FOUNDATION BULLETIN

MARCH 1931

THE ALDRED BUILDING

THE FOUNDATION COMPANY
OF CANADA
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FOREWORD

WHILE we have faith in Canada's future that hardly needs any encouragement, it is interesting to note what people in other parts of the world think about our country's prospects. Following is part of an editorial which appeared in "The Daily Express," London, England, on January 21st, 1931, and which was reprinted in "The Montreal Daily Star" the following day:

> "That British North America is potentially the richest country in the world is a simple unsentimental truth. Let us imagine that the resources of the Dominion could be divided pro rata to the population.
>
> No citizen of any other community can begin to challenge the possession of individual wealth on such a basis. Canada is passing through a depression brought about by no inherent causes.
>
> The dumping of Russian grain and general international dislocation have exacted a heavy toll, but the glory of Canada's future shines like the sun through the mists. Favored among all nations by the wealth of her soil and the virility of her people, the years ahead are laden with treasure."

NEW CONTRACTS

THE Montreal Sewers Commission of the City of Montreal have awarded us a contract for a section of the new main trunk sewer, the "Collecteur du Nord," on Perras Boulevard. Perras Boulevard runs parallel to the Back River at the north side of the Island of Montreal, about a quarter of a mile inshore. The section of tunnel included in our contract lies between Lille Street and Curotte Avenue, the power house of the Back River power plant of the Montreal Island Power Company being about opposite the centre of our work.

The work involves driving a tunnel through earth and rock a distance of 4,690 feet, the invert varying in depth below the surface from 35 feet to 45 feet. The outside diameter of the tunnel is to be about 14' 6" and the concrete lining, which is horseshoe shaped, is approximately 12' 0" in diameter, the invert being faced with scoria block. Nine manholes, some of them specially designed for snow disposal, are also included in this section.

Work has been started and is to be completed within the required time of eighteen months.

The E. B. Eddy Co. Limited have awarded us a contract for a Filtration Plant at their Hull, Quebec, Mill. The work involves the construction of a ten-million gallon per day filter building, coagulating basins, alum mixing and storage building and pump house, all of concrete and brick construction. An intake will be located on the banks of the Ottawa River and a concrete lined tunnel through rock about 70 feet in length connects this to the filter plant. A railway siding about 900 feet long is to be constructed from the main mill siding to the filter plant. There will also be a considerable length of 48" concrete pipe sewer and the relocation of an existing groundwood pipe line. The site of the work is on a rocky point, all excavation, therefore, being in solid rock. Work on the intake and tunnel has been started and the main excavation will be started shortly.

MOVEMENT OF STAFF

SUPERINTENDENTS:

W. H. Hunter has been appointed to the Collecteur du Nord contract, Montreal.
W. N. Cann has been appointed to the Maclaren-Quebec Power Development, Masson, Que.
I. A. Butcher has been appointed to the E. B. Eddy Co. Ltd. Filtration Plant, Hull, Que.

ENGINEERS:

J. F. Thrasher has been appointed to the Collecteur du Nord, Montreal.
F. Astles has been appointed to the Maclaren-Power Development, Masson, Que.
N. D. Somers has been appointed to the Maclaren-Power Development, Masson, Que.
G. R. Adams has been appointed to Courtaulds Mill Contract, Cornwall, Ont.

OFFICEMEN:

H. E. Leap has been appointed to the E. B. Eddy Filtration Plant, Hull, Que.
R. J. Lawson has been appointed to the Maclaren-Power Development, Masson.
E. P. Latremoille has been appointed to the Collecteur du Nord, Montreal.
B. F. Foster has been appointed to the C.N.R. Viaduct Canal Section, Montreal.
T. C. Woods has been appointed to the E. B. Eddy Filtration Plant, Hull, Que.

GENERAL FOREMEN:

H. McCully has been appointed to the Maclaren-Power Development, in charge of tunnelling operations, at Masson, Que.
W. Chevrier has been appointed to the Maclaren-Power Development, in charge of operations at the dam site, at Masson, Que.
W. A. Darcy has been appointed to the Collecteur du Nord, Montreal.

MASTER MECHANICS:

W. Racine has been transferred from King Edward Pier to C.N.R. Viaduct, Canal Section, Montreal.
E. Bent has been appointed to Maclaren-Power Development, Masson.
J. M. Brens has been appointed installation master mechanic at Courtaulds, Cornwall, Ont.

