

A Delegate.—Then as each group branches off by itself it would take its own share?

Mr. Beck.—Yes, the additional liability for the money invested. Five groups here: Toronto, Hamilton and Dundas; Toronto, Hamilton, Brampton, Georgetown and Orangeville; Brantford, St. George and so on to St. Marys; Paris to St. Thomas; Windsor to Sarvia. All would participate as far as Hamilton.

A Delegate.—As they branch off each would pay for its own line?

Mr. Beck.—Yes.

A Delegate.—Say division No. 2. That would be impracticable unless Toronto took it up?

Mr. Beck.—Yes.

A Delegate.—So that the largest municipality in each group would have to control the situation in that sense?

Mr. Beck.—I think Toronto and the west are given independently in our report.

A Delegate.—It would be essential for the large municipalities to go into it?

Mr. Beck.—Yes.

A Delegate.—Supposing a municipality should proceed along the basis of cost as per report issued by the Commission and it was afterwards found there was a mistake, that the cost was considerably more than had been supposed (as some say it will be), what then?

Mr. Beck.—I think we would have to appoint another Commission. We have given you the report of the best engineers in this country. We believe these figures as authentic as can be secured. The municipality under the Bill has a right to use them to give us individual estimates. You are quite at liberty to engage your own engineer and see whether he will confirm our figures or not and when you are convinced these figures are practically correct you can honestly submit the proposition to the people. We can only give you power at the point of production and we then give you the capital to be invested and the operating expenses as near as we can and what it would cost you to bring that power there. If you increase your consumption it would reduce the cost very materially.

Mayor Butler, of Woodstock.—I think we should not consider this as an individual municipality but as a whole; affecting