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H. G. Ritchie

CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD

A Weekly Journal of Advance Information and Public Works.

ITS PURPOSE TO SUPPLY TO CONTRACTORS ADVANCE INFORMATION RESPECTING CONTRACTS OPEN TO TENDER, AND TO ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, MUNICIPAL AND OTHER CORPORATIONS, A DIRECT MEDIUM OF COMMUNICATION WITH CONTRACTORS.

ITS MERIT: ECONOMICAL AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE.

Vol. 1. Toronto and Montreal, Canada, January 3, 1891. No. 47

THE CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD,
A Weekly Journal of Advance Information
and Public Works,
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY
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and Builder."

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62 Temple Building, Montreal.
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Information from any part of the Dominion regarding contracts open to tender sent exclusively to this journal for publication, and not elsewhere published, will be liberally paid for.

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

At its Convention held in Toronto, Nov. 30 and 31, 1890, the Ontario Association of Architects signified its approval of the CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD, and pledged its members to use this journal as their medium of communication with contractors with respect to advertisements for tenders.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at the First Annual Meeting of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects, held in Montreal, Oct. 10th and 11th, 1890: "Moved by M. Perrault, seconded by A. F. Dunlop, that we the Architects of the Province of Quebec now assembled in Convention being satisfied that the CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD affords us a direct communication with the Contractors, Resolved, that we pledge our support to it by using its columns when calling for Tenders."

The publisher of the "Canadian Contract Record" desires to ensure the regular and prompt delivery of this Journal to every subscriber, and requests that any cause of complaint in this particular be reported at once to the office of publication. Subscribers who may change their address should also give prompt notice of same, and in doing so, should give both old and new address.

TENDERS WANTED.

Tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned until Thursday, January 8th, 1891, for the erection of a brick residence on Hyman Street, London, Ont. Plans and specifications can be seen at my office, Hunt's Block, Richmond Street. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.
M. L. BUFFY, Architect,
London, Ont.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Tenders addressed to the Town Clerk, Petrolia, for the construction of a Trunk Sewer, will be received up to

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, 1891.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Clerk's office on and after this date. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
J. E. BOOSEY,
Chairman Board of Works.
Petrolia, Dec. 22, 1890.

CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS

Whole or separate, are requested for the several trades required in the erection of a

NEW SCHOOL BUILDING

in rear of the Orphans' Home,
Dovercourt Road, Toronto.

Plans and specifications may be seen on and after Friday, January 2, 1891, and all information obtained at the office of C. H. Bishop, Superintendent of School Buildings.

Tenders on forms supplied by the Superintendent of Buildings to be delivered at the office of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Public School Board on or before **MONDAY NOON, JANUARY 13, 1891.**

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque for 5 per cent. of the amount of tender, as per regulations of the Board. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

JAMES KERR, Chairman Committee.
W. C. WILKINSON, Sec.-Treas. T. P. S. B.



Notice to Contractors.

TENDERS FOR TAMARAC PLANK.

Tenders will be received by registered post, addressed to the City Engineer, Toronto, up to noon of **TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1891**, for the supply of

100,000 FEET B. M. 4-INCH TAMARAC PLANK,

8 to 14 inches wide and any lengths, sound and free from shakes and vane. Forms of tender obtained on and after December 25, 1890, at the City Engineer's office.

A deposit in the form of a marked cheque, payable to the order of the City Treasurer, for the sum of 5 per cent. on the value of the work tendered for under \$1,000, and 2 1/2 per cent. over that amount, must accompany each and every tender, otherwise it will not be entertained. All tenders must bear the bona fide signatures of the contractor and his sureties (see specifications), or they will be ruled out as informal.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN SHAW,
Chairman Committee on Works.
Committee Room, Toronto, Dec. 22, 1890.

TO PREVENT DAMP SCHOOL HOUSES.

