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## Notice to Contractors

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HYDRAULIC DREDGE FOR THE CITY OF TORONTO.
Plans and specificatiors may be seen and forms of tender obtained at the office of the Cisy Engineer. coronto, on and after Friday, the 28 th of February $\Lambda$ deponit, cash or marked cheque, payable to the ordet of the City Treasurer, for the sum of aiz per cent.
of the amount of the contract, must accompany each of the amount of the contract, must accompany each
and every tender, otherwive they will not be entertained. The tenders must bear the bona fide signatures of the contractor and his surctics or they will be ruled out as The low

The lowest or any tender not necessanly accepted.
DANIEL LAMB.
Chairman Commitec on Works.
R. J. FLEMING

Chairman Board of Adeninistration
City Hall, Toroato, February 21st, 188 y .

## TENDERS

SEWER PIPES

The Municipal Council for the City of Nanaimo in. vite proposals up ts MONDAY, grat MARCH, 1836, endorsed "'renders foi Sewer Pıp-s,' for the supjatying of Seuer Pipes from 6inch upwards.

The lowest o: any tender not necessarily accepted. ADAMs THOMPSON, City Clerk. Namaimo, B.C., Feb. 20, $\mathbf{2 8 9 6}$.


Marked Tenders (whole or separate) will be received up to noon of MARCH 3TH, by W. Brace, Secretary dist Church, Drocksilic, for the

## Brection of Charch and Alterations to School.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Plans, \&c., may be seen at the offices of the Secretary; and the undersigned.

POWER \& SON, Architects,
Kingston.

## CONTRACTS OPEN.

Nelson, B. C.- The necessity for the erection of a custom house here is being urged.

COLCHESTER SOUTh, ONt. - John Waters and Andrew Elliott will each erect new residences.

Golden Lake, Ont.-Preparations are being made for the erection of four or five new houses.

Thessalon, Ont.-The question ot constructing a system of waterworks is under consideration.

Hartland, N. B.-R. W. Richardson is making preparattons to erect a wood-working factory.

Blyth, Ont.-T. W. Scott, clerk, invites tenders until the 3rd of March for the purchase of $\$ 5,000$ of debentures.

Valleyfield, Que-The Montreal Cotton Co. will build this spring a three storey warehouse, $90 \times 170$ feet in size.

Fergus, Ont.-A by-law has been carried authorizing the council to issue debentures to provide for a public park.

Kincardine, Ont.-R. B. Campbelf, clerk, invites tenders until the 10 th of Aprl for the supply of a quantity of lumber:

London, ONt.-William Brooks is building a two-storey brick vencer residence on the south side of Dundas street, in East London.
ExEter, Ont.-R. McKenzie intends crecting it new block, comer of Main and James sts., $23 \times 100$ feet, with red brick front and side.

WOODSTOCK, N. B.-A vote of the
ratepnyers will be taken at an early date to provide $\$ 10,000$ for completing the sewerage system.

CORNWALL, ONT.-A. I. McDonell, county clerk, will receive proposals until the 20th inst. for the purchase of $\$ 10,500$ of drainage debentures.
Alberni, B. C.-A local company is seeking incorporation to pruvide the town with water woiks, obtaining the supply from the Somass river.
Nottawa, Ont.-Tenders are invited by Rev. V. Plunkett, of Collingwood, until the $29 t h$ inst. for erecting a brick-cased church in this villare.
Stratford, Ont.-A special meeting of the County Council will be held on the 6th of March to select a site for the proposed county poor-house.

HUll Que.-On the 12 th of March a vote of the ratepayers will be taken on a by-law to issue debentures for $\$ 108,000$ to consolidate the city debt.
Pembroke, Ónt. - W. C. Irving, Chairman Waterworks Committee, will receive tenders until the 28 th inst., for furnishong water works supplies.
Fredericton, N. 13.-The Provincial government propose making improvements to the House of Assembly after the adjournment of the present session.
New Ediniburgh, Ont.-The building committee of the Presbyterian church have a number of plans under considera ton for the enlargement of the church and Sunday school building.
Leamington, Ont.-Henry Foster is preparing plans for three dwellings to be erected this sping. E. M. Bee, of Windsor, has had plans prepared for a new house to be built near herc.
Edmonton, N. W. T.-lt is stated that the Dominion governinent will invite tenders within the next few days for the construction of a steel bridge across the Saskatchewan river, to cost $\$ 75,000$.
Toronto Junction, Ont. - An agreement has been reached with the Gialena Oil Works, of Penneylvania, for establish. ing a branch of their works heie. They agree to erect a factory to cost $\$ 3,0 \infty$.

