

water powers, the situation of Canada would become exceedingly grave."

In the present condition of world affairs no demonstration is needed of the truth of the statement that the keen competition of large commercial interests too frequently constitutes a most serious menace to the peace of nations. There have been times when, on account of commercial rivalry, international relationships have become so strained that exercise of a nation's force of arms has been enlisted on behalf of the demands of large private or corporate interests.

Some years ago when the relations of the United States with Canada were under discussion before the "Select Committee on Relations with Canada, of the United States Senate," Mr. Joseph Nimmo, Jr., addressed the committee with respect to the possibility of Canada dealing with her transportation facilities in such a manner as would adversely affect interests in the United States using Canadian transportation, and stated that:—

"In the entire range of our Canadian relationship, from Halifax to Vancouver, the United States holds an overpowering advantage over Canada, and at every point. The suspension of the transit trade would be of comparatively small disadvantage to the United States, whereas it would be utterly disastrous to Canada. . . . It is high time for the people of this country to appreciate the fact that their national government holds a preponderance of commercial power on this continent as absolute as the preponderance of its military power, and to demand that those who are charged with the affairs of government shall adopt such measures as shall prevent any interference by a foreign power with the course of the development of our domestic or foreign commerce."

In its official **Opinion** rendered comparatively recently, the Public Service Commission of the State of New York referred to the possibility of Canada taking back electrical energy which had been utilized in building up United States industries, as follows:—

"We have nothing before us but the suggestion that the Dominion of Canada may, at some future time, forbid this exportation. This commission must assume that international relations affecting so important a subject as the means of continuing great industries which have grown up in reliance upon the use of this imported power, and, as well, the interests of the Canadian producing companies themselves, have become fixed and subject only to such changes as will fully protect the great commercial and industrial interests and rights now served by this power brought from Canada. The time has long since passed when governments proceed ruthlessly from pure national rashness or anger to destroy the settled accepted commercial relations and formally vested rights of persons and corporations."

In connection with the exportation of electricity, Canada certainly does not desire to assist in creating any circumstances which would even tend to invite a possible carrying out of any such policy as is suggested by the language in the **Opinion** delivered by the Public Service Commission of the State of New York, or in the Address, just quoted, as delivered at Washington before the Select Committee of the Senate on Relations with Canada. Such policies are foreign to the aims and aspirations of the peoples both of the United States and of Canada.

From the foregoing statements, it will be perceived that there is an increased demand in the United States for electrical

energy. Let us note more specifically how keenly United States interests desire to possess larger quantities of electrical energy for use in the upbuilding of industries and communities.

The following testimony will demonstrate the views thus entertained. Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Sanford, reporting on January 6th, 1913, upon the subject of Niagara power, to the chief of engineers, United States army, states:—

"There is no question but that Niagara power will soon be utilized to the fullest extent allowed by governmental restrictions. *If advantage of the power generated in Canada cannot be had on the American side, manufacturers will be attracted to Canada* by this cheap power, and the industries of this country will suffer accordingly. The effect of present restrictions on the importation of power is becoming noticeable. . . . Manufacturers at present contracting for additional Niagara power, must locate, and are locating in Canada. It, therefore, seems advisable to permit immediately the importation of Niagara power to the fullest extent permissible under the law, and, other things being equal, to grant permission for its importation to the company or companies which will make the earliest use of such power."

The former secretary of war, Hon. Henry L. Stimson, before the Committee on Foreign Affairs, recently stated that:—

"The investigation which has been made by the engineers indicates that Canada, if we do not take it, will use the entire amount that the treaty permits in a very brief time, so that whatever effect any restrictions on importations would have, would not protect the Falls for more than a very brief period, and it

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who can possibly spare the time
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ANNUAL MEETING

at Montreal, Jan. 23, 24, 25

An interesting program has been
prepared—many prominent men
will be there—and the meeting
should be well attended.