

and therefore will effect navigation to that extent, that any water that is withdrawn from the lakes practically lowers the level.

I have endeavoured in a very brief way to place before the minister the cost of power at the point of development at Niagara, under the best existing conditions of engineering and electrical development, and I have endeavoured to show that in the province of Ontario at the present time, according to the figures given by the most competent engineers, power can be produced at Niagara ready for transmission at \$5 per horse-power, for a 24 hour day, per annum. That is a very low figure indeed; it means a great deal to the province of Ontario, and I believe that the industries of Ontario are perhaps more dependent upon cheap power than upon any other factor at this moment for their great increase and for that industrial development which has been hampered in the older parts of Ontario. We have to waken up in that particular section because other water-powers are being developed. Up at Fort William they are getting water-power delivered as low as \$10 per horse-power per annum. That is a very low figure indeed as compared with the amount that it is costing for power in the old sections of the province of Ontario even in such cities as Hamilton, London, Brantford, Toronto and all those centres of industry in Ontario the present cost of power in these places ranges all the way from \$40 up to \$100 per annum for a day of 10 hours. That is not a 24 hour but a 10 hour day, which makes a very vast difference when comparing the cost of electrical power with that of steam. I propose to give, before I conclude, the relative cost of steam power and also gas power as compared with that of the electric power which can be developed at Niagara Falls.

I have just had placed in my hands a statement of the amount of water diverted on the American side. The amount is 18,500 cubic feet per second besides 10,000 cubic feet diverted by the Chicago drainage canal. This I take from the second interim report of the Canadian section of the International Waterways Commission, dated Ottawa, April 25, 1906.

Mr. HYMAN. Will the hon. gentleman allow me? I am sure he does not want to misstate the facts. If he will look at the reports, he will see that the Chicago Drainage Canal have power to divert 10,000 cubic feet per second.

Mr. HAGGART. 18,000.

Mr. HYMAN. No, they have authority to divert 10,000 cubic feet per second but they are not diverting any such amount at present. Speaking from memory, they are diverting something in the neighbourhood of 3,100 cubic feet per second.

Mr. COCKSHUTT.

Mr. COCKSHUTT. This report speaks of 18,500 cubic feet.

Mr. HYMAN. That is the amount which they will develop when their present works are fully in operation.

Mr. COCKSHUTT. I can only take from the report which is placed in my hands and which is issued by the authority of the Public Works Department. Let me just read the report:

If our proposal is carried out, the diversions will be about as follows: On the American side 18,500 cubic feet per second; by the Chicago drainage canal, 10,000 cubic feet per second. Or a total of 28,500 cubic feet. Of the diversions on the Canadian side, the cubic feet will be about 36,000.

Mr. HYMAN. Exactly what I said. If their proposal be carried out.

Mr. COCKSHUTT. That is what I am basing my remarks on. I am giving the figures as printed in the government report and presume they are accurate. This question of utilizing the Niagara Falls has been attracting a great deal of attention in Washington. The President has delivered a message on it, and there has been almost a furore in the United States about preserving the scenic effect of the Falls. I trust, however, that this government will not allow itself to be carried away by sentiment. I trust it will not enter into negotiations or conclude any treaty which will have the effect of limiting the amount taken from Niagara until all the industrial parts of Ontario, which are within transmission distance, have had their full wants satisfied. The Niagara river is a heritage given us by nature to make up for the lack of coal from which we are suffering. If we develop these powers of nature, which we have allowed for so many years to run to waste, we will furnish a backbone to our industries and give an impetus to trade such as nothing else can give. In my opinion, before entering into any negotiations with the United States with the view of limiting the water to be taken from Niagara river, we should see that the interests which can be served in our own country by that river are well safeguarded.

In order that the House may appreciate what a saving can be effected by utilizing the Niagara Falls, it might be well to point out what it costs, under present conditions, to generate steam power, bearing in mind that the steam power is for a ten instead of a twenty-four hour day, whereas the power at Niagara runs continually day and night the whole year round, Sundays not excepted. You will therefore see that the advantage of electric power over steam is much more than might appear even from the figures I shall submit. From these