Glenburnie, Ont.-A new Roman Catholic chuich will be erected a: Hickey's Corners, the work to commence in the early spring. Estimated cost, $\$ 15,000$. The Aichbishop of Kingston is in charge.

Vancouver B. C.-The council has been asked to grant a bonus for the erection of a smelicr. - The School Board will ask the Ciry Council for $\$ 70,050$ for necessary repairs and additions to school buldings.

Fort William, Ont.-F. E. Parker, of Minneapolis, is the promoter of a proposal to crect a 2,000 bariel fuur mill on the banks of the Kaministiquia river. The town council is asked to assist the enter. prise.
Goderich, Ont.-A deputation, amons whom were Dr. J. R. Shannon innl Messrs. McD. Allen, M. Nicholson and E. Camp-
bell last week interviewed the Dominion Rovernment requesting an appropriation for reparing and extending the breakwater at this place.
Hivelock, Ont. The Methodists will erect a new church this summer at a cost of $\$ 5,000$ The hinidding committee will be composed of Messrs. A. Miell, Jns. Rose, Dr. W. H. Jeffs, Richard Plaillips and James Mark.
listowel, Ont. - John C. Hay, chairman Finance Commitee, is prepared to receive offers for the purchase of $\$ 41,000$ of consolidated delbentures. The congregation of Christ's church will erect a new edifice to cost upwards of $\$ 5,000$.
Port Arthur, Ont.-Mr. Edvards is promoting, a scheme having for its object the development of the water power of the Kaministiquia river. It is said that work in connection therewth will be commenced at an early date.
New Westminster, B. C. The Eliy Council has received a communication from J. Buntzen, secretary of the Consoldued Ruilwaty \& Light Co., offering to build an electric rallway from Westminster to Stevenson, and to locate the central offices and repart shops in this cliy.
Renfrew, Ont--Tenders for additions and alterations to stone bualding will be recelved by D. H. Mcandrew unul the tst of Marcli. - The plans for the new block to be bull by Mr. Mackay have been teccived. It will be three stories, brick, with Rentrew stone trimmings and plate glass from.
Bowannylhe, Ost.-A deputation has requested the Dominion Government tos grant an appropriation for a new public building in this town, to comprise a postoffice, custom house and inland revenue office. The dredging of Bowmanville and Newcastle harbor by the Goveinment has also been urged.
Halifax, N. S-J. E. Koy is having plans piepared for a large bulding on Barringion street, extending to Granville street. The building will be five stories on laarington street and six on Gitanville street. material to be of white and bla $k$ marble; fist floors for offices, the re maining stories for residences.
Windsor, Ont.-Col. F. B. Leys, of London, has purchased the Dougall block, having a frontage of 9 feet each on Sandwich and Ferry streets. It is theintention of the new proprictor to remodell the buidinys.-The selecton of a ste for the proposed Y. M. C. A. building will probably be made thas week, after which plans wili be prepared.
Montreal, Quki- The town council of Lachine bas adopted a by-haw granting the Montreal Park © Island Ralway running privileges throu;h the stieets of the town. It is contemplated to buld this line in the spring, and to extend the Outremont line to St. Laurent.-Bulding permits have been granted as folion H. Charbonnean, tyo-storey brick tenement bldg., Notre Dame st. east, cost $\$ 1,000$; W. Wobjansinge, two storey bk. tenement building, Knox st., cost $\$ 2,000$.
Kangston, Ont.-Mr. G. C. Boldt, proprictor of the Woldorf hotel, New York, will build a residence on Hart's Island, River St. Lawrence, this summer, at a cost of $\$ 60,000$. One of the features of the mansion will be a pallisade, 175 feet in length and a rotunda at cither end. -The congregation of the Johinson street Baptist church have decided to build a new edıfice.-Mr. G. F. Gilderslecve will interview the Dominion government with a view of securing a grant towards the building of the Kingsion, Smith's Falls and Ottawa railway from Smith's Falls to Ottaw:i - The plans for the proposed new eight roomed school tall for a stone building. The architect has been instructed to procure tenders for the inason
work, carpentry, painting, tinsmithing and plumbing.

