

Mr. GERMAN. The hon. gentleman is just as far wrong with 100,000 as with 30,000.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. What does the hon. gentleman (Mr. German) say it will cost?

Mr. GERMAN. I say they can develop electrical power at Niagara Falls and dispose of it at a fair profit for about \$10 a horse-power.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. As a matter of fact they have sold some at that.

Mr. GERMAN. I think they have. They will sell power to-day in Welland 12 miles from Niagara Falls at \$14; the Cataract Company are selling at that. I think power could be got there for \$13, and I believe power could be developed at from \$10 to \$12 at a reasonable profit. I think the companies are willing practically to be bound to a proposition of that kind, but when a gentleman stands here and says power can be developed and sold at \$5, I say he either knows nothing about it or else, knowing, he is saying something with a desire to mislead this House because it simply cannot be done.

I quite agree with one remark of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Cockshutt) and that is that no treaty should be entered into between the government of Canada and the government of the United States which would in any way curtail the right of Canadian people to develop electrical power at Niagara Falls or from Lake Erie. I have very grave doubts myself whether if the situation was changed, if on the American side of Niagara Falls they had the same opportunity of developing power cheaply as we have on the Canadian side, we would hear anything of this agitation.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Hear, hear.

Mr. GERMAN. On the American side of the river they have reached practically the maximum of their chances to develop. They cannot successfully financially develop any more power on the American side of Niagara Falls. They have as nearly destroyed the beauty of the American side of the river as they can destroy it. Now they desire to maintain the beauty of the river on the Canadian side. They cannot use the water for their own purposes, and, like the dog in the manger, they do not want us to use it. I believe in maintaining as far as possible the scenic beauties of Niagara Falls, but I doubt very much if it will pay the Canadian people, for the sake of scenic beauty to restrain and retard the wheels of industry. I am very much inclined to believe that our government should allow as much development at Niagara Falls on the Canadian side, as we can develop with the waters that come down the Niagara river. I certainly feel that we

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must maintain the level of the water in Lake Erie at its present condition. That can be done very easily by building a dam across the head of the Niagara river, and then any surplus water there is might just as well go through a penstock and turn a turbine wheel as to flow over the crest of Niagara Falls. That is my opinion on that matter. I feel that the government should consider carefully before they launch into any matter of treaty regulation with the United States in regard to developing electrical power at Niagara Falls. I do not think that that development should be at any rate very speedily restricted; I believe that, within a very few years, you will see every railway running out of Niagara Falls operated by electricity within the distance that electrical power can be transmitted with commercial success. I believe the Michigan Central within a few years will be operated between Niagara Falls and Windsor by electricity. I believe that the Grand Trunk Railway will be operated by electricity. I believe every other railroad will be operated by electricity developed at Niagara Falls, within the distance that electrical power can be transmitted, and I do hope the government before taking definite action in this matter will very carefully consider the possibilities of the future and the interest of the people, the interest of the manufacturing industry, because that point will be the centre of manufacturing industry of this province in the very near future, and electrical power will be the motive power which will turn the wheels.

Mr. COCKSHUTT. I just wish to make two or three references to the remarks of the hon. the Minister of Public Works. In the first place, he rather found fault with me for having sprung a debate on this subject on the House and for not having given him notice.

Mr. HYMAN. I made no such reference. I simply regretted that I was not aware this debate was coming on. But I did not cast the slightest reflection upon the hon. gentleman.

Mr. COCKSHUTT. I am very glad that my impression was a wrong one. I understood the hon. gentleman to have said that I had taken some advantage of him in springing this debate on the House. Let me point out that on the 10th May, as will be seen in 'Hansard,' I mentioned, in the few remarks I then made, that I hoped to have an opportunity later to discuss fully the whole question. Through the courtesy of the hon. the Minister of Justice, it was arranged some days ago that I should have this opportunity; and if I did not inform the Minister of Public Works, it was solely through an oversight and because I supposed he read the reports and knew that a discussion was bound to take place.