

It is estimated by so eminent an authority as General Bixby, already mentioned, that by the improvement of the St. Lawrence route from the head of the rapids to Montreal, from four to five million horse power would be developed. Assuming that a market would ultimately be found for one-half of this, or say two million horse power, and that the price suggested by the Georgian Bay engineers would be obtainable, this would more than pay the interest on the entire cost even should it reach \$200,000,000.

Value of Water-Power Development.

THE SUM OF THE MATTER.

It seems clear that only by the deepening and improvement of the complete Welland-St. Lawrence route can Canada assure to herself her proper control of the water-borne traffic from the Great Lakes to the seaboard.

That the immediate commencement of this work is necessary to prevent the New Erie route obtaining an initial advantage which it would be difficult for Canada to overcome, perhaps impossible.

That the national and commercial advantages of this route will amply compensate for the cost, and that the water power which would be developed is an important item to be considered.