QUEBEC, QUE.-Matters in connection with the proposed electric railway are moving slowly. The Montmorency Electric Co. have agreed to accept the terms offered by Mr. Beemer. The promoters are under bonds to commence construcdion before May ist.-Fourteen molels and eleven designs have been received for the Chatmplain monument. These will be submitted next week to a commitlee of experts. - The Cis) Council have decided to grant liberal inducements to the Cold Storage Co. to erect their building, which will cost about $\$ 50,000$. - It is proposed 10 rebuid the college of Ste. Marie de la Beauce, at a cost of $\$ 15,000$ to $\$ 20,000$. Messrs. Tanguay \& Vallee are the archinects.- The construction of the church of the Holy Sacrament has been finally decided upon. Plans prepared by Mr. Tache, of the Crown Lands Department, have been accepted. Messrs. Berlınquet \& LeMay, architects, will superntend the work.- The Jeffrey Hale Hospital Board are considering plans for erection of new buildings for the hospital.

Winnipeg, Man.-The Committee on Works have recommended that debentures for $\$ 10,500$ be issued far the erection of a pivot pier and two new abutments to the Main street bridge.-Charles H. Wheeler, archutect, is calling for teuders for a new block on Market street, two storeys high, solid brick and stone. Estimated cos:, including heating apparatus, $\$ 75,000$. The Cummittee on Works has given notice of the intention to construct the following street improvements: Assinibuine street, Main to Kennedy, 32 ft. macadam pavement, estimated cost $\$ 9,489$; York avenue, Main to Kennedy st., 24 feet, cost $\$ 5,347$; St. Mary's avenue, Minin to Donald street, 24 feet, cost $\$ 4,109$; Grahan avenue, M:in to Lonald street, 24 feet, cost $\$ 4,100$; Ellice avenue, Notre Dame to Donald street, cost $\$ 2,377$. -The Provincial Legislature will be asked to grant financial and to the Lake Manitoba Railway \& Canal Co., for the construction of a railuay from Portage la Prarie to the Lake Dauphin country, west of Lake Manitoba. The proposed road will be about 100 miles in length.-The sum of $\$ 27,00$ has already been subscribed for the erection of a Y. M. C. A. building. This amount is not sufficient to carry out the work, and an effort will be made at once to secure the necessary funds. Mr. R. J. Whitla is president of the Association.-The cost of St. Mary's church, of which Mr. Hooper is architect, was given in the RECORD last week as $\$ 1,800$. It should have read $\$ 18, \infty \infty$.

Hamilton, Ont.-A. W. Peene, architect, is inviting tenders for the erection of a wood and iron wharf at the foot of Sherman avenue for the Hamilton Iron \& Sted Co.-A deputation from this city last week requested the Dominion government to deepen the canal. Consideration was promised. - Messrs. Jacobs \& Sparrow, of Toronto, are desirious of securing the erection of an opera house in this city, with a seating capacity for 15,000 persors, and costing about \$35,000. -The estimates of the Board of Works have been submitted and include the following: Electric lighting, \$34,110; repairing block paving with macadam, $\$ 5,623$; macadamıing streets, $\$ 15.331$; snow and street cleaning, $\$ 10,000$; new sidewalks and repairing old sidewalks, $\$ 24,000$; repairs to strects, $\$ 9,000$.-The Sewers Committee have adopted the recommendation of the city engincer to divert the east end sewer to Ferguson ave., at a cost of $\$ 41,900$. Tenders for the work will be invited at once-W. A. Edwards, architect, invites tenders until the 3 rd of March for the erection of a brick residence on John strect south for James Dunlop.-Tenders for the erection of the Collegrate Institute and Ontario

Normal College building are invited by Alexander Turner, chairman of the build ing committec, until Monday, the gth of March. Plans may be seen at the office of William \& Walter Stewart, ąrchutects, corner King and Hewson streets.-The president of the Hamilton and Dundas Railway Co. will shortly submit a proposition to the city council for the conversion of the road into an electric line. The road extends from Dundas to this city. Arransements are said to be completed by which the Hamilion, Gimmsby and Beansville Railvay Co. will be extended to Grimsby.

