

above, that a Hydro-Electric Commission was appointed, with extensive powers. This commission, after two years' work, issued its report, which contained a great fund of information as to the extent and nature of water power in this province. Upon receiving this report an Act was passed by Parliament, which vested in the commission powers of expropriation of land, water powers, and even the products of the water powers, if necessary. The Act was a drastic measure, for it was the intention of the members of the Legislature that this law was to accomplish definite results, such results as the people at large desired.

Whenever a community, or municipality, desired a supply of electric power, the commission was applied to. The commission then established a plant at the nearest waterfalls available to produce electric power, and from here ran their transmission conduits to the locality to be supplied. The electricity thus generated and transmitted, often to great distances, was sold by the commission at almost cost price. In case the water power was already under the control of some private corporation the commission obtained electricity from this corporation at as low a price as possible, and then delivered it through its own transmission lines to the municipality. On all occasions the commission have dealt most satisfactorily with private companies controlling water power.

Ontario has been the first province to take over the control of its water powers, and the policy of the Provincial Government has been a decided success. The other provinces are contemplating following the example of Ontario. In the past there were no laws or regulations upon this subject, and one desiring to obtain control of a water power could get it, as a rule, for nothing, upon application to the authorities. Now, however, public sentiment has been aroused, and water power is recognized as a public asset, an asset that must be administered in the sense of a public utility and for the public benefit. If the governments of the several provinces enact wise regulations in regard to hydro-electric energy, the people of this country will never have to pay unreasonable and exorbitant prices for water power.

LOUIS J. GUILLET, '15.