Hydro Electric Commission and we are supposed to get this current at cost as the government is not looking for a profit upon the enterprise, just charging enough to pay for the current, the interest upon the cost of the transmission lines and the actual expense of conducting the business so that the users of this current should get it at a very close figure to the actual cost. This means that towns or cities nearest to the source of power can be quoted a lower figure than those farther away on account of the extra cost of transmission lines. It also means that if the far distant towns do not use all the current the transmission lines will safely carry to them the price must go up so the whole problem is a matter of price and as all the equipment under the Hydro Electric Commission is of the newest and upto-date character, comparison should be made with steam equipment of a like character. It is not fair to the consumer to quote a modern up-to-date electrical plant against an obsolete steam plant, for correct comparison both plants should be up-to-date., There are many places and factories where electric power is entirely suitable and the cost will be less than a steam plant. There are also many others where the steam plant will prove to be the cheapest and best. This applies more particularly where steam is required in process of manufacture. We have many steam plants where the electrical out put is low in cost. For example, one plant where the out put is 267,000KWH for the year the cost per KW. was .181c. Another where the out put was 33,630 KWH per month .04c. Also one when the current amounted to 17,450 KWH per month and the cost .0197 per KWH and one when the current was 48,760 KWH at a cost of .0188. Another one where general conditions were not so good the cost was 1.06 KWH. There are plants in this city making Electric current below 1c. per KWH; in all these cases exhaust steam is used for every purpose possible in the plant.

The ideal plant to my mind is a self-contained one generating their own power and arranged for electrical drives for all machines. The engines and boilers of the very best with just enough accessories to conserve as much of the heat as possible, with engine and dynamo units so arranged that they would be running at or near their most economical load a great portion of the time. All power transmission by wire so arranged to the motors that all shafting and counter shafts are eliminated. The exhaust steam to be used for all heating, drying and manufacturing purposes. The heating system to be arranged for partial vacuum and all water of condensation returned to the boilers. This would be the cheapest, most reliable and best form of power plant to build and operate even in the vicinity of Hydro Electric plants, and if properly equipped would be smokeless.