Toronto, Ont.-The Public School Manarement Committee have decided that the erection of four new rooms to the Pose avenue, Winchester street, Clin ton street, Ryerson, Grace, (iladstone avenue and lark schools is necessary. The work will probably be carried ou this summer.-The annual report of the Industrial Exhibition Asscciation, pre sented a fortnight ago, points out the ne cessity for enlatging the present main building and the machinery hall. The City Council will likely be requested to provide a portion of the necessary funds. -The chief engineer of the Grand Trunk Railivay had a consultation with !he City Engineer on Tuesday last, regarding the plims for the widening of the Queen street subway, and an early settlement of the question is now probable.-The City En gineer has presented the estimates for the year to the Board of Works. Anoong the items are the following: Don bidge, Queen sireet, $\$ 18,000$; Cherry street bridge, $\$ 6,000$; Strachan avenue bridse, $\$ 25,000$; ramps, Jolin street bridge, $\$ 32,000$; track from Don to Cherry street, $\$ 4,000$; sand pumps, $\$ 18, \infty 0$; intersecting sewer, Witton avenue, $\$ 20,000$; city's shate York strect bridge, $\$ 50,050$; exten sion sewers, $\$ 5.000$; Queen's puik road way, $\$ 4, \infty$. At a meeting of the Board on Monday last, the appropriations for the Don, Strachan ave. and Cherry stree bridges, and the Wilton avenue sewer were struck out. - The Waterworks branch requests an appropriation of $\$ 237,000$ about half of which is for repairing old services and special work.-Bulding per mits have been granted as follows: C. J Gibson, architect, bk add. rear of 108 Yonge st. cost $\$ 1,00 ;$ J. J. Jones, alterations to Mission House, Phocbe st., cost $\$ 000$; Jones \& McKenzic, three I-storey bl. add. to dwellings, 312 to 316 Spadina ave., cost $\$ 1,600$.

Ottawa, Ont.-Preparations are being made to extend the electuic railway to Britannia. It is expected that the road will be completed by the middle of July Its construction will necesstrate the erec tion of a bridge acros; the Dechenes rapids.-The government has been re quested to grant a subsidy of $\$ 3,2 \infty$ a mile towards the construction of a section of the Port Arthur, Dulnth and western railway, connecting with Rainy LakeThe Ottawa Forwarding Co. are making arrangements to erect a solid brick, stone or iron structure.-The accommodation at the custom house is said to be insufficient, and steps will probably be taken at an early date to erect an additional wing. The railway committec have passed the bill to consolidate and amend certain acts relating to the Nipissing and James Bay railway, and to incorporate the Huron \& Ontario Railway Co. The latter connany propose to construct an electric railway, the bonded power being hmited to $\$ 10,000$ for a single track and $\$ 16,000$ for a double track rallway. - An influential deputation has requested the Dominion government to complete at as carly a date as possible the decpening of the St. Lawrence canal. -The building committee of the Public School Board have recommended several improvements to school buildings.-Between two and three thousand men will be employed. and $\$ 1,000,000$ spent in the con-
struction of the Oltawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound railway this summer.- Albert Phenis, broker, New York, S. S. Oille, G. E. Patterson and J. S. Campbell, of St. Catharines, and Henry A. King, of To ronto, have petitioned for a bill to incor porate the Lincoln Radial Electric Railway Co., with power to take over the assets of the Lincoln Street Railway \& Traction Co., of St. Cathatines, and to extend their lines.-The tenders for the construction of the second section of the Peterborough and Lakefield division of the Trent Valley Canal are to be sent in by the 2 Ist of March. In this work in iron bridge 224 fect in length, with a span of 112 feet on concrete piers will be cunstructed at Nassau. At Little Lake it is proposed to place the hydraulic lift lock, which will have a lift of 65 feet. A swing bridge will be requred at Warsaw road and at the Norway road. A high level bridge spanning the canal will be requ:zed. A second swing bridge will be built at Ashburnham.-Improvements to the Rideau skating rink will be carried out this summer. The building will be extended 30 feet and the shareholders' gallery arranged in balcony style. Cost \$5,000.-The Drainage Committee have decided to ask the finance committee for $\$ 2,000$ to pay the costs of a special engineer to report on the dranage scheme.

## FIRES.

The furniture factory of T. W. Currier \& Co., Rideau strect, Montreal, has been damaged to the extent of $\$ 4,00$. It will probably be rebuitt in a more substantial manner.-Knox chusch at Palmerston, Ont., valued at $\$ 10, \infty \infty$, was burned on Sunday last. Loss partially covered by insurance.-Campbell \& McNab's roller mill it Douglas, Ont., has been burned. Loss $\$ 5,000$ - - The paper store house of the Riordan paper mills at Merritton, Ont., was recently damaged by fire to the extent of $\$ 2,000$. - The Baptist church at New Glasgow, N. S., has been burned; insurance $\$ 1,200$.

## CONTRACTS AWARDED.

Halifax, N. S.-The tender of H. B. Sellon \& Co. has been accepted by the Board of Fire Commissioners for the erection of a new engine house.

Montrealn Que - J. Benjamin Dagenais has been awarded the contract for the erection of three stores and tenements for V. Raby, to cost \$10,000.

Ottalva, Ont. - The Dominion Government has awarded the contract for the breakwater at Souris, P. E. I., to Messrs. Hency \& Smith, of this city. Estimated cost of the work, $\$ 30,000$.

