
The Maritime Provinces

at Isaac Harbour, but examples of much greater magnitude are to be found in the Yukon Territory, Canada, where two plants, one of 10,000 horse-power capacity, are utilized for this purpose.

A large coal company, on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, has found it profitable to develop a water power site adjacent to its mines, in order to utilize the energy thereby secured for mine operation purposes. This co-operation, so to speak, of water power and coal, two rival sources of power gives a new aspect to such a question, and no doubt similar advantageous arrangements could be made at some places in Nova Scotia.

Agriculture, the basic industry of all civilization and the chief asset of this maritime country merits the best study and attention that can be given to it. With special reference to Nova Scotia, it is well to speculate on the transformation that might be worked in such already far-famed districts as the Annapolis and Cornwallis valleys, by flooding them with cheap light and power. Some idea of the results obtainable is given by the appearance of certain sections of the Niagara Peninsula, in the Province of Ontario, where the combination of excellent soil and climate, with an abundant supply of electricity for transportation, domestic and field use, has turned whole blocks of country into veritable gardens. It would seem that certain sections of the Maritime provinces have like possibilities, where small sites are available close at hand, thereby eliminating expensive transforming apparatus and long transmission lines.

Existing developments are mainly of two types: first, those based on the timber resources of the country, such as saw mills, pulp and paper mills; second, those developed and used by small municipalities for local lighting and small motor loads. In a few cases too, small water powers are used to drive woollen mills and grist mills. The largest water power plants are used for the manufacturing of pulp and paper. In this field particularly, many excellent opportunities for the use of water power are available. The interior of New Brunswick is one vast forest, with timber especially adapted for pulp and paper making purposes. Large areas could, no doubt, be made to produce pulp wood perpetually by the application of approved forestry methods. The development of small powers for local municipalities is also a promising field, while in some cases, larger powers near the sea coast offer exceptional opportunities for industrial activity.

On the whole, it appears that the available water power in the Maritime Provinces is ample for all present and future needs. Present developments for pulp and paper purposes and for local domestic or municipal use point the way to future expansion along those lines, while in the foregoing three, as yet only slightly exploited fields, more or less peculiar to the country are suggested: first, in connection with the application of electrical energy to agricultural pursuits; second, in connection with mining industries; third, in connection with industrial activity at sea ports.