

JAMES AIKENHEAD.

The hardware trade will have learned with great regret the death last month of James Aikenhead, president of the Aikenhead Hardware Limited, of Toronto. Mr. Aikenhead had a long and honorable career in business, having risen from the foot of the ladder to be founder of one of the most



successful hardware firms in the Canadian trade. He had just celebrated his 86th birthday. He was a native of Ireland, and came to Canada in 1847, securing employment in the old hardware firm of Ridout Bros. & Co. Later the firm became Ridout, Aikenhead & Crombie, and later became the Aikenhead Hardware Co., which was succeeded by the present joint stock company, of which his son Thos. E. Aikenhead is general manager. Another son is the Rev. James R. Aikenhead, of Gravenhurst.

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

At the ordinary meeting of the above society, on the 23rd ult., a paper giving an estimate of the discharge of the St. Francis River, was read by K. M. Cameron, a student member.

The following was the result of the ballot for new members in the various classes named:

Members—Robert Arthur Bainbridge, of Nelson, B.C.; William Henry Breithaupt, of Berlin, Ontario; John William Burke, of New York, U.S.; Charles Garden, of Woodstock, N.B.; Frederick Mondelet Gaudet of Quebec; Richard Armstrong Hazlewood, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; Owen McKay, of Walkerville, Ont.; George Albert Simpson, of Winnipeg.

Associate Members—Franklin Clark, of Halifax, N.S.; Abram Silas Code, of Alvinston, Ont.; Francis Algernon Devereux, of Victoria, British Columbia; William Allison Logan, of Cardinal, Ont.; Alexander Macdougall, of Quebec; Earnest Vivian Moore, of Port Colborne, Ont.; Sergius P. Maximoff, of St. Petersburg, Russia.

Transferred from the Class of Associate Member to the Class of Member.—William B. Russel, of North Bay; William Fraser Van Buskirk, of Rossland B.C.; Frederick Richard Wilford, of Iroquois, Ont.

Transferred from the Class of Student to the Class of Associate Member.—Guy Ralston Balloch, of Woodstock, N.B.; Archibald Abercromby Bowman, of Toronto; Frank Taylor, of Montreal.

Associate.—William Herbert C. Mussen, of Montreal.

Students.—Joseph Ulysse Bray, of Hull, P.Q.; Frederick Baylis Brown, of Montreal; Roscoe Y. Conklin, of Montreal; Charles VanDyke Corless, of Montreal; Henri Dessulles, of Montreal; J. Henri Dubuc, of Montreal; Royden Keith Durland, of Montreal; John Hamilton Edgar, of Montreal; Alvah Ernest Foreman, of Montreal; Stanley Howard Frame, of Gay's River, Col. Co., N.S.; Oliver Hall, of Montreal; Thomas Craik Irving, Jr., of Toronto; Edgar Augustus James, of Thornhill, Ont.; Piers Kingsford, of Montreal; Joseph Labelle, of Montreal; Francis C. C. Lynch, of Montreal;

Charles Millar McKergow, of Montreal; Alexander Peden, Jr., of Montreal; Herbert G. Pickard, of Montreal; Rolland Prefontaine, of Montreal; Auguste Real Shehyn, of Three Rivers, P.Q.; James Herbert Smith, of New Hamburg, Ont.; Altheod Tremblay, of Coteau Ldg.; Logan Manning Waterous, of Brantford, Ont.

CANADIAN ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting held on April 24, at Toronto, a committee was appointed to arrange for the entertainment of visitors to the annual convention of the Canadian Electrical Association, which will be held in that city this year on June 10, 11 and 12. A. B. Smith was appointed chairman of the local committee in place of J. J. Wright, who is ill. It is expected that the King Edward hotel will be the headquarters of the association during the convention, and that the annual banquet will be held there.

LITERARY NOTES.

"The Diamond Mines of South Africa," by Gardner F. Williams, M.A., is the title of a sumptuous volume in watered cloth binding, published by the Macmillan Company, New York and London. The author is peculiarly qualified for the work of placing before the world a record of the rise and development of the great diamond mines of South Africa, which have influenced to such an extent both the political and commercial history of the South African colonies. He has had an extensive practical experience in mining, and has acquired expert knowledge of this specific branch of mining and of the inner workings of the South African corporations as general manager of the great DeBeers mines at Kimberley. The book Mr. Williams has here produced is a monumental one and will remain the standard work of reference for years to come. He has made full use of the modern art of illustrating, and almost every aspect of diamond mining is pictured in the 300 or 400 half-tone engravings, the 29 photogravures, and the seven maps that accompany the text. The author in this volume of 681 pages carries the reader from the earliest records of diamonds through the traditions of Ophir land down to the beginnings of mining at Kimberley in the seventies of last century and thence through every stage of mining with machinery operated by steam, electricity and compressed air. It is a cyclopedia of diamond mining, and not the least interesting to Canadians are the chapters giving the most comprehensive account we have yet seen of the memorable siege of Kimberley. In this portion is described that noteworthy achievement, the making of the siege gun "Long Cecil," with illustrations of the gun, and many interesting scenes during the siege by the Boers.

The Canadian Northern will build another elevator at Port Arthur, with a capacity of three and a half million bushels.

The Ontario Electric Railway Co. has determined to develop power for their line at Glen Falls on the Trent, 7 miles north of Trenton.

T. M. Kirkwood, of Toronto, who purchased the Belleville Iron & Steel Co.'s plant was not able to start operations by April 1st and forfeited his deposit of \$2,500, but it is believed the city council will not exact the forfeiture if the negotiations now going on are concluded, by which the works may be taken in hand by an Ontario manufacturing concern.

In reply to an enquirer we may say that about 44,000 h.p. is used in Montreal for electric power and lighting, of which about 34,000 h.p. is generated by water. The sources are: from Chambly, 20,000 h.p., from Lachine, 12,000 h.p., from Shawinigan Falls, about 2,000 h.p., and by steam for the street railway, 10,000-h.p. This does not take into account isolated power or lighting plants generating electricity with steam. It is intended to increase the output of electricity transmitted to Montreal from Shawinigan Falls to 4,000 h.p. while about 15,000 h.p. are generated for use in the industries at the falls.