Winnipeg, Man.-John Shaw has received the contract for erecting a new, cold storage warehouse for the Parsons' Produce Co. The sub-contract for woodwork has been let 10 J . C. Gilker. The building will be 60 feet square and will cost $\$ 20,00$. S. Frank Peters, architect. -Charles H. Wheeler, architect, has let the contract for T. D. Lennan's residence to J. C. Gilker. It will be of solid brick and stone, with red stone labels, and inside finish of oak.

The first bridges were of wood, and the earliest of which we have any account was built in Rome 50 years B. C. The next was erected by Julius Casar for the passage of his army across the Rhine. Trajan's great bridge over the Danube, 4,770 feet long was made of timber, with stone piers. The Romans also built the first stone bridge, which crossed the Tiber. Suspension bridges are of remote origin. A Chinese one mentioned by Kirchen, made of chains supporting a roadway 830 feet in length, was built A.D. 65 , and is still to be seen. The first large iron bridge was erected over the Severn in 1777.


## LOCATING A PUBLIC WATERSUPPLY.

by Danibl W. Mbad. (Continued.)
The drainage system, which was developed prior to the ghacial epoch, was greatly altered by the filling of valleys and grinding down of the hills. The Mississippi river valley was partally filled, and its course in many places altered. The Lake Michigan river valley was filled to a point near Chicago, and the smaller drainage valleys of this area were enturels, destroyed. The topography had also widely changed : in place of the rugged hills of the pre-glacial epoch, the present prairie land resulted. The drainage system which has since developed was largely marked out and modified by the effects of the ice and by the glacial fioods resulting from its melting.
As the Lake Michigan glacier receded, it still rested over the present outlet of the lake, and the lake poured its waters down the present valley of the Illinois river in a flood far in excess of the modern river. The glacial flonds also poured through the Mississippi valley, in each case excavating deep in the drif: a wide valley, which the modern river but poorly fills.
Having thus briefly considered geological causes, the-present geological conditions may be briefly reviewed. In the indurated rock formations, lines of exact demarcation seldom exist between the various strata. One stratum usually grades gradually into another. Changes in the controlling influence which mo.lified deposition were usually not radiral ones, but obtained only gradually.
A like condition applies to the character of a stratum throughout its geographic extent ; the conditions at one point might favor the formation of limestone deposits, whice those more or less remote might be favorable to the formation of shale. Hence we find, if the same stratum be followed up, often even in very limited distances, that it may merge from a sand-
stone in a limestone, or from a linestone to a shale, and the reverse; or from a coarse-grained stone to noc of finer and more impervions yualities. The more widespread and amuersal the conditions controlling deposition, the more uniform the character of a stratum throughout its extent. Hence the character of a rock deposit which we may enpeat to encumbter in drilling is often lighly prolslematic.
The underlying Archean rocks have a slope in all directions from their outcrop in northern Wisconsin, being about 2,000 feet above sea-level at their highest outcrop. The superinctunbent strata follow this general slope to a considerable extent. Tte surface also follows the general dip of the strata at present, as it has through all past geological ages, the older peological deposits being at their nutcrop the husher; in uavellug from the onginal Archiean nucleus in each direction, the traveller will descend in elevation, while he ascends in geological succession, as he approaches nearer the sea-level.

In considering the hydrological conditions of the various strata, it should be noted that all are water-bearing to some extent. Even where the ratio of absorption is comparatively small and insignificant, the cracks and inssures often play an important pari. This area, like many others, is marked by an alternation in the position of rocks, virying largelv in porosity, strata of high porosity frequently lying between those comparatively impervious. This variation is somewhat equalized by cracks and fissurcs, but the difference is still so marked as to create a great difference in the character of the flow.

The outcrop of these highly pervious strata, at high elevation on the watershed of the valley, gives tise to bydrostatic pressure within the strati, which is not wholly equalized by the transfusion of waters due to porosity or rupture of the strata. llence in the lower poitions of the valley these waters often come to the surface with consideiable head through natural channels as springs or artificial chamnels as flowing wells.

Of the waters of this region the surface waters are the most obvious. It is found that the streamefow amounts to from twenty-five to forty per cent. of the annual rainfall, dependans on the modifyins circumstances hercbefore mentioned From tharty to fifty per cent. of the ranfall is probiably eviporated and unlized in plant growith, white the balance is imbibed by the undeilying strata. (To be Cominued.)

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SOME NOTES ON PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE.