MARINE

"The "Foundation Franklin" sailed from Halifax on February 27th, called at Louisburg for coal and arrived at St. John's, Newfoundland, March 3rd, where she is stationed for the winter months. During the voyage she encountered the most severe storm on the Atlantic this season.

Foundation Maritime Limited are now occupying their new offices at 117 Coristine Building, 410 St. Nicholas Street, Montreal. Their telephone number is Marquette 7683, night calls Walnut 3304 and Fitzroy 7401, and their cable address is "FOUNDATION, MONTREAL."

APPOINTMENTS

F. W. Walker has been appointed Contract Manager for The Foundation Co. of Canada Limited Building Department.

A. G. Sullivan, formerly Purchasing Agent for Construction Equipment Co. Limited, has been appointed Assistant Purchasing Agent for The Foundation Co. of Canada Limited.

R. M. Doull is appointed Purchasing Agent of the Construction Equipment Co. Limited. Mr. Doull is a B.Sc. in mechanical engineering from McGill University and B.Sc. in physics from Dalhousie University. He was formerly with the Dominion Engineering Works Limited.

MONTREAL BUILDERS' EXCHANGE

At a meeting of the Montreal Builders' Exchange on February 25th, F. G. Rutley was elected President of the Exchange for the ensuing year. Mr. Rutley has been very active in this organization during the past year, during which time many important matters of concern to Montreal builders have been handled.

CONSTRUCTION PLANT

The Construction Equipment Company Limited has entered into a contract with the Dominion Construction Company for the purchase of the plant used for driving the Wolfe's Cove Tunnel at Quebec. This equipment has an inventory value of approximately $165,000 and includes a large compressor plant, drills, steam and electric locomotives, cars, pumps, concrete plant, ventilating plant, track, pipe lines, spare parts, transformers and copper wire.

ALDRED BUILDING

One of the most interesting contrasts between old and modern Montreal is provided by the construction of the Aldred Building, on Place d'Armes. While the new building rises twenty-three storeys above the ground, towering above the adjoining buildings, and is of the most modern design, it overlooks the Seminary of Saint Sulpice, one of the oldest buildings in Montreal.

The site, at the south-east corner of the square, occupies an area of about 18,000 square feet, with a frontage of one hundred feet on the square and one hundred and ninety-five feet on Notre Dame Street.

The new building is ideally located for those engaged in the practice of law, of finance, or general industrial and commercial business. It is adjacent to the leading banks, the law courts, the stock exchange and the wholesale district of Montreal. Facing the Aldred Building, on the west side of the square, are the buildings of the Banque Canadienne Nationale and the Royal Insurance Co. On the south side of the square is the historic Notre Dame Church and the Seminary of Saint Sulpice. The head office building of the Bank of Montreal and the Royal Trust Company are on the north side. The Bank of Montreal building was erected in 1817 and has been occupied since that date.

Introducing modern architecture to this historic site, the new Aldred Building itself is a fitting symbol of the development which has taken place in Quebec Province over the past few years. It rises a total height of 316 feet above the sidewalk, and 31 feet below ground. The Architects have added to the natural advantages of their site by the use of modern set-back design, which increases the natural lighting facilities of all offices.

The entire building is faced with Indiana limestone above a granite base, with aluminum spandrels between the windows, which emphasize the height of the building. Massive buttresses rising the full height of the building give a distinctly monumental appearance. The ground floor windows, surmounted by carved stone arches, are unusually large. Two impressive entrances, one from Place d'Armes and one from Notre Dame Street, with walls finished in a variety of beautifully matched marble panels and marble pilasters, richly ornamented plaster vaulted ceilings and floors of marble and terrazzo, converge into the elevator lobby. The doors of the elevators are of bronze etched with a metal of contrasting colour. The radiators in all of the elevator corridors are enclosed in marble and bronze.

Speed, safety and beauty have been considered in the elevator installation. The building is served by six high speed elevators each of large capacity and capable of travelling 700 feet a minute. These elevators are of the signal-control push button type and embody the latest mechanical devices, including a complete automatic despatching system. Express service will be provided for tenants occupying the upper floors of the building. The elevator cabs are finished in teak wood in attractive designs.

In planning the Aldred Building the Architects have incorporated unusual features for the health and efficiency of all those carrying on work within the building. There are 840 windows altogether, comprising 20 per cent of the total outside wall area and providing an abundance of natural light and air. In addition to this, a system of mechanical ventilation has been installed to serve from the basement to the eighth floor inclusive.

The building plans afford great flexibility in the arrangement and division of offices, large and small. The approximate rentable area on each floor, from the second to the eighth floor, is 10,000 square feet; from the ninth to the thirteenth inclusive, 6,000 square feet; from the fourteenth to the seventeenth, inclusive, 5,000 square feet. The floors above this vary from 3,600 to 2,000 square feet.

The building contains many features for the tenants that are unusual even in the most modern office buildings. Under-floor ducts for telephones and inter-office telephones have been constructed throughout the building, and outlets from the ducts can be provided as the tenant desires.

Offices are subdivided by steel and glass partitions except in cases where sound-proof walls are required, when partitions are of Haydite block and plaster.

A central vacuum cleaning system has been installed, together with all the necessary equipment for the janitor service, all in keeping with the other mechanical facilities throughout the building. The various machinery for lighting and heating the building is located in the sub-basement. Large, airy washrooms have been constructed on each floor.

The basement, reached from the main entrances by a stairway in the Place d'Armes lobby, or the main elevators, provides ample space for a large modern restaurant, a barber shop and safety deposit vaults. A door at the head of the stairway gives access to the offices of the Montreal Trust Company in the adjoining building. On the ground floor public facilities include a news stand and tobacco shop, telegraph offices and public telephones, while the remainder of this area is occupied by a bank and two stockbrokers' offices.

The owners and managers of the building are Messrs. Aldred & Co. Limited, who occupy the entire seventeenth floor.

The Foundation Co. of Canada Limited were the General Contractors for the superstructure. Work was started in December, 1929, and proceeded throughout 1930, being completed early in 1931. Owing to the comparatively small ground area, the size of the building and the dense traffic conditions on the adjoining streets, the problem of plant layout and delivery and storage of material was one which required extremely careful planning. An excellent layout resulted in placing concrete mixing plant in the sub-basement complete with an inundation system and with aggregate storage bins loaded from trucks dumping on the ground floor level. Trucks bringing all the material entering into the construction entered from Place d'Armes Square and drove out on to Notre Dame Street after disposing of their loads. Two steel elevator towers with two cages each were located on each side of the building, starting from the sub-basement and continuing up through the roof of the first set-back and then on the outside of the building to above the highest point of the roof. High speed electric hoists were used for the elevators. Cut stone was delivered to the site by truck in open boxes, which were

hoisted to the proper floors for erection, the stone remaining in the boxes until required, thus eliminating danger from damage due to handling. Structural steel was completed by the end of April, 1930; concrete slabs followed, being completed within a month of the steel, and the stone work was completed by the first of August, two months ahead of schedule. Interior work and mechanical trades followed the concrete, the building being completely enclosed before cold weather set in.

Designed by Messrs. Barott & Blackader, the building is perhaps the most outstanding example of modern architecture in the City. Consulting Engineers were Messrs. McDougall & Freidman, of Montreal. Among those most constantly associated with The Foundation Company, and whose excellent co-operation was invaluable, were T. T. Rutherford on the architectural work, W. Spark on the mechanical work and F. M. Scott, representing the owners.

The Foundation Company's field staff included the following:—

F. P. Gahagan	Superintendent
W. Hawkins	Mechanical Engineer
W. Gilmour	Engineer
J. Flannery	Engineer
J. Thrasher	Engineer
J. Masterson	Engineer
C. O. Forde	Engineer
Geo. Lidecker	Officeman
K. Larssen	Timekeeper
A. G. Sullivan	Material Man
N. Altimas	Officeman
H. H. Buchan	Clerk-Stenographer
E. Younghusband	Material Checker
J. Swain	Nurse
J. V. Younghusband	Gen. Labour Foreman
A. Herow	Gen. Mason Foreman
E. Fonck	General Carpenter Foreman
V. Martineau	Master Mechanic
N. Cameron	Brick Foreman
M. Caisse	Brick Foreman
C. Small	Brick Foreman
E. Corbeil	Sub-Mason Foreman
C. Nantel	Carpenter Foreman
E. Lamarre	Carpenter Foreman
F. O'Brien	Painting Foreman
F. Babin	Cement Finish Foreman
J. Hachey	Labour Foreman
J. Duguay	Labour Foreman
T. Dale	Foreman
J. Bedard	Foreman
J. McRae	Tool Room