While giving the opinions of so many scientific writers on the subject of schools and their construction, the matter of the prevention of dampness must not be overlooked. From a hygienic point of view nothing is more important than to have

dry cellars or basements in a school building, more especially in cities, where they are often used as recreation rooms in wet weather. In the construction of school houses a damp course should never be omitted when there is the slightest chance of dampness arising from below the foundation. Cases have been known where, by capillary attraction, dampness has risen through the walls twenty feet from the foundation. Damp courses can be of asphalt, slate or coal tar. In the latter case, it is advisable to lay a course of single brick through the wall, laying the coal tar over it, so allowing a bond to prevent the possibility of the superstructure from sliding. The damp course should project beyond the wall on the inside to join with the material used to prevent dampness in the cellar. For the cellar floor, three-quarters to one inch of rock asphalt, laid on three to four inches of hydraulic cement concrete, is preferable, as it affords a positive protection against the permeation of any noxious gases through the floor, prevents the entrance of vermin, and never disintegrating, causes no dust. It is easily cleaned and should be hosed off every day. As the schools are so generally heated by furnaces in the cellar, it can be readily understood that any damp or gas-laden air in the basement would be liable to be carried up into the various school-rooms. In some cities and towns rock asphalt may be considered too expensive a material to be used. In such cases two inches of hydraulic cement concrete can be laid; then a coat of hot coal tar, connected with the damp course in the wall, and the cellar can then be finished with two or three inches of Portland cement concrete, smoothed off and carefully graded to traps. Walls coming into contact with earth on the outside should always be coated with asphalt or coal tar. The use of asphalt in building is becoming more general. In a late issue of *Le Genie Civil* it is stated that the walls of Nineveh, the ancient capital of Assyria, were built with a mortar of asphalt, and Diodorus Siculus, a contemporary of Cæsar and Augustus, describes the construction in the following language: "In order to bind the bricks they were covered with a layer of asphalt instead of simple tempered clay, and were arranged in courses, and between each thirtieth course a bed of reed canes was introduced." The custom of coating the external and internal wall of the ground floor of houses existed in ancient Egypt. — *Architecture and Building.*

CONTRACTS OPEN.

ST. THOMAS, ONT.—The Presbyterians will erect a new church on Alma street shortly.

SARNIA, ONT.—A movement for the erection of a House of Refuge for this county is progressing.

MORDEN, MAN.—The Hudson's Bay Co. contemplate erecting a substantial brick store building in the spring.

VICTORIA, B. C.—A by-law is before the Council for the expenditure of \$5,000 towards the construction of a drill shed.

EXTREME, ONT.—Mr. J. W. Broderick has purchased Mr. Jas. Rickard's large residence and intends to re-model the same.

SHERBROOKE, QUE.—The Paton Co. will probably spend about \$50,000 in the erection of additional buildings and purchase of new machinery.

ST. JOHN'S, N. B.—Messrs. Kichen & Son of New York have undertaken to complete 14 miles of Tobique Valley Railway in this province in the spring.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.—A company is being formed for the reclamation of a tract of submerged prairie land about 30 miles from Vancouver.

PORT ARTHUR, ONT.—It is proposed to raise \$75,000 for the purpose of constructing an electric street railway between this place and Fort William.

KINGSTON, ONT.—The City Council is in correspondence with Mr. Geo. Unser of Toronto regarding the erection of a carpet factory estimated to cost \$30,000.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The St. Jean Baptiste Society have at their disposal the sum of \$140,000 for the erection of a monument. Tenders for the work will be asked for early in the spring.

PORT DOVER, ONT.—Mr. Thos. Hyland of this place has had drawings prepared from which to erect a large hotel on the lake shore, the estimated cost of which is \$70,000. Construction will commence shortly.

OWEN SOUND, ONT.—The G.T.R. Co. have offered to construct the road to connect this town with the Stratford and Lake Huron branch on condition that the town grants a bonus of \$70,000. Tenders are asked for the erection of a Separate School next summer on St. Mary's Hill.

HALIFAX, N. S.—At a meeting of the Board of Works, held November 17, it was decided to engage an expert engineer to examine the water supply, with a view of making such improvements as may be necessary to improve and increase the supply. E. H. Keating, City Engineer, can furnish details.

