

connecting of our great inland waters with the sea; the completion of storage reservoirs at the head waters; the development of our water powers; the long distance transmission of power has been, and is to-day, successfully carried out by men who, either by birth or adoption, have made this country their home country.

In law, in dentistry, in medicine and in land surveying, when questions of great financial or national importance come to the front, they have been and will be successfully handled by the members of the profession who are Canadians.

### Why, then, this distinction in matters involving engineering training?

Just now there are several Canadian cities on the verge of large undertakings, large public works requiring the thought and direction of our leaders in the engineering profession.

Some of these corporations are likewise on the verge of going to foreign lands and bringing to this country for one week or two weeks or three weeks an expert. For this visit the expert will draw, no doubt, a large fee, and he will give, no doubt, the best he may possess, but is it necessary to go beyond the limits of our own country for information on our Canadian problems? The profession in Canada is not represented by ten or twenty men, but by several thousands of men, who are familiar with the conditions peculiar to our country. Our own men have successfully handled the work entrusted to their care. The unfortunate part of it seems to be that those representing Canadian manufacturers who expect Canadian engineers to favor them in machinery installations; those representing Canadian labor, which expects employment by Canadian engineers on Canadian works; those representing the professions in Canada, and who live under the protection of special legislation; those representing the great body of Canadian citizens, who live and are happy because of the protection of Canadian laws and customs; those representatives do not appreciate the men of the engineering profession of Canada as they should, and as their successors will.

Toronto considers the idea of employing a New York subway expert to deal with the local transportation question. To be sure, if you go to a cobbler and ask him whether you are to buy shoes or a necktie, he will recommend shoes. London looking for a man to direct their municipal work and their public ownership problems, appear to favor a representative from the land to the south of us. City after city is calling in from other lands men to give expert opinions on questions that have been carefully investigated and carefully studied by Canadians in their relation to conditions in our own country.

There is an engineering profession in Canada, growing in members and in influence yearly. Perhaps we engineers are as much to blame as anyone else that the qualifications of our leaders in the profession are not known to prospective clients. Certain it is that unless strong protest is made the impression will go abroad that within our borders there are not to be found men able to provide solutions for the engineering problems raised by the conditions existing at the present time.

Canada can train her own agriculturists, her own lawyers, her own doctors, her own explorers, her own financiers, and these men hold their own with the best of other lands, and there is nothing in Canada to prevent Canadian engineers occupying, in relation to their work, the same high standing as is occupied by the men in other professions.

## FIRE HYDRANTS.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters in their last report referred to the condition of affairs in connection with fire hydrants in many cities. It was found that some of the hydrants opened to the right and some to the left. Hydrant caps were of various forms and sizes. Their location was far from uniform, and altogether the design and installation of many of them showed an utter lack of an appreciation of the difficulties met with in fire-fighting. What is required is something of the same standard with which the men will become familiar, and with which they can work quickly.

The custom of attaching to fire hydrants standpipes for filling water tanks, etc., is not a good one, as frequently these attachments cause considerable delay. Any interference causes delay and consequent loss of property, and we think it would be a wise thing for the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers to prepare standard specifications for fire hydrants, so that in the course of time Canadian cities would have installed hydrants uniform in size and design, making it possible to aid one another by exchange of fire-fighting apparatus and prevent confusion among men in case of local fires.

## THE ONTARIO HYDRO-ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The Minister of Justice has announced the Dominion Government's attitude in reference to the Hydro-Electric legislation of the Province of Ontario.

The Government has definitely decided not to disallow this legislation.

Application for disallowance was made during the summer of 1909 by a number of companies interested in electrical development at Niagara, and the matter has caused considerable comment at various periods since.

The electrical companies took the ground that the provincial legislation was an unfair and a constitutional infringement of vested rights, and, since this involved millions of dollars, it was considered that the Dominion should take cognizance of the conditions. The Hon. A. B. Aylesworth, Minister of Justice, in recommending to the Canadian Government that the legislation should not be disallowed, took the ground, viz., that this was a matter which affected the Province only, and was one which the voters of the Province should decide for themselves, and that, therefore, it was not a matter for Federal interference.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

In the public results of the recent examination held in the University of Manitoba it is interesting to notice the first graduating class in engineering. Mr. C. V. Stout and Mr. W. C. Taylor are the first to graduate in the department of engineering of this young university.

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One of the most interesting returns brought down at this session of the Dominion Parliament was that relating to the treaty having to do with boundary waters between Canada and the United States. This return is practically a report by Geo. G. Anderson, M.C. Sc. C.E., on the boundary waters and the question arising on the boundary line along Canada and the United States. The greater part of the report is taken up with the St. Mary and Milk Rivers in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana.