

CORK INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

IT is gratifying to learn that great progress is being made with the buildings for the forthcoming Exhibition, which is to open in July next. The contractor (Mr. John Delany) has a large staff of men employed, and the roofs are so far advanced that the glazing operations (Mr. William Martin, St. Stephen's-green, contractor will in a week or two be commenced.

At a recent meeting of Executive Committee, a letter was read from Mr. Cooper Penrose, R.E., suggesting that arrangements should be made to illustrate the transmission of power by electricity from some of the water-wheels in the neighbourhood of Cork. He instanced the case of the exhibition held last year at Munich, where power was transmitted from a distance of thirty miles, the loss of power in transmission being only 60 per cent. The committee approved of Mr. Penrose's suggestion, and the hon. Secretary was requested to communicate with the Society of Telegraph Engineers and Electricians for the purpose of obtaining full particulars on the subject, as it was the feeling of all present that the question was one of the greatest importance, and that if this method of utilising the water power of the country could be shown to be commercially successful, it would be of extraordinary advantage to manufacturers.

A grant of £50 was made to the raw materials sub-committee to enable them to collect specimens of the various marbles, building stones, clays, &c., of the country, the object of this committee being to make as complete a collection as possible of the various raw materials of Ireland that can be utilised in any way, and at the same time to ascertain and publish the cost at which these materials can be delivered at the various manufacturing centres where such materials are used, thus drawing the attention of manufacturers to the advantages to be derived from using certain Irish products.

Mr. J. Brenan, R.H.A., reported having visited Dublin and London, for the purpose of obtaining specimens of art work for the Fine Arts Department of the Exhibition. At Leinster House he selected samples of students' work, including specimens of textile fabrics, manufactured from designs made by the pupils of the Metropolitan School of Art, and he had succeeded in obtaining a loan of six busts, by the late Joseph Watkins. He also stated that Sir Thomas Jones, President R.H.A., had promised to lend pictures and to assist the committee. In London Mr. Brenan spent a considerable time at the Science and Art Museum, South Kensington, and selected, among other things, the following specimens of art work :—Corporation and college plate, electrotypes, leather work, including some very interesting specimens of Japanese and modern stamped leather; wood carving, oriental pottery, European pottery, glass, and enamels, embroidered church vestments and lace. Mr. Brenan also succeeded in obtaining a promise that the National Competition drawings shall be lent to the committee for one week in September. These drawings are peculiarly interesting and instructive, as they consist of the prize drawings from various schools of art throughout the United Kingdom. Before leaving London Mr. Brenan obtained a promise from Mr. Poynter, R.A., and Mr. Watts, R.A., that they would lend some of their works. The Fine Arts Committee requested Mr. Brenan to confer with the architect as to the best method of lighting the Fine Arts Gallery.

It appears that the space applied for amounts to 88,305 square feet, exclusive of the Fine Arts and Loan Departments. The architect (Mr. Walker) estimates the total amount of available space, after deducting great hall, dining-room, &c., at 70,000 square feet; thus a reduction of 16,305 square feet will have to be made.

A resolution was passed asking the Lords of the Admiralty to send the Channel Fleet to Queenstown for some period during the continuance of the Exhibition.