VANCOUVER, B. C.—The City Engineer has been instructed to get quotations for 660 feet of 8 inch vitrified sewer pipe and 8 x 4 Y's.—Subscriptions are being solicited and liberally given towards the construction of a Temperance Hall.—The Board of Trade will recommend the Council to erect an Agricultural Hall.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—The design of Mr. Hooper of this city for a monument to the late Hon. Mr. John Norquay has been accepted. The monument will cost \$2,000. A memorial tablet is also to be placed in the church at St. Andrews.—The sum of half a million has been subscribed for a beet sugar factory, and the Government is being asked to sanction the erection of a distillery in connection with the enterprise.

TORONTO, ONT.—Application has been made to Parliament to incorporate the Toronto Railway Viaduct and Tunnel Co. with power to construct an elevated railway viaduct of tunnel along the Esplanade from some point near Mimico easterly to the townships of York or Scarboro.—The following building permits have been granted: S. McIntosh, one pair 2-storey and attic bk. dwellings, Wood near Church st., cost \$5,300; James Taylor, one pair 2-storey bk. dwellings, Wyatt avenue, cost \$2,400.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

KINGSTON, ONT.—Mr. Geo. Wilson, of Gananoque, has been given the contract for the enlargement of St. George's Cathedral.

WALKERTON, ONT.—The contract for the construction of the water-works system has been given to Mr. Miles Hunting, Hamilton. The contract price is \$18,000.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The proprietors of Sohmer Park have contracted with the Dominion Bridge Co. for a new pavilion with steel supports, 120 feet by 175 feet, and 60 feet high.

OTTAWA, ONT.—Messrs. D. O'Brien & Sons of Montreal, and Poupore Bros. of Ottawa, who are respectively the lowest tenderers for erecting 1 and 3 of the Rapide Plat Canal enlargement works, have entered into partnership, and will carry out both contracts with the one staff.

PRESERVATION OF METALLIC SURFACES.

One of the greatest difficulties in the way of protecting iron surfaces by means of paint is the difficulty of producing a firm adhesion between the paint and the metal. When applied to surfaces that have been polished, the difficulty is not so great; though, even in this case, anything that will cause a more perfect adhesion is to be welcomed. It is when paint is applied to the rough surfaces of iron castings, and especially to those that have been scaled by the action of vitriol, that the difficulty of producing a perfect and permanent adhesion is found. In order to secure the best results, iron that has been vitrioled ought to be well washed and carefully dried before the paint is applied. If the articles are small and will bear the application of a strong heat, they should be heated until oil applied to them smokes. They may then be brushed over with a thin coating of boiled linseed oil; and when this has become thoroughly dry, they may be painted. When the articles are too large, or when, from other reasons, it is impossible or inconvenient to heat them, the oil may be warmed before it is applied. A thin coat of hot oil will penetrate every pore, displace all adhering dampness, and stick to the metal so closely that no exposure to air or moisture will ever cause it to separate. To such an oiled surface paint adheres well; and when this process is adopted, we never find the paint falling off in large flakes, owing to moisture having crept into some crack and gradually produced a thin layer of rust between the paint and the metal. These remarks of course apply to metal that is exposed to the open air, and subjected to the action of frost, moisture and air. It is easy enough to protect metals that are kept within doors, in a dry place, and consequently need no protection; but iron exposed to the elements is a different affair. And here we may perhaps be allowed to remark that these directions in regard to hot oil apply to wood quite as well as they do to metal. A coat of oil applied hot, and allowed to become thoroughly dry, is a powerful preservative, and makes an excellent groundwork for a subsequent coat of paint.—*American Artisan.*

STONE WALLING.

