column, to settle their differences. If some love sick youth wants to know what would be his proper attitude toward his young lady, under certain conditions, he writes this newspaper sage.

This fountain <u>of knowledge</u> gives remedies for sick cats, sick horses and sick people alike. He settles political arguments, recommends investments, suggests recipes, gives advice to ambitious young men and is the authority for what is good or bad form at all social functions.

We are not prepared to state to what extent the public is justified in accepting the advice of the daily newspaper editor, on technical subjects. generally, but judging from a statement made in "Everybody's Column" in the TORONTO STAR of June the 15th on the subject "Becoming an Architect" we are inclined to believe that this newspaper sage though he may be an authority on every other science and art under the sun, he still has much to learn about Architecture.

Judging from the reply to "An Old Subscriber," who evidently aspires to become an architect, the nine questions asked we would assume to be about as follows: 1st. What are the requirements of an architect? 2nd. What is the basis of remuneration of the architect? 3rd? What course of training would you advise? 4th. What subjects would be most valuable in the high school for a student desiring to become an architect? 5th. Is there a present demand for architects? 6th. How many architects are there in Toronto? 7th. What is the usual income of the architect? 8th. How long does it take to prepare plans for a house? 9th. Does the architect superintend as well as draw plans?

To these questions the editor of *Everybody's Column*" in the TORONTO STAR gives the following laughably ridiculous answers:

"I. An architect requires more than skill in mechanical training. One of the essentials is an eye for the original, considerable versatility, and a little bit of the inventive faculty, but these would probably all develop in time, and as the drawing end of the business is the first essential, you would probably make an architect, with sufficient application.

"2. There are different methods of estimating charges for drawing up plans. The percentage basis is in common use, while many have a fixed charge. Quite often the architect 'throws in' the plan when he gets the contract. I

"3. As the practical part is the more valuable, you would probably find a course in architectural drawing, without the full S.P.S. course, more beneficial in the end. You would, under ordinary circumstances, find it necessary to take a minor position in an architect's office and work your way up, so the sooner you could take such a position the quicker you would be able to command the larger salaries.

"4. Of the High School subjects, mathematics and science could be turned to the most practical use at the School of Science.

"5. There will always be a demand for architects in Toronto as long as the building operations continue.

"6. There is in the neighborhood of seventy-five architects on the Toronto list.

"7. Rather varied. Might range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 a year income. Many of the best known architects are contractors as well.

"8. Time required to make plans for a house would depend on changes made. The original drawing of plans for an ordinary residence should not occupy more than a few hours.

"9. Architect would not superintend the building operations, unless he was the contractor as well. His plans would have to pass inspection. After that he is relieved of responsibility."

It is hard for us to understand how a man who is entrusted to act as the advisor of the readers of a paper of the character of the TORONTO STAR should displaysuch dense ignorance of the basic principal of such an important profession as architecture. The statements are so obviously ridiculous that further comment would be superfluous. The real evil in the publication of such trash is that, either by design or through dense ignorance, it gives the laity (that as a rule take little interest in technical journals) a entirely erroneous impression of the real functions of the architect.

BUILDING RETURNS FROM SEVEN-TEEN CITIES SHOW AN AVERAGE GAIN OF 74 PER CENT. - - - - -

CCORDING TO AVAILABLE STATISTICS for April, the flood-tide of building prosperity is still rising, and as yet nothing seems imminent to stem

the flow. Enormous increases are noted in all the provinces and the average gain for the month is 74 per cent. So far this year, the monthly high water marks of other years have been entirely submerged, and although the "intermediate or quiet season" is at hand when the force of activity in the building line usually lessens, instead of either the east or the west showing any signs of a curtailmen: in operations, there is every indication that the substantial and satisfactory headway that has been made up to the present time will continue throughout the summer months.

The report for the month as compiled by CONSTRUCTION includes returns from twenty representative centres throughout the Dominion, all of which reflect in a fairly accurate degree the exact condition of affairs in their respective districts. Out of this number only three have failed to equal their amount for the corresponding period of last year. Halifax shows a decrease of 46 per cent., Moose Jaw 19 per cent., and Fort William 5.26 per cent , a decline in the latter case due to a slight settling down after the preceding month, when this city recorded a mighty gain of 1.188 per cent

On the other hand, the increases range all the way from 8 to 564 per cent. In the Eastern section, Sydney and St. John shows an advance of 455 per cent. (the second largest increase for the month), and 79 per cent. respectively, and Montreal attaches a gain of 92 per cent. to the other substantial monthly gains she has made throughout the season. The largest increase for the month is noted in the case of Brandon, which has reached the king row with a gigantic gain of 564 per cent., while Winnipeg exceeds last year's figures for the month by 97 per cent.

Calgary and Edmonton's growth for the month was practically identical, their gains in order named being 379 per cent. and 375 per cent., which gives an idea of the forward strides that are being made in Alberta; while in Saskatchewan, despite Moose Jaw's falling off, Regina is ahead by 137 per cent. and Saskatoon has an aggregate total of \$146,985, which amount is greatly in excess of that of the corresponding period of 1907.

In British Columbia everything is apparently moving along in a highly satisfactory manner, Vancouver and Victoria both showing substantial gains.

A most gratifying condition is also to be noted throughout Ontario, where all cities, except Fort William, as stated above, record material gains. Toronto issuel permits for \$1,887,532 worth of new building as against \$1,216,982 for the same month of 1908, thus showing a gain of 55 per cent. Berlin records an increase of 190 per cent., while London and Peterboro show substantial progress by an advance of 79 per cent. and 54 per cent respectively.

	Permits for May, 1909.	Permits for May, 1908.	Increase, Per cent.	Dec., P.C.
Berlin, Ont	50,000	17,200	190.69	
Brandon, Man	88,225	13,270	564.84	• • • •
Calgary, Alta	370,650	77,350	379.18	
Edmonton, Alta	368,005	77,362	375.69	
Fort William, Ont	123,650	130,520	· · · · ·	5.26
Hallfax, N.S.	103,447	194,215		46.73
London, Ont.	88,620	49,300	79.75	
Montreal, P.Q.	1,269,504	659,680	92.47	
Moose Jaw, Sask.	48,700	60,200		19.10
Peterboro, Ont	42,155	27,340	54.18	
Port Arthur, Ont	48,300			
Regina, Sask	90,325	37,980	137.82	
Saskatoon, Sask	146,985			
St. John, N.B	22,600	12,600	79.36	
Sydney, N.S.	22,205	4,000	455.12	
Toronto, Ont	1,887,532	1,216,982	55.09	
Vancouver, B.C	477,140	439,925	8.45	
Victoria, B.C.	188,620	79,390	137.58	
Winnipeg, Man	1,286,800	652,150	97.31	• • • •
Windsor, Ont	25,410			
	6,528,178	3,749,364	74.11	·

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