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CORRESPONDENCE.—The Editor will be pleased to receive communications upon subjects of interest to the readers of this journal.

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No. 1

Current Topics

ARCHITECT W. A. LANGTON, Toronto, has removed his offices from 43 Victoria street to the Reliance Building, 82-88 King street west.

THE LEIEN, the largest dredge in the world, was recently launched on the Mersey at Liverpool. It is capable of lifting 10,000 tons in fifty minutes.

IN ORDER TO PLACE READY FUNDS at the disposal of Three Rivers, with which to bring about the complete rehabilitation of the burned district, the Quebec Cabinet has decided to recommend a loan of \$400,000.

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THE BUILDING CODE REVISION COMMITTEE, of New York, recently adopted a resolution restricting all buildings to 300 feet in height unless they face a park, square or plaza, when they may be built 350 feet high.

A PIECE OF ENGINEERING which is exciting general interest at Vancouver, is the sinking of the 16-foot caissons in connection with the construction of the substructure for the new bascule bridge which is to cross False creek at Westminster avenue. The piers will rest at a point about 26 feet below the water mark, and the men are at present working beneath the surface at depth which requires only about from 12 to 15 pounds pressure.

AN ACTION BROUGHT by Architect J. Erb, of Port Huron, against the Dresden Public School Board for \$700 as commission on a \$23,000 school building, for which the plaintiff had furnished plans, was recently dismissed by Mr. Justice MacMahon, following a decision by Mr. Justice Street, who ruled that a Public School Board has not authority to purchase grounds or to build a school without obtaining the sanction of the municipal council, or of the electors.

A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL of the Architectural Institute of Canada will be held at the Engineers' Club, 9 Beaver Hall Square, Montreal, on Tuesday, 8th December, 1908, at 2 o'clock p.m., for the consideration of applications for membership into the Institute and the transaction of any business that may arise.

BRIQUETTING IRON ORE, in order to increase the blast furnace output, is practised to some extent in England according to Engineering. The briquettes are placed in a kiln for calcining or burning, the heat generally used being from the waste gases of the blast furnaces. After the moisture and volatile gases have been driven off in this kiln, the briquettes are fed into the blast furnace.

AN INTERESTING ENGINEERING TASK is now under way in London (Eng.), where the Imperial Theatre is being transplanted from its present site to a location twelve miles distant. The building is being taken down and removed in sections, and it is to be seen in about seven months' time, rebuilt along the exact lines as it stood at Westminster. It is said by the contractors that even in the United States a similar undertaking has never been attempted.

FIRE LIMIT "A" IN TORONTO, has been extended to take in the entire district from the waterfront north to College street, between Jarvis street on the east and Bathurst street on the west. This is a timely move on the part of the city to prevent the further ingress of dangerous structures in this section. Hereafter, all buildings erected within this territory must be of brick or similar constructino. In the past this limit only comprised the district lying south of Queen street, between Jarvis and Bathurst streets.

WOODEN SHACKS and tar-papered domiciles have been tabooed by the City Council of West Toronto. In the future only brick, brick veneer, or like structures, will be permitted in residential districts. This action is taken preliminary to the enactment of a general building bylaw now pending, which is designed to bring the construction of all classes of buildings up to a much higher standard.

A PETITION HAS BEEN PRESENTED to the Federal Government by the Montreal Board of Trade, asking that in the rebuilding of the Quebec bridge the height of the structure be made at least 190 feet, so as to permit of an unobstructed passage for modern high-masted liners in event of any of them desiring to come up to that port. While many of the new types of vessels dispense with masts altogether, nevertheless the question of height should be thoroughly gone into, so that no restriction will be placed on the importance of Montreal as a shipping point.

EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO INDIVIDUALITY in architectural design is denied owners of buildings in California, according to a recent ruling made by Judge Lennon, of the State Supreme Court. In an injunction suit instituted by F. V. Madison, an attorney of San Francisco, to restrain Architect Edgar Mathew, of that city, from executing a replica of an English domestic residence, which the latter had designed for him, for Armond de Courtieux, a local butcher, the court denied the application, on the ground that the architect has a certain personality which he expresses in the houses he builds, and to restrain this personality would mean to deprive him of his means of livelihood and stifle art.