

Why, the men who are to-day at the back of this Company have from two to three millions of dollars invested in the Dominion of Canada. That money would have been invested right near the town of Cornwall if the town of Cornwall had been in a position to give them power. The first time I ever saw Mr. Davis was when he came to the town of Cornwall to see if there was a possibility of getting power. Now, look at our position; I will explain it to you briefly. Notwithstanding what anybody has said here, there is not one horse-power to-day on the north side of the St. Lawrence river that can be developed.* It is developed to the limit. There is not one horse-power on the south side of the St. Lawrence river at that locality that can be further developed;† it is developed to the limit. We now have to reach out into that river for further power. Representing as I do the town of Cornwall, my instructions are, "Do everything possible to assist in getting the development of that power so long as Canadian interests are protected." A great deal has been said here in regard to government ownership. Surely that is not a question to be dealt with here. I do not know what views our American friends take in regard to private ownership as against government ownership. I do not know what view the Government of this country may take. Many of us as individuals favour private ownership with government control; I simply got up to correct an impression that may have got abroad that Cornwall at least—and I think I may speak for Brockville, may I not, Mr. MacLaren?

MR. MACLAREN: Yes.

MR. PRINGLE: Brockville has never been offered power at \$12 per horse-power; and I think I may speak for Prescott and her manufacturers that such a thing has never been heard of. It has been said here for the purpose of throwing a little more dust and creating a little more delay in getting a report on the feasibility of this project. If we accept the evidence of the experts brought here by those who are endeavouring to get the Bill, and take the evidence of Mr. Kennedy—he frankly admits the scheme is feasible—all that is necessary is that the work should be wisely and properly considered and properly done. Surely we have got confidence enough in those who represent us in Parliament, that they will see that the interests of all parties are amply protected, and that every detail in every possible way shall be gone into before this scheme goes through, which we all admit is a very large undertaking. I thank you very much, gentlemen, for giving me these few minutes. (Applause).

* When this statement was made there was a surplus 1,100 h.p. at the Mille Roches plant, five miles from Cornwall.—Ed.

† The Massena, N.Y. plant had 40,000 h.p. available, but the units had not been installed because there was no market for the power.—Ed.