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# The Monetary Times

Trade Review and Insurance Chronicle

39th Year—No. 41.

Toronto, Canada, April 6, 1906.

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 IN ADVANCE.

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### THE NIAGARA POWER COMMISSION.

The commissioners appointed to inquire into the whole question of the developing of power from Niagara Falls by the various municipalities interested, and its transmission to various parts of Ontario, have now sent in their report, and they are probably not far wrong in their contention that the industrial future of the Province of Ontario is at stake on the issue involved. It may be said that not only were the commissioners unanimous in their findings, but that their conclusions are of a very definite character, based as they are on the reports of the best technical advisers. Briefly stated, their report is strongly in favor of establishing a development plant jointly by the municipalities, and such a step would still leave a large field open for the supply of electrical power by the private companies. For instance, there is ample field for enterprise in the electrification of railways, the extension of interurban electric roads, and so forth. The report is signed by Mr. E. W. B. Snider, Waterloo, chairman; P. W. Ellis, Toronto, vice-chairman; Hon. Adam Begk, M.P.P., London; W. F. Cockshutt, M.P., Brantford; and Prof. Reginald A. Fessenden, of New York, the technical adviser.

The municipalities which have already interested themselves in the important questions involved, are Toronto, London, Brantford, Stratford, Woodstock, Ingersoll, and Guelph, and these initiated the present enquiry. The commissioners suggest that any other towns interested should join in the work, but failing this that the former should carry out with all possible despatch the development of at least 60,000 horse-power.

The report shows that the present total annual consumption of the above-named municipalities is 73,631 horse-power, while the estimated consumption two years hence, that is to say, based on the increased demands of existing consumers and leaving out of consideration all additional demands sure to arise in con-

nection with electric railroads, etc., is 87,883. Besides this, to be taken into calculation are the needs of several other municipalities not as yet formally expressed. Some towns, too, situated along the line of transmission, could be supplied at very attractive rates, and the extra quantity of power required would tend to bring down the cost to the seven municipalities already in the running.

The following table, taken from the report of the commissioners shows the capital cost of developing, transmitting and distributing the three amounts of power indicated, including interest and sinking fund for the construction period. The municipalities named subsequent to the first seven, are subject to additional distribution costs.

	Cost of 30,000 H.P.	Cost of 60,000 H.P.	Cost of 100,000 H.P.
Toronto .....	\$4,323,096	\$6,265,424	\$6,216,137
London .....	847,119	1,095,356	945,185
Brantford .....	429,152	571,097	509,248
Guelph .....	317,441	425,386	377,821
Stratford .....	329,023	431,018	368,154
Woodstock .....	216,226	278,939	244,589
Ingersoll .....	221,672	287,391	249,754
Hamilton .....			1,163,812
St. Thomas .....			399,438
Paris .....			123,322
Dundas .....			66,359
Mitchell .....			97,847
St. Mary's .....			130,136
Berlin .....			426,393
Waterloo .....			189,628
Preston .....			106,243
Hespeler .....			48,095
Galt .....			246,939
Total .....	\$6,684,629	\$9,354,611	\$11,909,100

And the following shows the estimated total annual expenses of all kinds, except taxes, as the undertaking would be exempted from such.