## by M. J. Butler.

In that quaintly written book "Scamp. ing Tricks," by John Newman, under Concrete, occurs the following:
"Have you managed to squecze any extra profit on the quiet out of concrete?"
"Y'es, twenty or thirty years ago, but there is not much to be got now since a few engineers took to writing on the subject. They have reminded or informed others pretty well what is look after, but there were not many thirty years back that knew how it ought to be made, and you see, although one receives the matertals, the concrete has to be made with them, manufactured, as it were, on the works, and you can spoil the best Portland cement that is, was or ever will be made in the proportioning, mixing and blending it with bad sand and gravel or dirty broken rock."

With the above quotations for a text, it will be attempted to show what good concrete is, how it is made and to what work it is peculiarly adapted. The first essential is to secure good Portland cement. It is believed that the following specification will insure gond cement :
SPECIFICATION FOR PORTLAND CEAENT.
1st. Fineness : Not more that $10 \%$ residue will be retained on a sieve of 10,000 holes to the square inch, nor more than $25 \%$ un the sith sieve of 22,500 meshes per square inch, other things being equal; the finer the cement is the better. The residue on the 22,500 sieve has no cementitious value.
and. Specific gravity shall not be less than 3.09 for freshly burned cement (it should be 3.13). This is the only known reliable test for tensity and p:oper burning of the clinker. Weight per bushel is unreliable and misleading, as a vety slight or imperceptible difference in method of fillitg the measure seriously alters the result.

3ral. Hot bath test : For the purpose of testing the soundness of a cement, unsoundiness being caused by the plesence of an excess of Caustic lime. Samples are taken and made into thin pats on $g^{\text {lass or other impervious material (as per }}$ santples submitted herewilh.) These samples are left in the airfrom three to six hours or until set. They are then placed in a covered tank on a rack over water so is to be enveloped in hot vapor for lrom 6 to 12 hours, after which they ate immersed in hot water at a temperature ol :10 10 130 F . and allowed to remain for periods offrom 12 to 24 hours. Sound samples will not crack or leave the glass. Note: If the sample is prepared with a Jatye excess of water it is quite common to find a rack at he top ct the little radge

- Paper read at the annual meeting of Cntario Land
Survesurs Survesurs.
due to the evaporation of the excess of water while in the air.

4th. Tensile strength : Usually this test is the one which receives the greatest attention and unless taken in connection with the preceding ones is apt to be mis. leading. The usual plan being to test neat cement, samples are prepared by careful weighing nut a sufficient quantity to make five briquettes (about 2602. ) to which is added 25 to $30 \%$ ot its weight of water. The cement having been placed on a slab of glass or slate it is then rapid. ly worked up into a plastic mortar and the moulds are rapidly filled, taking care to press the mortar in carefully with the fingers so as to exclude the air; the briquettes are then struck off evenly with the trowel, and are then left in the air until set, usually 24 hours, covered with a damp cloth, to check evaporation. They are then carefully removed from the moulds and should be immediately placed in the water until the period for breaking arrives. It is of more importance that a proportionate increase of strength be shown at periods of three and seven days than that a high test be secured at short periods. It is nov an easy matter to secure Portland cement that will stand 400 (Ccncluded on Page 6.)

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Ibs. per square inch the end of seven days, provided the operator understands the work of testing, for it is by no means the easy simple task it appears, to prop. erly test a cement ; it requires experience and care. It is usual and necessary that the temperature of the room and water be kept as nearly uniform as possible, say $70^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$., in order that comparable results nay be hid. Professor Unvin, in a recent paper, questions the utility of such rigoreus conditoons, claiming that cenient is subjected to all sorts of conditions in work and that the test ought to conform to the use to which it is to be subjected. Other able men have doubted the benefit of the hot water test. It is obvious that usually cement will not be used where hot water is flowing frecly, hence the query naturally arises, why test cement with it? The answer is: that hot water accelerates the weak points in developing ; that what would require several weeks or months to be learned from cold water can be had in from 24 to 36 hours by using hot water. Further, in this country it is frequently necessary to use hot water and heated sand in building during the winter months. The extraneous conditions affect small samples to a greater degree than in the large masses in works, and, after all, tests are merely for comparison, it being rightly considered that the best samples will give the best results on a large scate. Other points, such as color, etc., have really no significance. Here are two samples of the same cement and a slight difference in treatment has produced a marked difference in the color. One was immersed in a vapor bath immediately after mixing, the other was first allowed to be set in the air before being placed in the vapor bath; the first one is very light and the other quite dark.

