

The St. Andrews Lock and Dam

By A. R. Dufresne, Esq., District Engineer,
Department of Public Works,
Dominion Government.

In connection with the widespread interest now taken in Canada in the development of inland waterways for navigation purposes, it may be noted that there are rapidly approaching completion certain improvements on the Red River that will bring into close communication, by water transportation, the resources of Lake Winnipeg, with the City of Winnipeg.

Lake Winnipeg is distant 52 miles north of the City of Winnipeg, and has an area of some 9,460 square miles, being the fifth largest lake in Canada. The principal known resources on the lake are Fisheries, Timber and Minerals.

At the present time, navigation on the Red River, between Lake Winnipeg and the City of Winnipeg, is interrupted by the shallows in the St. Andrews Rapids, occurring in a distance of some ten miles, in which distance there is a fall of 15 feet in the river slope. By the construction of a Lock and Dam in the river, below the St. Andrews Rapids, it is proposed to raise the water above that point, a height of 21 feet, thereby flooding out the rapids and increasing the navigable depth in the channel of the river above the rapids.

The St. Andrews Lock and Dam is located 20 miles, by river, below Winnipeg.