotel at Balmy Beach, near this city.—A site for a new fire hall on St. Clarence Ave. has been recommended to the Council.—Building permits have been granted as follows.—Robt. Davies, 3-storey bk. addition and alterations to hotel, cor. King and Princess Sts., cost \$10,000; David Roberts, (for company) 5-storey stone and bk. office bldg., junction of Wellington and Front Sts., cost \$66,000; Wm. Mosher, pr. s. d. 2-storey bk. dwellings, e. s. Dovercourt Rd., s. of Queen St., cost \$3,200; W. Randall, pr. s. d. 2-storey bk. dwellings, e. s. Dovercourt Rd., nr. s. end, cost 3,200; S. Caldecott, 2-storey bk. addition, 155 Bloor St. e., cost \$900; John Brewer, 2-storey bk. addition, etc., 138 Davenport Rd., cost \$3,500; Wm. Tedford, 3-storey bk. store and dwelling, 113 Elizabeth St., cost \$3,000; E. F. Stiles, pr. s. d. 2-storey and attic

bk. dwellings, 174-6 Mutual St., cost \$9,000; J. B. LeRoy, 2-storey b. f. dwelling, 45 Sautter St., cost \$1,200; Dancy Bros., pr. s. d. 2-storey and attic bk. dwellings, w. side Spadina Ave., opp. Knox College, cost \$8,000; Ontario Government, bk. addition to Osgoode Hall, cost \$11,000; Hy. Parsons, 3-storey, bk. store and dwelling, 874 Yonge St., cost \$2,000; Hy. J. Smith, pr. s. d. 2-storey and attic bk. dwellings, e. side Manning Ave., 200 yds. s. of Ulster St., cost \$9,000; L. Crocker, pr. s. d. 2-storey and attic bk. dwellings, w. side Concord Ave., nr. Bloor St., cost \$6,000; Jos. Wright, 3-storey bk. factory, e. s. Dalhousie St., n. of Queen St., cost \$2,700.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

SOUTHAMPTON, ONT.—The contract of improving the river dock has been given to Mr. Finlay McLennan.

LONDON, ONT.—Messrs. Tamblin & Jones have been awarded the contract for the extension to the Huron College.

SHERBROOKE, QUE.—Mr. G. G. Bryant has secured the contract for the erection of the Worsted Co.'s new building.

GIL SPRINGS, ONT.—The contract for a new brick church has been let to Gillespie & Co., of Alvinston, at the price of \$6,000.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.—Messrs. Turnbull & Co. have been given the contract for the Dupont Block. The work will cost \$70,000.

LUNENBURG, N. S.—The Buckler Brick Company, of Annapolis, have secured the contract for supplying the brick for the new court house and jail. About 400,000 pressed brick will be required.

VANCOUVER, B. C.—The tenders for the completion of the Alexandria Hospital have been awarded as follows: Carpentering, W. T. Jackson; plumbing, Connor & Glennon; plastering, George Fuller.—Messrs. Simpson & Findlay have secured the contract for erecting an addition to the High School building.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The contract for supplying the Water Department with iron pipes has been given to the Canada Pipe Co.—Messrs. Borthwick & Henry, of Ottawa, have been awarded the contract for drainage of the Lachine Canal. The work, which will cost about \$100,000, will consist of a covered brick sewer, 6 ft. x 4 ft., beginning at Convent station and extending under the track of the C.P.R. a distance of 2,222 yards. From this will be connected an open trench, 13 ft. 5 in. wide at the bottom and 26 ft. at the top, along the dump of the canal, a distance of 16,745 ft., emptying into the river St. Pierre, a little above Cote St. Paul road. The contractors have two years in which to complete the work.—Tenders for the erection of a school for the Dissentients of St. Henri and St. Cunegonde have been awarded as follows: Carpentering, — Jacob, \$7,317; masonry, \$3,887; brick work, W. H. Boon, \$7,000; roofing, Montreal Roofing Co., \$518; plumbing, Carrol Bros., \$127; plastering, — Philips, \$1,250; painting and glazing, W. Young, \$1,150; heating and ventilating, Smead-Dowd Co.; total, \$21,249.

It is often desired to have Plaster of Paris harden slowly, this can be effected by adding from three to ten per cent. by weight of powdered marshmallow root to the plaster, before mixing with water.

There are many people, even good tradesmen, who are not aware that pure water will absorb metallic lead also pure; yet the fact is incontestable, and may be thus readily proved. Suspend in a bottle of pure water, a strip of freshly cut metallic lead, leave it there for a few weeks, then remove it and test the water by adding a few drops of potassic chromate. The result will be that a yellow precipitate of lead chromate will prove the presence of lead in the water.