Sand: The second ingredient of concrete is sand, and it is quite as important to use good sand as good cement; it should be clean, sharp and of varying sizes of grain, largely silicious, e.acluding rigorously mica, pyrities, loam or other soft friable material. Calcarcous sands are seldum or never fit for concrete.

Gravel: May be clean, pit gravel, or lake shore pebbles, or better broken syenite, trap, granite or hard limestone. The principal point requiring care is to have the inaterials clean and that the size shall not be larger than what will pass a ring of $2 \frac{1}{\prime \prime}$ to $3^{\prime \prime}$ in diameter for the larges: pieces from that size down to the size of a pea or lima beam. A varying sized aggregate will give a more economical and denser concrete.
description of process in concrete making.
The concrete described below is such as is advised for bridge piers, abutments, chimney foundations, engine beds, etc. Proportions to be by measure, one part Portiand cement, two parts cican sharp sand and five parts bioken stone or clean gravel. The modus eperandi found to give successful results has been as follows. Spread evenly on a board platform or in a water tight box, two barrels of sand, on this spread one barrel of cement; mix thoroughly by turning over the sand
and cement at least three or four times, do not heap it, then add water, mixing as as you do so (it is best to use a rose in putting on the water) until enough is present to make the mortar such that it will retain the impress of the hand when rolled into a ball. Spread into an even layer, then add the gravel by spreading it as evell as possible. Turn the whole mass at least three times. It is not well to heap it to the centre as is usually done, the larger stones work to the outside and do not receive the proper complement of mortar. Load into barrows and sacks and place into position as quickly as possible, now ram thoroughly to place; if the concrete is too wet it will wotk up around the rammer and will not pack. The proper test is that after being well rammed it should jelly, better bave it too dry than too wet, as it can be easily wet down. The coping course should generally be made of richer material, one part of cement to two parts of sand giving good results. Usually the coping course is from two inches to four inclies thick, depending upon the whim of the engineer in charge.

During the past season the writer constructed two bridge abutments as follows: First, piles were driven, the tops being cut off four feet below low water mark. The piles were then capped with $10^{\prime \prime} \times 12^{\prime \prime}$ hemlock and rag-bolted to each pile with 3 " ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ square by $20^{"}$ long from las bolts, running transversely with the capping, a floor of hemlock $10^{\prime \prime}$ was lain, the floor being fully rag bolted to the caps, curbing was then buitt on the floor to temporarily retain the concrete, corner piers were $4^{\prime \prime}$ $\times 6^{\prime \prime}$ studding $2^{\prime \prime} \times 6^{\prime \prime}$, spaced 2 f. centres, the whole being lined with 2 inch plank at the corner; $6^{\prime \prime}$ strips were nailed in to give a bevel corner, and at the coping a bevel piece was nailed to the sheeting so as to leave a wash edge; the abutments were $4^{\prime} 6^{\prime \prime}$ thick by 20 ft . long by 5 ft . his $h$ to the bridge seat, a ballast wall 5 ft . high by 18 inches thick compleung the abutment. Three days after the coping was taid on the abutment a heavy steel bridge was placed upon it and 10 days later it was crossed with a work train. A second sample was an old abutment which had to be renewed. It was scoured out in places three feet below the stone work. The work of repairing was, first, to carefully build a strong curb about two feet away from the abutment; an effort was made to deaden the current with puddle, bag after bap of concrete was then carefully lowered into the holes and pushed to place, the bags were slitted, and in a short time it became a homogeneous mass. A toe was then formed to the curb, and it is believed all possibility of future scouring has been checked.