Of whatever quality the stone may be of which a wall is to be built, it should consist of stone and as little of mortar as possible. If it be inferior in durability and power of resisting the action of the atmosphere, &c., to the mortar, besides the certain fact that the mortar will yield until it has set hard, and so far act injuriously, no ulterior good is gained; and if the stone be the more durable material the more of it that enters into the wall the better. Indeed, in rough walling, if the stones be pressed together until the more prominent angles on their faces come into actual contact, the interstices being occupied by mortar, it will be better than if a thick yielding mass were allowed to remain between them. Absolute contact, however, should not be permitted any more than in brickwork, lest the shrinking of the mortar in drying leave the stones to such unequal bearings as the prominent parts alone would afford. Stone being generally of a less absorbent nature than brick, it is not a matter of so much importance that it be wetted before setting. Nevertheless, adhesion on the part of the mortar is more certain and more complete if the stones be worked in, in at least a damp state. Bond is of no less importance in stone walling than in bricklaying. Instead of carefully making the joints recur one over the other in alternate courses, as with bricks and gauged stones, the joints should as carefully be made to lock, so as to give the strength of two or three courses or layers between a joint in one course and one that may occur vertically over it in another. In bonding through a wall or transversely, it is much better that many stones should reach two-thirds across, alternately from the opposite side, than that there should be a few through stones, or stones extending the whole thickness of the wall. Indeed, one of the many faults of stonemasons is that of making a wall consist of two scales or thin sides with through stones now and then laid across to bind them together, the core being made of mortar and small rubble merely. This is a mode of structure that should be carefully guarded against. There is no better test of a workman's tact and judgment in rubble walling than the building of a dry wall, or a wall without mortar, affords. Walls are frequently built with mortar that without it would have fallen down under their own weight in a height of 6 feet, in consequence of their defective construction, thus rendering it evident that they are only held together by the tenacity of the mortar, which is very seldom an equivalent for a proper bond of stone. Masons are very apt to set thin broad stones on their narrow edges to show a good face, by which the wall is injured in two ways. It tends to the formation of a mere case on the surface of a wall, and it for the most part exposes the bed of the stone to the atmosphere, as a stone is more likely to be broad in the direction of its bed than across it.

A NEW SYSTEM OF TESTING CEMENT.

Prof. T. Hudson Beare, of the Liverpool University College, has contributed to the *Builder* an account of some experiments with Mr. Arnold's method of gauging cement for testing, the object of which is to eliminate some of the errors incidental to the ordinary method of gauging test briquettes by hand. In this new system the molds are of the ordinary form and cross-section; but for briquettes, which when finished, are to measure an inch in thickness, they are 2 inches deep. The molds are placed on a stout, flat tray, with a shallow rim all around it, and are then filled with dry cement; a measured quantity (0.3 pound) being placed in each. A brass die of the exact shape and size of a finished briquette is then placed on top of the cement in each mold, compressing the contents. This compression is completed under a small hand screw press, which so compacts the dry powder that it only occupies half the mold; the die being then flush with the top of the mold. The result of this part of the process is the formation of an exceedingly closely compacted briquette of dry cement exactly an inch thick. Water is then poured into the tray, and is taken up by the briquettes, by capillary attraction, which goes on for 20 minutes. The molds are removed from the tray and placed on a table, die downwards, to set for 24 hours. The after-procedure is precisely the same as with ordinary cement testing. At the end of the 24 hours the briquettes are removed from the molds and placed in water, where they remain for their appointed time before being broken. Professor Beare found all the briquettes exceedingly compact and close-grained. Owing to the quantity of cement in each being about 15 per cent, in excess of that in ordinary test pieces, the strength was uniformly higher. It was shown, however, that the tests possessed remarkable uniformity—much more, indeed, than a clever manipulator could be expected to obtain by hand gauging. If, therefore, some such system were adopted, Professor Beare thinks one element of uncertainty, due to the personality of the gauger, might be eliminated.

TO MAKE FIREPROOF PAINT.

