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South Falls and Cobden Hydro-Electric Plants

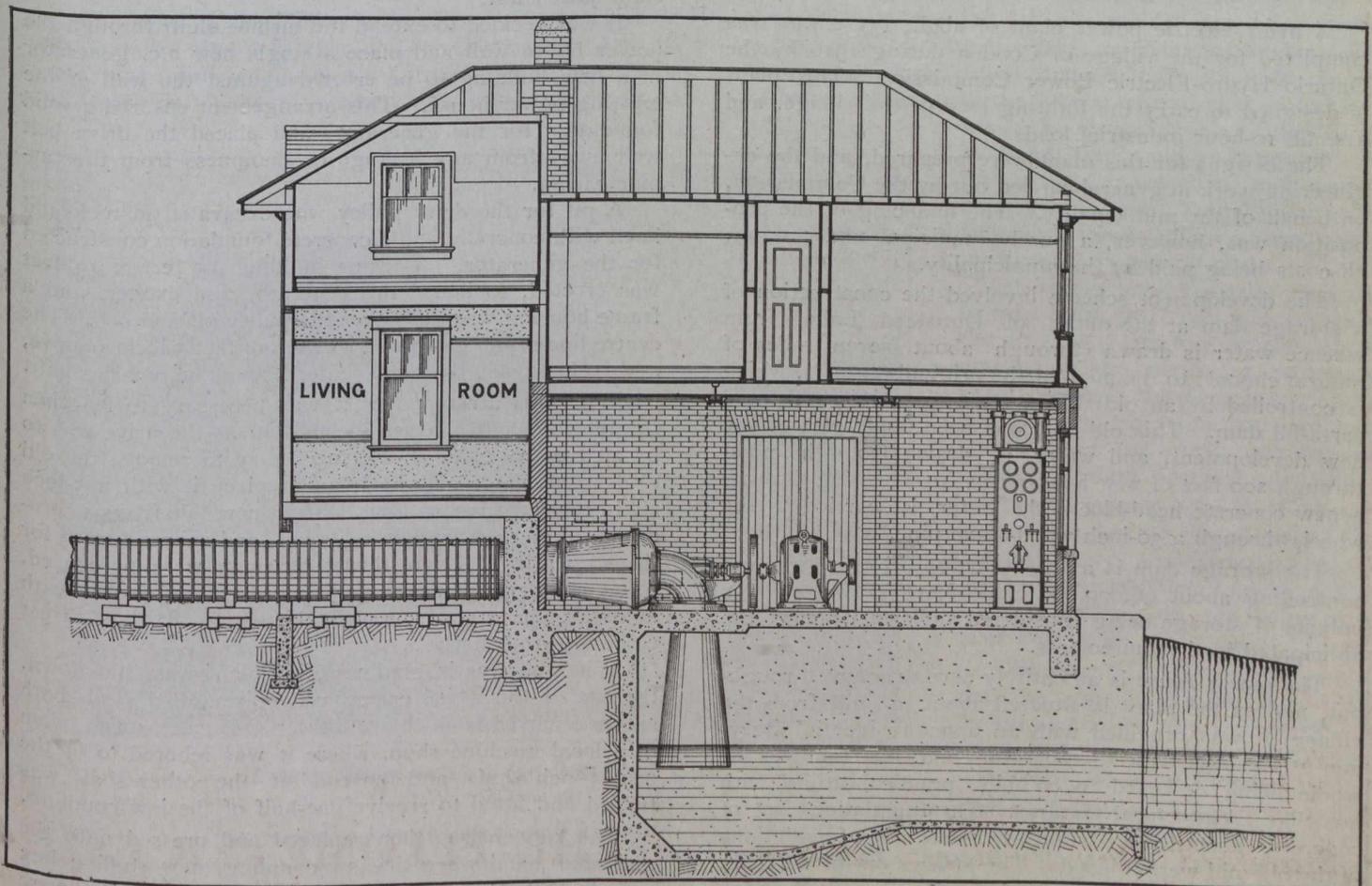
Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission Combine Power House and Operator's Residence at Cobden—Typical Small Plants at South Falls and Almonte Taken Over and Greatly Improved by the Commission—Stream Flow Data Collected for Area of Forty-Seven Thousand Square Miles

THE South Falls plant of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission is located on the south branch of the Muskoka River. After this plant had been acquired from the town of Gravenhurst, the Commission decided to effect the changes and additions which had been contemplated. The work of extending the plant was commenced during September, 1915. A permanent road to the power house, and the subgrade for the wood-stave pipe were completed during the next six weeks. Cofferdams were put in for unwatering the head-works and tail race, the discharge water from old unit was diverted, and good progress made in the enlarging of tail race cut.

The excavation for the tail race and power house foundations was completed on January 10th, 1916. The first concrete in the power house was poured on January 11th, 1916, and the substructure was completed on March

27th, 1916. All of the above work was done by day labor, under the supervision of the Commission's engineers. The power house superstructure was built under contract by Witchall & Son, of Toronto. Work was started on March 13th, and completed on May 27th, 1916.

The steel penstock, supplied by the Wm. Hamilton Company, of Peterborough, was delivered to the site in December, 1915, and the erection was completed on January 31st, 1916. The material for the wood-stave pipe, with the exception of sills and chocks, was supplied by the Pacific Coast Pipe Company; the erection being done by the Commission's working staff. The work of erection was started on April 4th, 1916, but owing to delays in delivery of sills, etc., was not finally completed until the end of June. Some alterations had also to be made on the head works to accommodate the second pipe, this work being completed by April 4th, 1916.



Sectional Elevation of Combined Power House and Residence at Cobden, Ont.