
Water Powers of Canada

upon its banks. Its course is broken by a dozen falls and rapids which will be capable of developing 650,000 h.-p. when the upper St. Maurice dam, previously referred to, is completed. The most southerly water power on the St. Maurice is situated at Le Gres Falls, fifteen miles north of Three Rivers, where 60,000 h.-p. is available, none of which is utilized at present.

Shawenegan Falls, twenty-one miles from Three Rivers, is the scene of the next hydro-electric plant on the river. This constitutes an ideal place for water power development, nature seeming to have intended it for that purpose. Not only is there an available high head and a large quantity of water with fairly constant flow, but the river widens into a lake



Gorge below Shawenegan Falls, St Maurice River.

just above the falls, and after making a sharp bend forms a second lake 145 feet below. This brings the upper and lower water-levels within a short distance of each other, thus providing an extremely economical location for the power plant at the bottom of the slope between them.

The entire water rights of Shawenegan Falls are owned by the Shawenegan Water & Power Company, which sells a portion of the water to local manufacturing concerns for their own use and operates its own large power plant with the remainder. This plant is capable of generating 155,000 h.-p. Some of this power is used at Shawenegan Falls for the reduction of aluminum, the manufacture of carbide, cotton and other goods, but the larger portion is transmitted to Montreal, Three Rivers and various smaller towns, factories and mines in the district.