

car system is the most modern, and that every mill and factory in the place operates electricity. In short that it is a real electric city. It is certainly the fact that it enjoys cheap and abundant power. For it gets the service of the Shawinigan Water and Power Company, rendered by the North Shore Power Company and the Three River Traction Company. The former concern sells power to the two latter, which are its subsidiary distributing companies, and these, in their turn, retail it to the consumers at Three Rivers.

In 1890 the Three Rivers Council decided to light the city and installed a small engine and generator in the Waterworks, but after a few years, it gave up the attempt. Then Frajeau, Colby and La Croix, under the name of the North Shore Power Company, bought the outfit, and installed larger generators and more steam engines. They then bought a water-power on the Batiscan river at St. Narcisis, built a small wing dam and installed two 200 kilowatt machines. In those days, the electrical equipment was of a very meagre kind—there were no transformers, no insulators and no switching apparatus. They were pioneers, with everything in an experimental stage, and their task was a heart-breaking one. The transmission line to Three Rivers, for which they were responsible, was the first high tension, long distance transmission line in the British Empire. They were practically ready to give power away in the day, in order to get manufacturers to take it, and it was necessary for them to run their machines by day as well as by night. Finally, they put their service into the plants of the Canadian Iron Corporation, of Girard and Godin and of the Tebbutt Shoe factory.

About 1907 the present North Shore Power Company (the subsidiary distributing company of the Shawinigan Water and Power Company) bought out this pioneer company, and a 50,000 volt line was built in. A temporary sub-station was built on St. Maurice street, and, two or three years later, the station at present in use on the same street was built. The first new customer of importance was the Wabasso Cotton Company. The downtown office was acquired about ten years ago.

A Great Engineering Feat.

The North Shore Power Company, which employs about a hundred men, extends its service East along the St. Lawrence river as far as Port Neuf and St. Bazil and North to within nine miles of Notre Dame des Anges. In addition to the power it gets from Shawinigan Falls it generates power at two plants, one of these being at St. Narcisis and the other at St. Alban.

The Three Rivers Traction Company, the other subsidiary at Three Rivers of the Shawinigan Water and Power Company started to operate in December 1915, and is responsible for the admirable street car service on which the city can pride itself. The chief officers of both companies are as follows: President, Mr. Thomas McDougall; Vice-president, Mr. Julian C. Smith; Managing Director, Mr. W. S. Hart; General manager, Mr. R. J. Beaumont; Manager, Mr. W. B. Baptist. Mr. G. M. Anderson is superintendent of the North Shore Power Company and Mr. J. H. McNeill holds that office with the Three Rivers Traction Company.

In connection with the demand for power, it should be mentioned that this grew to such an extent along the South shore of the St. Lawrence river that the submarine cables, about a mile and a half outside Three Rivers, on the Western side of the city, forming the link in the transmission line, were suspended by an overhead crossing, spanning the St. Lawrence river at a distance of 4,800 feet. These cables are supported by two steel towers each of which is 375 feet high. Two three-phase high voltage lines carry power by this means from Shawinigan Falls to the Eastern townships. These transmission circuits are designed for 100,000 volt operation. The whole constitutes a most remarkable feat of engineering construction.

Essentially A Manufacturing City.

It is not too much to say that Three Rivers is a place which seems to have been marked out by Providence itself to be a great and populous industrial city. Not only is it the commercial centre of an important farming district, but it is also essentially a commercial city, as well it may be, for it enjoys a unique location as regards manufacturing facilities. All the large powers on the St. Maurice river are within easy reach of the city. In addition to the powers at Shawinigan Falls, Gres Falls and Grand'Mere Falls, of which mention has been made in this series of articles, there is a 70 foot water fall on the St. Maurice at La Tuque capable of generating over 75,000 horse power of which only a comparatively small amount is being used now. Then there are a number of water powers on the St. Maurice, North of La Tuque, which still belong to the Crown and are available for future development. Of the railway facilities of the city something has been said, while the fact that it is a port of call for both river and ocean boats is another factor immensely in its favor.

