

"All this needs considerable organization and professional talent of varying degree. There is a field big enough for all the talents. We can bring it to bear, if we get the teaching we require in the universities, and we can also show that such money is well spent. If the services we are able to give are properly appreciated, we shall be able, as we apply courage and vision, to convince the people of Canada that we have a big contribution to make in the application of science to the making of a strong country, and the building of a strong race, living in houses not only comfortable but in right relation to industries, means of recreation and sources of power. Then proper organization and planning will help to give the people the right foundation, and build up this country in such a way that there will be less to regret in looking back than is the heritage of older countries."

#### Discussion

Mr. Challies: I would like to say a word or two about development of water power in Canada in relation to town planning. The Department of the Interior, since the inception of the water power branch, has been trying to interest these corporations and to get them to consider their project from both the standpoints of the town planner and the architect.

I think we have secured excellent results so far. We find power companies are quite willing to do anything reasonable, consistent with the question of construction costs.

We asked them to retain an architect to go over their engineering plans, and we find them quite willing. The Vancouver Power Company for instance has a chief engineer of some vision who retained an architect and had the power house designed by him, with the result that to-day it is one of the beauty spots of British Columbia. He had also some of his intake work designed by the architect, and it has been accepted by other architects as a little architectural gem.

Since the town planning movement got started in Canada, we have also endeavored to get the power companies to lay out the immediate surrounding of their developments.

Only in one case have we received any opposition. Winnipeg absolutely refused to consider our suggestion. The result has been that in a \$4,500,000 power project, twenty-five miles from Winnipeg, twelve or fifteen hundred acres of land have been flooded, with the timber standing there dying. It is a most lamentable condition of affairs. They also refused to consider having the power house and incidental work under the supervision of an architect. To-day they have a power house which you could not describe better than by the term "barn." In another case on that river a private company have accepted our suggestions and the result is, about fifty-five miles from Winnipeg, their plant is an oasis in the desert. They have a little park that is comparable to a portion of our driveway. They have laid out about fifteen acres as a park; fourteen or fifteen cottages have been built from special designs by the architect and other residences of a more pretentious character. The cost of the lay-out of the park was less than \$3,000. The workmen do not need to go to Winnipeg to feel that they are in civilization.

#### Park Along Winnipeg River

The power situation on the Winnipeg River is that we have many complete surveys all along the river. The territory is similar to the territory on the Ottawa River. We have come to the conclusion that if the increase in the use of power from that river is projected into the future it is only a matter of twenty-five or twenty-six years when practically all the capacity of the river will be developed. We are insisting in all future development that the lay-out must be treated on town planning lines, that all of the work must be submitted to an architect and if this is done consistently the result will be that in twenty-five or twenty-six years there will be a continuous park along that river comparable to the regional project of the Niagara River.

I was interested in what Mr. Adams said about propaganda; I think there is propaganda and impropaganda, to use a moving picture term. It seems to me we must indirectly educate the public to feel that town planners must be employed and try to make the public understand

the situation. On the Winnipeg River, for example, when it was suggested ten years ago, that a town planner or architect should be employed, we were almost laughed out of court. But the fact that one company in Vancouver did employ a town planner was appreciated by those who knew about it. If you ask the average engineer whether a town planner should be consulted, he would say no. If the engineer says that, what can we expect from the public?

#### Must Educate the Public

Mr. Gillmore: There are eight million people in Canada and most of them know nothing about town planning. I think that collective propaganda is very much needed, good hot propaganda. The big mill men and landlords don't care anything about it. To my mind propaganda is the whole question. If local branches are to be organized there must be a constitution whereby they can have a regular representation upon the central committee. I should also like to ask why artists are not included. Why should a Royal Academy man not have a place?

Mr. Millson: In working on the Renfrew proposition for a civic centre, it came to my mind several times that the awakening interest in town planning is a very fine thing for all of us. If town planning means that different constructive professions are to be able to come together to exchange viewpoints it is going to be a very good thing for us. We must not forget the need of education. I think the question of local branches is very important. The central organization cannot do all the educational work.

Mr. Cauchon: There is no doubt of the need for general education among the people on the subject of town planning. Since 1909, we have been pounding away at the subject. Here in Ottawa, the only way was by propaganda. At Hamilton and London, I was requested to take the public into my confidence and prepare them for the scheme. I gave many lectures and talked a great deal. The report was presented. The public were better able to judge. The result was that the corporations and even the town council passed the scheme unanimously. At London, the same request was made to educate the public. You are in a dual position; you must do the work and educate the public.

Mr. Seymour: Some of the previous speakers have referred to the matter of propaganda. I do not see any reason why the subject matter of succeeding meetings and legitimate propaganda cannot go hand in hand. What could be better than a talk on civic centres by Mr. Millson, who has successfully planned a civic centre for Renfrew; what better propaganda could we have for a civic centre?

#### Criticizes "Hydro's" Power Canal

Then, too, a paper by Mr. Cauchon on the relation of the steam railway to town planning, with Hamilton and London for examples; and Mr. Challies could tell us at one of our meetings about water power development with comprehensive planning of the whole project and architectural treatment of the power buildings. I believe that these concrete examples would be much better material for propaganda than anything that could be given of an abstract nature. I should like to take the opportunity to congratulate Mr. Challies on the stand he has taken with regard to power development under the supervision of the Dominion Government. While Mr. Challies is a member of the Engineering Institute of Canada he has also the advantage of architectural training which is probably the reason for his interest in proper planning and architectural treatment of power development.

The thing that impressed me most in the Niagara Frontier regional area was the apparent lack of planning in connection with the Hydro-Electric Commission's power development. A \$25,000,000 scheme is being carried out with practically no regard to its effect on the immediate locality. Niagara Falls, Ontario, is being made an island by the eight and one-half miles of open cut. This wide open gash will in some places have a depth from the ground surface to the level of the water in the channel of 100 ft. I understand that more than one engineer of international repute has claimed that a tunnel would have been more economical and as suitable from an engineering standpoint as an open cut.