

A Delegate.—Have contracts been drawn to be used in municipalities?

Mr. Beck.—Several have been drawn. It is hard for us to get down to a specific form of contract till we know your requirements. The city of Toronto asks us for power. We asked for specific detail what they wanted. As soon as we get that we will give them full particulars. In the meantime we have asked the present existing companies, three at the Falls and the Cataract one, to give us prices for power stepped up at the Falls in quantities of 10,000 h.p. or over. We hope to have these figures by the 1st of August.

A Delegate.—Has it been intimated you would get these figures?

Mr. Beck.—I had letters before we became a Commission expressing a desire on their part to treat with us. They have given us an idea of the figures which are not higher than those mentioned in our report. It depends very much on the quantity used, of course.

Mr. Howland.—Has the Commission thought of any manner in which the municipalities could combine to get power in the cheapest possible way?

Mr. Beck.—If a trunk line was built from the Falls, the right of way would be the same cost whether you transmit 10,000 or 1,000 h.p. You understand that. The cost to the municipalities would be very much less if a large number joined in securing power instead of only one or two.

A Delegate.—Supposing the city of Toronto asked for a certain amount of power and you made up your reply to them. Would it be best on their part to bear the whole cost of the transmission?

Mr. Beck.—I think our report gives that information.

A Delegate.—If the municipalities join together what proportion should each one bear?

Mr. Beck.—We can't decide until we know how many are coming in.

A Delegate.—You have not made up your mind as to any suggestion?

Mr. Beck.—Our report does, as to Toronto alone. I would suggest that you keep this Association active; have a representative from each municipality so that you could work jointly. You could keep in touch with one another. You might decide to submit a by-law to the people all at the same time, so that we