Twenty parts of finely pulverized glass, twenty parts of finely pulverized porcelain, twenty parts of any sort of stone in powder, ten parts of calcined lime, and thirty parts of water-glass (silicate of soda), such as is usually found in commerce. The solid elements having been powdered as finely

as possible and sifted, are moistened and then intimately mixed with the water-glass. This yields a mass of syrupy consistency that may be employed for painting, either alone or mixed with color. The addition of the lime gives a certain unctuousness to the mass for whitewashing, and its combination with the silicic acid of the soluble glass serves to bind the other materials together. The proportion of the different elements above mentioned may be changed save that of the water-glass, which must remain constant. These elements may even be replaced one by another; but it is always well to preserve the lime. Instead of silicate of soda (soluble glass of soda), soluble glass of potash might be used; but the former is less expensive. The coating is applied with a brush, as other paints are, as uniformly as possible over the surface to be protected. The first coat hardens immediately, and a second one may be applied six hours or more afterwards. Two coats are sufficient. This paint may likewise be employed as a preservative against rust, and used as a coating for iron bridges, etc.

*174 1/2 Notre Dame Street,
Montreal, October 14, 1890*

*C. H. Mortimer Esq.
Publ. Canadian Architect & Builder,
and Contract Record.*

Dear Sir,

I have to inform you, that, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, at the First Annual Meeting of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects held in Montreal on 10th & 11th inst.:-

We the Architects of the Province of Quebec now assembled in convention being satisfied that the Canadian Contract Record affords us a direct communication with the contractor. Resolved: That we pledge our support to it by using its columns when calling for tenders.

*Yours truly
C. Bluff
Secretary.*

Prices of Building Materials.

LUMBER.

CAR OR CARGO LOTS.

1 1/2 and thicker clear picks, Am. ins.	\$30 00 @ \$32 00
1 1/2 and thicker, three uppers, Am. ins.	37 00
1 1/2 and thicker, pickings, Am. ins.	27 00
1 x 10 and 12 dressing and better.	18 00 20 00
1 x 10 and 12 mill run.	13 00 14 00
1 x 10 and 12 dressing.	14 00 16 00
1 x 10 and 12 common.	12 00 13 00
1 x 10 and 12 spruce culls.	10 00 11 00
1 x 10 and 12 maple culls.	9 00
1 inch clear and picks.	28 00 30 00
1 inch dressing and better.	18 00 20 00
1 inch siding, mill run.	14 00 16 00
1 inch siding, common.	11 00 12 00
1 inch siding, ship culls.	\$10 00 \$11 00
1 inch siding, mill culls.	8 00 9 00
Cull scantling.	8 00 9 00
1 1/2 and thicker cutting up plank.	22 00 25 00
1 inch strips, 4 in. to 8 in. mill run.	14 00 15 00
1 inch strips, common.	11 00 12 00
1 1/2 inch flooring.	14 00 15 00
1 1/2 inch flooring.	14 00 16 00
XX shingles, sawn.	1 30 @ 2 35
XX shingles, sawn.	1 30 1 35
Eastlake galvanized steel shingles, 24 W. G., per square.	6 00
Eastlake galvanized steel shingles, 26 W. G., per square.	5 00
Eastlake painted steel shingles, per sq.	4 00
Round pointed galvanized steel shingles, per sq.	6 00
Round pointed painted steel shingles.	4 25
Round pointed, unpainted, Terme tin shingles.	4 00
Manitoba galvanized steel siding, per square.	5 00
Manitoba painted steel siding, per sq.	3 50
Painted sheet steel pressed brick.	3 50
Painted crimped steel sheeting.	3 40
Price of Copper shingles according to weight.	

YARD QUOTATIONS.

