



A. A. WRIGHT, M.P.

A. A. Wright, M.P., first vice-president of the Canadian Electrical Association, was born at Farmersville (now Athens), Ont., June 16th, 1840. He received his education at Athens Public and High Schools, and Toronto Normal School, after which he became head master of the Gananoque Public School. In 1865 he entered the Military School, at Montreal, obtaining a first-class military certificate. In 1870 he went into mercantile life at Renfrew, Ont., and in 1886 entered the electrical field by installing an arc plant in that town. This was later supplemented by an incandescent plant, and the business is now carried on by the Renfrew Electric Co., Limited, of which Mr Wright is president.

Mr. Wright was a charter member of the Canadian Electrical Association, and has been an active member since its organization. In 1899 he was elected member of the House of Commons, which position he still holds.



LIGHT, HEAT, POWER, ETC.

The Niagara Falls Park Commission has approved the plans of the Ontario Power Co. for their power house at the foot of the Falls, and for the gate and screen houses at the intake.

Natural gas has been struck at Medicine Hat, N.W.T., at a depth of 1,010 feet. The flow is estimated at 1,500,000 cubic feet a day. The strike was made by the commissioners for the proposed municipal gas plant.

The Toronto and Niagara Falls Power Company has awarded a contract, which calls for six generators of 7,500 kilowatts capacity each, or 45,000 kilowatts in all. The Canadian General Electric Company secured the contract.

The plant of the Kingston Light, Heat and Power Co. is to be taken over by the city August 1st, the company to pay taxes to that date and costs of the appeal against the award, while the city agrees to continue to supply power to the Street Railway Company at \$2 per car per day for six months.

The Canadian Westinghouse Company have closed a contract to furnish the Shawinigan Water and Power Company, Shawinigan Falls, with a 6,600 K.W., two-phase 2,200 volt, 3,600 alternations, 180 R.P.M., rotating field alternator, for direct connections with water wheel. Two 2,200 K.W. oil insulated water-cooled transformers, 2,200 volt primary, 50,000 volt secondary, are included in the contract.

At the annual meeting of the Ottawa Electric Co., last month, a net profit for the year of \$47,734, was carried to credit of profit and loss; \$25,000 was added to the rest account, and \$25,000 laid aside for depreciation. There was added during the year 12,524 incandescent lights, 99 arc lights, 23 power motors, and 616 other customers. Thomas Ahearn was elected president; F. P. Brown, vice-president, and D. R. Street, sec.-treasurer.

The suit of the Minnesota Canal Power Co. vs. Koochiching Power Co. is about to be heard in Fort Frances. This suit is in connection with the expropriation of lands for the purpose of diverting the water of Rainy Lake and River

into Birch Lake and St. Louis River, as explained in the Engineer last month. A strong protest has already been entered by residents and companies on both sides of Rainy River, and it is hoped the United States Government will nip the scheme in the bud.

The Western Electric Mfg. Co. is getting its new works in shape, at Berlin, Ont. Some machinery has been installed, and more will be added as business develops. The company is making switch and panel boards and fuses, and later on will make watt meters. It is also preparing to make for the Canadian market a new type of arc lamp, invented in Germany, and said to require less current than any yet devised. The president of the company is Peter Hyman, hardware dealer, and the manager John H. Messner.

The Mexican Light and Power Company, Limited, of Montreal, the \$12,000,000 enterprise of which James Ross is president, has just placed the largest single order for copper cable ever let in the States. The order calls for 1,500 miles of cable, weighing upwards of 2,000 tons. The cable is to be built from the company's Necaxa power plant to Mexico City, and from there on to the El Oro mining district, a total distance of some 125 miles, and will be supported on steel towers in spans of 500 feet. The contract for the cable was let to the Ansonia Brass and Copper Company, of Ansonia, Conn. The Mexican Company's construction operations are among the most extensive ever initiated on this side of the Atlantic. The capacity of the Necaxa plant will in the first instance be 45,000-h.p. Eventually there will be installed additional machinery which will permit of the generating of 80,000-h.p. Fully \$8,000,000, it is estimated, will be expended before the company begins to transmit the electric current.



THE TARIFF CHANGES.

On the 7th June, the Finance Minister announced a number of changes in the Canadian tariff. Among these it is provided that notwithstanding the preferential tariff, the minimum duty on woolen goods (excepting blankets, flannels and bed comforters), shall be 30 per cent., and on twines and cordage, 20 per cent. The duty on common window glass shall be 7½ per cent., and plate glass, not banded, in sheets or panes, not exceeding 7 sq. ft., shall be 10 per cent., and from 7 to 25 sq. ft., 25 per cent. Paraffine wax candles and paraffine wax are dutiable at 25 per cent.; coal oil costing more than thirty cents per gallon, 60 per cent.; lubricating oils, composed wholly or in part of petroleum, costing less than twenty-five cents per gallon, 2½ cents per gallon; crude petroleum, gas, oils (other than benzine and gasoline), above 40 Beume gravity, at 60 degrees temperature, 1½ cents per gallon; oils, coal and kerosene, distilled, purified or refined, naphtha and petroleum, and products of petroleum, n.e.s., 2½ cents per gallon; lubricating oils, n.e.s., and axle greases, 20 per cent.; vaseline and all similar preparations of petroleum for toilet, medical or other purposes, 25 per cent.

Among the articles transferred to the free list are machinery and appliances, not made in Canada, for alluvial gold mining, machinery for the manufacture of linen; rotary printing presses of a kind not made in Canada; machinery of a kind not made in Canada for the manufacture of brass goods, such as are mentioned in item 492, schedule B; well-drilling machinery and apparatus of a class not made in Canada for drilling for water and oil (not to include motive power), artificial teeth, quassia juice, crude petroleum, fuel and gas oils, 40 Beume gravity or less, at 60 degrees temperature (.8233) specific gravity; whole oil soap, hydro-fluo-silicic acid, and glass for dry plates for photographers; also scientific apparatus when imported by order of an educational or scientific institution for its own use and not for sale.

One paragraph reads as follows: "The provisions respecting a special duty of customs shall apply to imported round rolled wire rods not over ¾ of an inch in diameter, notwithstanding that such rods are on the customs free list. Provided, however, that the special duty of customs on such wire rods shall not exceed 15 per cent. ad valorem."

Provisions are also made intended to prevent the