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MINING AND WATER-POWERS OF NOVA SCOTIA

The exploitation of water-powers is one of the principal, if not the principal, factors in Canada's industrial development. Of British Columbia, Ontario, and Quebec this is particularly true. And of the whole Canadian mining industry it may be said that its growth corresponds roughly to the decreasing cost of power, and cheap power in mining regions is almost solely obtainable from our water-sheds.

The Canadian Commission of Conservation has issued no report more instructive than that entitled "Water-powers of Canada." From it have been gathered the facts on which this editorial is based.

According to estimates made in 1910, the total water-power developed in Canada for all purposes was equivalent to 1,016,521 h.p. The figures for each Province are:—

	H.P.
Ontario	532,266
Quebec	300,153
Nova Scotia	15,272
New Brunswick	9,765
Prince Edward Island	500
Manitoba	48,300
Saskatchewan	45
Alberta	7,300
British Columbia	100,920
Yukon	2,000
	1,016,521

This total is, of course, but a small proportion of the available power. Sufficient information is not yet secured to form a reliable basis for computing the undeveloped water-powers. One estimate, places them at 17,000,000 h.p. This, however, lacks authority. As regards the bearing of these powers upon mining, a brief glance at one Province will serve as a bird's-eye view of the subject.

Turning then to Nova Scotia, it may be stated without fear of contradiction, that there is scarcely a mine or a prospect (and here we are not considering coal mines) that is not within range of an adequate water-power. It is a fact that the pater-powers are relatively small. But they are abundantly able to meet any possible demands that are likely to be made on them for mining, and they are well distributed. The annual precipitation is large, and there are innumerable lakes to afford storage.

Along the coast of Nova Scotia, eastward from Halifax, there lies a large tract of gold-mining country. Such historic mines as the Dufferin, the Richard-