Mill cull boards and scantling.	10 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths.	13 00
Shipping cull boards, stocks.	14 00
Hemlock cantling and joist up to 16 ft.	11 00 18 00
" " " " 18 "	13 00
" " " " 20 "	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.	14 00
" " " " 18 ft.	15 00
" " " " 20 ft.	17 00
" " " " 22 ft.	19 00
" " " " 24 ft.	21 00
" " " " 26 ft.	23 00
" " " " 28 ft.	25 00
" " " " 30 ft.	27 00
" " " " 32 ft.	29 00
" " " " 34 ft.	31 00
" " " " 36 ft.	33 00
" " " " 38 ft.	35 00
" " " " 40 to 44 ft.	38 00
Cutting up planks, 1 1/2 and thicker, dry board.	25 00 28 00
Cedar for block paving, per cord.	5 00
Cedar for Kerbing, 4 x 14, per M.	14 00
B. M.	
1 1/2 inch flooring, dressed, F. M.	28 00 31 00
1 1/2 inch flooring rough, B. M.	18 00 22 00
1 1/2 " " dressed, F. M.	25 00 28 00
1 1/2 " " undressed, B. M.	18 00 19 00
" " " dressed.	18 00 22 00
" " " undressed.	12 00 15 00
Boards sheeting, dressed.	22 00 35 00
Clapboarding, dressed.	12 00
XXX sawn shingles, per M, 16 in.	2 65 2 75
Sawn lath.	2 00 2 20
Red oak.	30 00 40 00
White.	25 00 45 00
Basswood, No. 1 and 2.	18 00 20 00
Cherry, No. 1 and 2.	70 00 70 00
White ash, No. 1 and 2.	25 00 25 00
Black ash, No. 1 and 2.	20 00 20 00
Dressing stocks.	16 00 22 00
Picks, American inspection.	40 00
Three uppers, American inspection.	50 00
BRICK—M	
Common Walling.	\$7 50
Good Facing.	9 00
Sewer.	8 50 9 00
Pressed Brick:	
Plain brick, f. o. b. at Milton, per M.	\$18 00
" " 2nd quality, per M.	14 00
" " 3rd	10 00
Hard Building.	10 00
Moulded and Ornamental, per 100.	\$3 to 10 00
First quality, f. o. b. at Campbellville, per M	18 00
2nd " " "	13 00
3rd " " "	10 00
Hard Building.	8 00
Ornamental, per 100.	\$3 to 10 00
Tiles.	24 00
Stone.	
Common Rubble, Per Toise, delivered	14 00.
Large flat.	18 00
Foundation Blocks, " Cubic Foot.	18 00
Slate: Roofing (per square).	
" red.	16 00
" purple.	9 00
" unlading green.	9 00.
" black slate.	7 50
Terra Cotta Tile, per sq.	25 00
Ornamental Black Slate Roofing.	8 00
Sand:	
Per Load of 1 1/2 Cubic Yards.	1 5
PAINTS. (In oil, per lb.)	
White lead, Can.	6 25 6 50
" zinc, Can.	6 1/2 7 50
Red lead, Eng.	5 1/2 6 1/2
" venetian.	1 60 1 75
" vermilion.	90 1 00
" Indian, Eng.	10 12
Yellow ochre.	5 10
Yellow chrome.	15 20
Green, chrome.	7 18
" Paris.	25 40
Black, lamp.	15 21
Blue, ultramarine.	24 25
Oil, linseed, raw (per gallon).	68 70
" " boiled.	72 75
" " refined.	78 80
Putty.	2 1/2 2 1/2
Whiting, dry.	75 1 00
Paris white Eng., dry.	60 1 25
Litharge, Am.	6 1/2 8
Sienna, burnt.	15 20
Umber.	8 1/2 12
CEMENT, LIME, etc.	
Lime, Per Barrel of 2 bushels, Grey.	40
" " " White.	55
Plaster, Calcined, New Brunswick.	2 00
" " " Nova Scotia.	2 00
Hair, Plasterers', per bag.	1 00
Cement, Portland, per bbl.	2 80 3 00
" Thorold.	1 59
" Queenston.	1 50
" Napanee.	2 50
" Hull.	1 50
HARDWARE.	
Cut Nails:	
American Pattern, 1 1/2 inch, per keg.	4 15
" " 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 inch, per keg	3 40
Canadian Pattern, 1 1/2 inch, per keg.	3 65
" " 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 inch, per keg	3 15
" " 2 to 2 1/2 inch, "	3 25
" " 2 1/2 to 3 inch, "	3 90
" " 3 inch and larger.	2 61
Steel nails 10c. per keg extra.	
Finishing nails, 1 inch, per keg.	5 75
" " 1 1/2 inch, "	5 05
" " 2 inch, "	4 50
" " 1 1/2 " " and larger.	4 20
" " " " " and larger.	3 15

