

the early part of the spring of 1953. That development of power, together with what we have in the Saguenay will just about take care of our production facilities in the Saguenay, Arvida, Isle Maligne, and the pot lines at Shawinigan Falls.

Even if power were available at a much lower price we could not justify producing aluminum at La Tuque, I am sorry to say, because of the extra haul of the alumina into that area and the extra haul of aluminum out of that area, which makes it economically impossible to re-open that plant. We have explained this matter very thoroughly to the people of La Tuque and we are doing everything we can to help bring industries in there. We have rented parts of the plant to three small concerns, a furniture factory, a knitting mill and a veneer plant. We would like to rent some more of it to other people who can economically justify locating there. Actually the rent we are getting for the use of our plant is not enough to pay the taxes—we make nothing out of it. We hardly make enough to maintain the buildings in proper condition, so it is not an economic development. I trust that answers the honourable member's question.

Hon. Mr. CHEVRIER: You have, very fully. Thank you very much, sir.

The WITNESS: I am sorry I could not speak in French.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions you would like to ask Mr. Whitaker?

*By Mr. Green:*

Q. Mr. Whitaker, can you tell us something about the possibility of other industries coming into Kitimat?—A. Yes, I think I could enlarge on that. We have already made a contract with Canadian Liquid Air to build a plant at Kitimat, a small plant to produce oxygen and acetylene. We, together with the Powell River Company are studying the possibility of pulp and possibly paper production at Kitimat. The reason we are interested is that we want other industries in there up to a certain degree to help carry the burden of this development, this community, particularly, as well as to use some of the power. There are also other studies going on at the present time. I think there is a New York firm of consultants who are studying the possibility of a caustic-chlorine plant at Kitimat. They have inquired as to what the cost of power there would be. The chlorine plant would use between 18 thousand to 20 thousand horsepower, at least in the initial stage. The chlorine, I believe, is to be used in the pulp industry or other related industries, and there is also the development of caustic for use in the pulp and paper industry. At the moment that is about the picture, but I might elaborate on Mr. Fairweather's statement that the Aluminum Company will naturally be glad to consider and make available, at whatever price is deemed proper at the time, power for other industries. We are anxious to develop the community. That is the history of the aluminum industry and has been for many years. We are essentially pioneers. We go into the hinterland and develop power. The production of aluminum requires very low cost power to justify production and to compete in world markets. That has been the history of our operation over the past fifty or sixty years. Our initial development was at Niagara Falls. Then we went to Shawinigan Falls, and then to the Saguenay, and the history of our development has been the same at all those points. Now we are going into the hinterland of British Columbia. As these areas develop—just take the case of Niagara Falls. There is no aluminum industry in Niagara Falls today because power there became so valuable that other industries who could afford to pay more than the Aluminum Company could pay took it over. The same thing is true of Shawinigan Falls. We were the first to contract for power at Shawinigan Falls. That is back in 1900, 1899 to be exact. Our plant there went into operation in 1901. The old plant went out of operation after the war and we built a new