

really the most important feature of it—is, that while we were taking jurisdiction to regulate the export of power we were at the same time excluding from that jurisdiction all the power companies that have been created up to the present time.

Mr. HYMAN. That was the amendment.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Yes, but it looked like the sole object of the Bill, and it was on that point I took issue. I trust very soon we will have a law regulating the export of power, and that no company will be excluded from its jurisdiction. I trust that all these power companies shall be brought under the jurisdiction of either the federal government or the government of Ontario, and that thus we may control the development of electrical energy for the benefit of the people of Canada.

Mr. W. M. GERMAN (Welland). It is interesting to hear this discussion, and to see the agitation which is at present being aroused throughout the province of Ontario in reference to electrical power, when we know that only seven years ago it was absolutely impossible to get any man of financial standing in Ontario or any municipality either, to take the slightest interest in the development of electric power at Niagara Falls. About seven years ago, the Canadian Niagara Power Company had an absolute monopoly of the right to use every pound of water for development purposes in the Niagara river within the limits of the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park. That company was developing electrical power on the American side of the river in considerable quantities and building up a city on the American side of Niagara Falls. People on the Canadian side felt that if this company had a monopoly on the Canadian side, and refused to begin development work, their monopoly should be destroyed and a new arrangement should be made. An effort was made to get Canadian capitalists to go into a company to develop electrical power on the Canadian side at that time, but absolutely without avail. You could not get a man in Toronto, you could not get a man in Brantford, you could not get a man of any financial standing throughout the length and breadth of the province of Ontario to put one dollar into an electrical development enterprise on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls, and it was necessary to go to New York and then to Buffalo to get capitalists to put their money into electrical development on the Canadian side of the river, and these were the men who first went into the development of electricity on the Canadian side and it was by reason of American capital that the monopoly of the Canadian Niagara Power Company was broken up and destroyed some seven years ago. They had the right under an agreement with the Ontario gov-

ernment to use all the water of the Niagara river within the limits of the park for 99 years by paying \$25,000 a year. The government of Ontario feared that if that agreement was destroyed no other company would be formed and they would lose the \$25,000 per year and get no development but a few optimistic people had greater faith in the possibilities at Niagara Falls than to believe that sort of thing and they determined that that monopoly agreement should be destroyed and it was eventually destroyed, with the result that the government of Ontario through the park commissioners entered into agreements with three different companies whereby they obtain not 25 cents per horse-power as the hon. gentleman (Mr. Cockshutt) has stated but \$1.50 per horse-power for the first 10,000 horse-power: \$1 per horse-power for the second 10,000, and 75 cents per horse-power for the third 10,000, or 30,000 horse-power an average of about \$1 per horse-power, and on every pound of water used over 30,000 horse-power the government of Ontario received 50 cents per horse-power for all time to come making a very considerable revenue for the province of Ontario.

These three companies have begun operations. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Cockshutt) stated that power could be developed at Niagara for \$5 a horse-power. I asked his authority and he stated the report of some commissioners. I care very little for the report of any commissioners; the practical situation is what gives strong proof of the falsity of this suggestion of the commission. He says that 100,000 horse-power can be developed at a cost of \$10,000,000 which at 5 per cent will give \$500,000. Where does the hon. gentleman get his working expenses, his cost of maintenance or any profit for the gentlemen who have put in the \$10,000,000 to develop the 100,000 horse-power. It is an absolute absurd proposition, I care not who makes the suggestion, to say that electrical power can be developed at Niagara for \$5 per horse-power. What is the practical result of operations there? The Ontario Power Company of which I happen to know something and which has been the pioneer company in breaking up the monopoly which existed at Niagara Falls, in their initial development proposed to develop 30,000 horse-power. They have put in works by which they can eventually develop 150,000 horse-power but their initial power is 30,000 and that will cost them \$6,000,000 and probably more. Does the hon. gentleman (Mr. Cockshutt) pretend to say that they can sell 30,000 horse-power at \$5 a horse-power and pay the interest on \$6,000,000 let alone maintenance and working expenses?

Mr. COCKSHUTT. I said that with a 30,000 horse-power development it would cost between \$8 and \$9, the \$5 is with a development of 100,000 horse-power or more.