

Dr. A. Moncrief Finlayson, A.O.S.M., was awarded the forty-guinea premium of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, London, for his thesis on "The Secondary Enrichment of the Copper-ore of Rio Tinto, Spain." In 1910 this prize was awarded to Alexander McLeod, A.O.S.M., for a paper on "The Efficiency of Steam-condensation."

Mr. E. Fletcher Roberts and E. Gordon Wilson passed the examinations of the New Zealand Surveyors Board of Examiners, and obtained their diplomas as licensed surveyors, the former standing at the top of the list for the Dominion.

The number of important appointments secured by old graduates exceeds that of any former year, and in 1911, as in 1910, the demand for men who have just graduated is greater than the supply, which is mainly due to the small number of students annually entering the Mining School. At the present time thirty-seven old students are profitably employed in mining and engineering in New Zealand; of these, no less than fourteen hold official appointments in connection with the Mines and Geological Departments of the State.

Among the more important appointments obtained by old graduates during 1911 are the following:—(1) G. W. Thomson, A.O.S.M., mill-superintendent, the Temis Keming Mining Company, Cobalt, Ontario; (2) R. A. Farquharson, A.O.S.M., petrologist to Geological Survey of Western Australia; (3) Robert Lee, A.O.S.M., general manager, Kaitangata Collieries; (4) Percy G. Morgan, M.A., A.O.S.M., Director of the Geological Survey of New Zealand; (5) J. Allan Thomson, D.Sc., A.O.S.M., Palaeontologist, New Zealand Geological Survey; (6) John Henderson, D.Sc., A.O.S.M., Mining Geologist, New Zealand Geological Survey; (7) John A. Bartrum, Assistant Geologist, New Zealand Geological Survey; (8) T. O. Bishop, A.O.S.M., Inspector of Mines, West Coast Inspection District, New Zealand; (9) William Gibson, B.E., A.O.S.M., Director, Karangahake School of Mines; (10) H. Lovell, Director, Coromandel School of Mines; (11) John F. McPadden, Director, Reefton School of Mines; (12) Otto Friedlander, A.O.S.M., sampler, Messrs. Bewick, Moreing, and Company, Kalgoorlie; (13) A. Gordon Macdonald, B.E., A.O.S.M., Government Inspector of Mines, Malay Settlement; (14) F. W. Thomas, A.O.S.M., mine-surveyor, Abbontiahoon Mines, Gold Coast Colony; (15) E. D. E. Isaacson, A.O.S.M., assistant manager, Congo Mines, Upper Congo; (16) O. Gore Adams, A.O.S.M., mining engineer to Compania Istanifeira El Acre, Bolivia; (17) A. Walker, A.O.S.M., assistant manager, Grand Junction Mines, Waihi; (18) Harold Hamilton, A.O.S.M., assistant geologist to Mawson Antarctic Expedition; (19) Philip McDouall, B.E., A.O.S.M., mine-surveyor, Wealth of Nations Mine, Reefton.

LABORATORY.

During 1911 the number of samples forwarded by the public for examination and valuation by assay or analysis showed an increase over that of 1910, being as follows: Number of lots, 133; total number of samples, 273.

The samples included quartz and quartz ores for the determination of gold and silver, scheelite for tungstic acid, coals, oils, shales, rock-phosphate, limestones, fireclays, bullion, and various ores of iron, copper, &c.

The new machines for testing cement, iron, and wood in tension and compression were erected during the early part of 1911, and have already proved of immense value to the classes in mining, engineering, and applied mechanics.

I have, &c.,

JAMES PARK, Director.

Mr. A. H. V. MORGAN, M.A., Director of the Waihi School of Mines, to the UNDER-SECRETARY, Mines Department, Wellington.

SIR,—

Waihi, 21st May, 1912.

I have the honour to present my annual report upon the work done at the Waihi School of Mines during 1911.

The average attendance of students during the year was seventy, with an average class attendance of 135. These numbers, while still satisfactory, and far in excess of those of any other school of mines in the Dominion, show a slight falling-off from the record attendances of the previous year. This is no doubt due, to some extent at least, to the less prosperous state of the mining industry, and the unsettled feeling prevalent in the district.

At the annual examinations conducted by the Mines Department last December thirty-nine students presented themselves for the written papers, and eight for the practical tests, with the satisfactory result that sixteen first-class, fifteen second-class, and nineteen third-class certificates were obtained, and eight passes were recorded in the practical examinations. In addition, two students (S. Darby and N. Carless) qualified for the bullion-assayers' certificates issued by the Department of Trade and Customs. The gold medal presented by the president (Mr. T. Gilmour) for the highest aggregate in any four subjects was this year won by E. Johnson. Mr. J. Livesey's medal for mining subjects was won by J. R. Thomson. The gold medal presented by Mr. M. F. Haszard for surveying was won by H. Langdon.

At the last examination for Government certificates, held in March, 1911, four students of this school (H. Langdon, W. L. Dutton, L. Moore, and H. A. De Lautour) gained certificates in the first-class metal-mine managers' examination, and one (J. R. Thomson) obtained a partial pass, but has since completed the examination and obtained the certificate. In the examination for battery-superintendents one student (T. T. Andrews) was successful, and two (J. G. Goosman and C. Kingsford) obtained partial passes. The latter has since completed his examination. At the 1912 examinations W. E. Brown passed the examination for battery-superintendents. Altogether thirty-three students of this school have obtained certificates as first-class metal-mine managers, two as first-class coal-mine managers, forty-three as battery-superintendents, and twenty-one as assayers of bullion under the Customs Department.

Electrical Engineering Classes.—This department continues to be well patronized on account of its increasing importance in mining and metallurgical practice, and the consequent necessity of all