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TO ADVERTISERS.

For the benefit of Advertisers, a copy of this Journal is mailed each week to persons mentioned in the CONTRACT RECORD reports as intending to build, with a request to consult our advertisement pages and write advertisers for material, machinery, etc.

Buildings for the
Paris Exhibition.

FIFTY-NINE designs have been submitted in competition for the two principal buildings to be erected in connection with the Paris Exhibition of 1900. One of the buildings is to be devoted to the industrial and the other to the fine arts. The latter is to become the art gallery of the city upon the close of the Exhibition. The London Builder sums up a criticism of the leading designs by saying: "The competition is certainly not without interest, and represents an immense amount of work. But one can hardly say that it presents any great or epoch-making qualities of national architecture, though one must recognize that as the competitors have only had two months and a half in which to prepare their designs, the result under those circumstances is somewhat remarkable."

Free Silver
Agitation.

THE possibility of the triumph of the advocates of free silver coinage at the approaching presidential election is seriously disturbing business conditions in the United States at the present moment. A clause requiring all payments to be made in gold coin, has become a common feature of business contracts, and the National Association of Builders have under consideration the advisability of embodying such a clause in the "Uniform Contract." Building operations in the large cities are, it is said, being seriously hampered by the refusal of financial institutions to make loans to builders and others, except under agreement for repayment in gold. The tremendous risk which a speculative builder would assume who should consent to such a stipulation is sufficient to deter most from proceeding with contemplated enterprises. The same uncertainty prevails to a greater or less extent throughout every department of business, and is exerting a paralyzing influence upon national enterprise.

The Province of
Quebec Association
of Architects.

THE Province of Quebec Association of Architects are to be congratulated on the progressive spirit in which they are endeavoring to promote the welfare and usefulness of the organization and advance the interests of architecture and the kindred arts in the Province of Quebec. During the present year meetings of the members resident in Montreal have been held monthly, at which interesting papers were read and discussed. Following these meetings the members have been accustomed to dine together and talk over in a social way