

other hand, the Norcross case bore every evidence of lying only in a paper patent put forward to fight Turner's claims for invention and his prospective, if not actual, demands for royalty. Neither patent, in the views of most engineers to-day, was anything but a step forward in design, and the enforcement of a tax to be paid to either one of the patentees on the ground that his was a broad basic patent was bound to be resented as a legal imposition, although unfortunately there was no redress when once the courts had made their decision.

OTTAWA CONTRACTORS ORGANIZE

SPEAKING last month, at the organization meeting of the Association of Ottawa Building and Construction Industries, J. P. Anglin, of Montreal, declared that since 1913, building costs, including supplies and labor, have only increased 57%, which is, relatively speaking, the lowest increase of any of the industries. Statistics show that farm produce had increased 123%, clothing 152%, drugs 104% and house furnishings 133%.

In outlining the importance of an organization for contractors, Mr. Anglin stated that the building fraternity would eventually "put themselves and their industries in Canada on the map." In the past years, contractors have never been consulted by the government on matters dealing with reconstruction and other important problems, and he believes that strong organization is the only means by which the fraternity will be able to command recognition. He voiced his approval of a standard form of contract, which would provide for labor troubles and arbitration clause. "If Canada is to go ahead in the next few years, we have all got to work together for a maximum amount of production in all lines," he stated. "As it is now, we are only getting about 25% efficiency, where it should at the least be 50%. We pay the men the wages they demand, but to increase our efficiency there must be some other incentive. Get your men to understand and take an interest in your business, and it will aid as a solution in solving the reconstruction problem."

Preliminary steps were taken by the contractors at the meeting to cope with the troubles that arose with the building unions on May 1st, and which had been anticipated by many of the Ottawa contractors. A representative from each class of contractors and supply dealers was appointed on an executive committee which interviewed the Minister of Labor on the labor question and which appointed a council to meet representatives of organized labor.

A. S. Clarkson, general secretary of the Association of Canadian Building and Construction Industries, was also present, and gave a very clear insight into the reconstruction problem and the aims of the organization. "The contracting fraternity," stated Mr. Clarkson, "is just like a great democracy which was poorly organized in Canada. With big democracy which was poorly organized in Canada. With out efficient public and private education, the corporation of contractors would easily wander into Bolshevism of industry. A primary duty of reconstruction, as we are viewing it, is not only a better understanding between all builders and contractors, but towards better education. To this end we should have a representative sitting on every government commission that may be appointed which has to do with repatriation, reconstruction, immigration, or any other progressive movement that may arise along the lines of conservation of energy and ability. Public opening of tenders is another aim. We are determined that our Canadian goods will be used wherever possible. With all respect to our American friends, we should not buy building material from United States, when our own manufacturers can supply as good if not better material."

Mr. Clarkson stated that labor matters would be fairly dealt with by the association, and that the association expects to have the co-operation of Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress. "Let there be no dishonoring of the draft of devotion which our soldiers have made," stated Mr. Clarkson. "Let no spirits arise that will suggest Bolshevism, which is just Czarism in overalls."

J. T. Blyth spoke on the labor problem and stated that it was going to be impossible for any contractor to exploit labor or make money out of labor. "Labor is so strong," asserted Mr. Blyth, "that at the present time, the only way to deal with the proposition is on a business basis. It is up to the building trades to organize on a basis where we can meet organized labor and arrange terms where the working man shall have something more than a bare living wage."

Charles Hopewell presided at the meeting and said that with earnest co-operation there was no doubt that the organization in Ottawa would be a pronounced success. A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Anglin and Mr. Clarkson for their assistance in forming the new local organization.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

JEFFREY TYPE-A SHREDDER.—Catalogue No. 245, published by the Jeffrey Manufacturing Co., Montreal, 28 pages and cover, 6 x 7 ins., two colors, coated paper, well illustrated. Describes swing-hammer shredder for paper mills, tanneries, turpentine works and extracting works.

SCOOP CONVEYOR.—"Over One Thousand Scoop Conveyors" is the title of a 20-page folder published by the Portable Machinery Co., Passaic, N.J. Printed in two colors on coated paper and well illustrated with views showing the various uses of the conveyor in storing, reclaiming, loading and unloading material such as coal, coke, ashes, sand, gravel, crushed stone, cement, chemicals, etc. Thirty-two letters from users testify to the merits of the conveyor.

HEAVY DUTY OIL ENGINES.—Bulletin O.E. 20, published by the Pittsburgh Filter & Engineering Co., Oil City, Pa., 20 pages, 6½ x 9 ins., illustrated. Describes a new type of marine oil engine, embodying the Brons or Hvid principle. The motor has no carburetor, hot bulb or plate, spark plug, high pressure air-compressor, fuel pump or spray valve. The motor is started cold and is put under full load within a few seconds. The motor uses any kind of oil from kerosene to the heaviest of fuel oil. The same fuel that is used for operation is used for starting.

COST-PLUS-FEE CONTRACT FOR BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

(Continued from page 439)

certified off by the engineers. Immediate disposition shall be made of any such items certified off at times prior to the end of the work by sale or otherwise, as may be directed. Tools or other elements so destroyed, lost or missing from the work as to make impracticable the presentation of broken parts, should be accounted for by suitable affidavit made at the time of such destruction.

Payments

On or about the first day of the month the contractor shall prepare a statement showing the amounts which he has expended for labor and materials, including the rentals of the plant during the previous month (which had been previously ordered and approved by the engineers); such statement shall be accompanied by signed pay rolls and receipted bills, or other evidence that payments have been made for all of the expenditures represented. The engineers shall verify such statement and, if found correct, shall render estimates to the city covering the total amount of such statements, or so much thereof as may be found correct. Payments in cash, in the manner hereinafter provided, will be made upon the engineers' estimates about fifteen days after they are rendered. The engineers' decisions shall govern as to what items shall be and what shall not be included in the estimate under the cost of the work as provided herein. The estimate shall show the total gross amount of expenditures to date, the expenditures for the month past, and the previously allowed payments. The total amount of the estimate, less previous payments, shall be paid to the contractor in cash.