A third example vas as a foundation for a brick chinmey-no curbing being required the sides of the excavation serving the purpose of a curb. The concrete work merely stood one day when the brickwork was immediately started. Although the completed chimncy weighs some $200,00 \mathrm{lbs}$., giving a pressure of about 4,900 lbs. per square foot, and has been subjected to some very high wind at
times, it has given a very satisfactory job, not a crack or appearance of settlement having occurred.
Another example of the advantage to be had from concrete is in engine beds or foundation for generators in electric power and light work, a number of which have been built under the writer's supervision. In fact wherever stone or gravel can be had concrete can be economically made. It is peculiarly adapted to trying and difficult locations, as in bridge piers, abutments, chimney caps, foundations under water for dams, docks, wharves, \&c. A less section can generally be taken than is required for stone from the fact of its mono-lithic rharacter, greater weight and strength. A principle for guidance is to so design the work as to never leave a slaap or thin corner. In conclusion, a description of a recent test made under the writer's direction will be given as a pronf of its unsuitability for fireproofing. A small slab of first-class concrete $=\mathrm{ft}$. wide, 3 ft. long and 3 in . thick was very carefully made about to months ago, the slab has been kept in an office since it was built and was therefore very hard and a $y$; for the test a small chamber was built of terra cotta blocks with three closed sides and an ordinary stove-pipe chimney. The slab was used for a cover. A slow, easy fire was kept guing for about 3 hours, when the slab had grown quite warm, say about 130 F . It was then fired hard with dry pine for about 20 minutes, when three or four pails of water were thrown on the under side of the slab. The result was a great many cracks appeared in the slab. It was then carefully turned over, when it broke into a great many pieces. Upon further drenching each piece again broke up into smaller ones, which would go to show that concrete is an unsafe and unreliable material where it is liable to be heated and then drenched with water, as would be the case in any building where a fire might occur.
Within the past two yearsa good many buildings have been "fireproofed" with concrete, and it would seem that it is a dangerous material for such services. Further experiments on a larger scale and with the usual conditions incidental to city buildings are requiredbefore much faith should be given to concrete as a fireproof material. It merely remains to be said that the cost of concrete is much less than good stone or brickwork, requires little or no mechanical skill in the work, one expert mason for a foreman, the rest of the work being done vith common labor.
The items that go to make up the cost of a cubic yard of conciete are as tollows:
12 buls. Porthand cement, avernge cost in car
 I culnc yard of gravel or broken stone, (average
conditiens) say............................................. Labor, common labor \$s.2s per day, foreman \$3.co, 10 men in gang............................. ${ }^{2}$ Curbing, ordinary simple work as in highway or
raitury bridges without specially difficule foundations, cic., per cubic spard of concrete..

The Total $\$ \overline{\$ .22}$
The writer has had piers and abutments crected complete in place at as low a cost as $\$ 5.00$ per cubic yard and as high as $\$ 6.50$, local conditions affecting the cost slightly.

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Prices of Building Materials.
condition of the market.
Toronto: No improvement can be reported in the general market for builders' sup plies. The import ghass trade shows the most activity, but as yet is no: active. Paints and oils also meet with some demand. Mumbers supplies are very restricted, particularly for city trade. Galvanized iron, iron pipe and soll
pipe and fittings are steady, but devoid of pipe and fitting
special features.
Monireal. I Iadware has winessed some activity in the past week. In glass and paints and oils business is up to the average for the season of the year. The demand for cement continues slow, and the market dull and peatureless.



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| vermilli | 90 | $1 \infty$ | 90 | I 0 |
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| Yellow ochre. | 3 | 10 | 3 |  |
| Yellow chrom | 15 | 20 | 15 | 20 |
| Green, chrom | 7 | 12 | 7 | 12 |
| " Pas | 0 | 25 | 4 | 10 |
| Black lamp | 15 | 25 | 12 | 25 |
| Blue, ultramarin | 15 | 20 | 12 | 18 |
| Oil, linseed, raw, ATmp, \&ul. | 54 | 59 | 88 | 59 |
| " 11 boiled | 57 | 63 | 62 | 63 |
| "' " refined, | 78 | 85 | 75 | 75 |
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| 3.0335 inch, per soolbs. 395 |  |  |  |  |
| $21 / 2$ and $=1 / 4$ | ${ }^{1}$ | $4{ }^{14}$ | 350 | 380 |
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| $1 \%$ and 194 | " | " | 385 | 345 |
| $13 / 2$ | " | $\because$ | 450 | 420 |
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| 3 inch, per 100 lbs 375 |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 3184 and $29 / 4$ |  | ${ }^{10}$ | $1{ }^{16}$ | 375 400 | 345 360 |
| 2 and $21 / 2$ | $\because$ | $\because$ | " | 420 | 75 |
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Note.-Cheaper grades about $3 \mathrm{I}_{4}^{474}$ per ${ }^{28} \mathrm{j}$. les
Siructural Xras:
$\begin{array}{cccc}\text { Steel Beama, per } 100 \mathrm{lbs} . . . . & 275 \\ \text { "1 chamnels, } 10 & \ldots . . & 285 \\ \text { "1 sngles, } & \text {.1 } & \ldots . . & 250 \\ \text { ". tees, } & \text {.1 } & \ldots . . & 280 \\ \text { "t plates, } & \text { " } & \ldots . . & 255\end{array}$
"" phates, "......
250
260
230
265
235
235


[^0]:    Portand Cements.-
    Germarr, per 3 bl. Germar,
    London
    Neveartl
    Newcastle " ….......
    $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Belgian, Josson, artificiaj... } 340 & 2 \text { So } \\ \text { English, artifical, per bbl., }\end{array}$

