

stringers with which they were compared; while the floor joists (of both kinds of wood) were about equal in strength. In stiffness, the fire-killed wood was fully equal to the green wood for all sizes tested. In general, tests indicate that the sound wood from fire-killed Douglas fir of the Pacific Coast may safely be used for general construction purposes, and that its merits are nearly, if not quite equal to those of material from green, growing trees. It should be emphasized, however, that these results apply only to sound wood. Pieces showing indications of decay, whether cut from green or from dead trees, should be rigidly excluded where strength or durability is important.

Victoria, B.C.—Mr. W. A. Young, the new comptroller of water rights, who is also an engineer, has been very busy lately outlining the work to be undertaken this year by the hydrographic engineers employed by the provincial government. A systematic survey of the water courses, to determine their capacity for power, irrigation and other purposes, is to be made this year in the farther outlying districts of the province. Last year the Kootenay, Okanagan, Thompson, Fraser, Nicola and Similkameen valleys were well covered; but this year these sections are to be more thoroughly examined and mapped. The government is issuing maps of the various watersheds as completed, showing the capacities of the various creeks and rivers. A feature of the policy is the assignation of different engineers to certain fixed districts, in which they will have full charge of all matters connected with hydrographic work. They are also special commissioners to investigate difficulties arising in claims for water rights, having the power to report the best policy to adopt where there is a conflict between ranchers and others.

PERSONAL.

H. L. FITZSIMMONS, of the Toronto city engineers' department, has been appointed building inspector of Prince Albert, Sask.

MR. LESLIE T. STONE, assistant engineer of the Grand Trunk Railway, at London, has been appointed division engineer.

MR. J. G. MILL is resigning from the city engineer's department, Toronto, and has been awarded the contract at Brighton, Ont., for the waterworks installation. The town will expend \$50,000 on same.

MR. T. A. MURRAY, consulting engineer, Toronto, is leaving Friday, April 17th, for a month's trip to Fort William and Kenora, and as far west as Macleod, Alta., in connection with his business interests in the West.

GEO. T. CLARK'S resignation, which he recently tendered as city engineer of Saskatoon, has been reconsidered by the council, as a result of which Mr. Clark will continue in the capacity of city engineer of that city.

MR. FREDERICK G. GOODSPEED, formerly of Peniac, York county, has been appointed acting district engineer for the federal department of public works with headquarters in St. John, N.B., succeeding Mr. J. K. Scammell, resigned.

ARTHUR H. BLANCHARD, M.Can.Soc.C.E., professor of Highway Engineering, Columbia University, on April 10th delivered an illustrated address entitled "Modern Bituminous pavements for Municipalities" before the Board of Trade of Elizabeth, N.J.

MR. GEO. W. THOMPSON has been appointed temporary acting controller by the city council of Westmount, Que. Many applications for the position had been received

from England and the United States, as well as throughout the Dominion. Mr. Thompson was previously superintendent of the light and power department of the city.

MR. CHAS. E. FRASER, B.Sc., graduate of McGill University, class of 1899, and partner of the firm of Fraser, Brace & Company, of New York, it seems, has been awarded the \$3,000,000 contract for the development of the Cedar Rapids Manufacturing Co. works. Mr. Fraser's firm has also carried out successfully a considerable number of large and important contracts. Among these were the construction of a big power dam at Shelbourne, Mass., a bridge contract in the New England States, a power flume on the United States side of the Niagara Falls, and the most difficult portion of the development works of the Canadian Light and Power Company at Valleyfield, being in connection with the locks of the waterway.

F. W. THOROLD, B.A.Sc., Toronto, has incorporated the F. W. Thorold Company, Limited, consulting engineers and contractors. Mr. Thorold has had fifteen years' experience in engineering and contracting work in all parts of Canada. He was formerly chief assistant engineer for the city of Toronto, and for four years was city engineer of Calgary, Alta. He has successfully designed and superintended the construction of numerous sewerage and waterworks systems, hydro-electric developments, etc., and has conducted a large number of important surveys. The F. W. Thorold Company will specialize on municipal work and public utilities. It is the intention of the firm to make surveys, designs and reports in regard to public utilities, construct them on a contract or cost plus percentage basis and turn them over to a town or city in running order.

The following are the names of some of the engineers who have been assigned to fixed districts in regards to the hydrographic work of the British Columbia Government: Mr. W. G. E. Biker, who surveyed part of the Kootenay watersheds and determined the power which is available in the Cranbrook water district, is this year to make an exhaustive examination of the water power in and around Nelson. Mr. O. J. Bergoust, who reported on the upper Similkameen and part of the Okanagan watersheds, will this year be stationed at Revelstoke to make hydrographic observations. Mr. H. B. Hicks will continue his work in the Kootenay watershed. Mr. P. J. de Latour is already in the field with a party, with headquarters at Nicola Lake.

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

The headquarters of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers were last Friday moved from 413 Dorchester Street West to 176 Mansfield Street, Montreal. Owing to this removal the regular monthly meeting scheduled for the 10th has been postponed to the 24th instant.

Announcement is made of the thirteenth annual six weeks summer school of the College of Engineering of the University of Wisconsin, which opens on the 23rd of June.

Courses of instruction and laboratory practice are offered in Electrical, Hydraulic, Steam and Gas Engineering, Mechanical Drawing, Applied Mechanics, Testing of Materials, Machine Design, Shopwork and Surveying, in addition to which subjects may be taken in the College of Letters and Science.

For bulletin address F. E. Turneure, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.