The great stand-by of Three Rivers and the district surrounding it, from an industrial and manufacturing point of view, is, and has

long been, the lumber industries. These are supplied by the forest products of a vast timber territory, extending northward between 300 and 400 miles, and drained by the mighty St. Maurice river and its many territories. The amount of timber that comes down the St. Maurice river annually is nothing short of prodigious. This timber is converted into lumber, pulpwood and paper, and the larger proportion of it is utilized by the mills in Three Rivers.

The St. Maurice Lumber Company.

A large concern in this line, located at Three Rivers, is the St. Maurice Lumber Company, which manufactures each year into lumber and pulpwood an enormous amount of timber. Hitherto much of this pulp wood has been going to the United States for the manufacture of paper. But the St. Maurice Lumber Company is now going into the paper industry on its own account.

It started on the construction of its new paper mill, the organization of which is based on the most modern and scientific business principles, on the 2nd September 1919. When the writer visited the plant a little while back, the mill and its appurtenances were practically complete, and it was obvious that preparations for the commencing of actual operation were in an advanced stage. In fact he was told that the mill would be ready by the first of next year. This will mean a very welcome and substantial addition to the industries of the Three Rivers district. As regards output, this new mill will have a daily capacity of 60 tons of sulphite, 240 tons of paper and 150 tons of groundwood, according to the figures that were furnished to the writer on the spot. Mr. R. T. Dodge, the president of the International Paper Company, which is the largest producer of newsprint on this continent, is the president, and Mr. Allen Curtis the general manager, of the company. The number of men employed at the plant will be about 800. The men engaged in forest operations, and as drivers, etc., come to a huge total.

A Great Paper Concern.

In the year 1915, the St. Maurice Paper Company, Ltd., was incorporated for the purpose of taking over certain Canadian properties and assets of the Union Bag and Paper Company. Its principal mill properties are situated at Cape de la Madeleine, a couple of miles or so outside Three Rivers where it operates a 120 ton daily newsprint mill, a 60 ton sulphite mill, a 65 ton kraft pulp mill and a 100 ton groundwood pulp mill. All the equipment is of the most modern and up-to-date description, and the construction is in consonance with the best engineering practice. The mills are running to capacity and employ 600 men.

The concern is especially favorably placed in respect of raw material. It owns and control 2,012 square miles of timber and pulpwood limits on the St. Maurice and L'Assomption waterbeds. Further, it is favored by reason of its proximity to tidewater, being within a few hundred feet of this—a circumstance which makes the direct conveyance of its product from the plant to ship-board a matter of ease and simplicity. Moreover, it has made ample provision for the supply of cheap power for present and future requirements by means of long terms contracts with the Shawinigan Water and Power Company. Extensions now in hand will provide for considerable increases in the mechanical pulp output. The undertaking is affiliated with the Union Bag Company and the two companies use the same plant. Mr. M. B. Wallace is president of both companies. Mr. Alexander McLaren is vice-president and general manager of the St. Maurice Paper Company.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN GREECE.

It may be of interest to those not fully cognizant of the functions of commercial organizations in Eastern Europe to know something of the duties and powers of the Greek Chambers of Commerce. According to a law which came into operation in November, 1918, Chambers of Commerce in Greece are charged with the study of all questions directly interesting trade and industry; the collection of statistics of commercial interest; the recording of the customs and habits of the country; registering of all commercial and industrial enterprises; selection of persons best qualified to serve as syndics in bankruptcies, experts, brokers and stock broker; obtaining information on all projects of the Government concerning ways and communications on land and sea, on conventions, customs tariffs, etc.; legalization of signatures of merchants and certificates of origin on merchandise; offering of prizes for the development of industrial and commercial enterprises; selection of commercial travellers for the interior or for foreign countries; the direction and supervision of exhibitions, bonded warehouses, chemical laboratories, stamping offices for precious metals, weights, and measures; creation and administration of institutions for commercial instruction and the offering of scholarships to pupils; supervision and exploitation of unloading machinery in the port, founding of industrial and commercial museums, etc.