

feet high by  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide. The gates are built of steel and they are operated by a powerful piece of mechanism installed on the top of the masonry.

The total cost of these works, including the construction of the hydro-electric plant and of the dams built along the Manouan river, did not exceed the sum of \$2,500,000, and to-day they are giving the Provincial government an annual revenue of \$191,000; but it should also be noticed that this revenue must increase with the development of the other water powers which shall be extended in a near future.

We have to-day at La-Loutre the largest reservoir in the world. It is almost twice the size of the reservoir established in the valley of the Nile, in Egypt, by the Assouan dam, the capacity of which is 82 billion cubic feet. The Gatun dam, built in connection with the Panama canal, indeed gives a reservoir of a total capacity of 183 billion cubic feet, but of the whole amount of water held back in this dam, there is only the upper stream that can be penned up without making the Culebra cut un-navigable; the reservoir's capacity that can be turned to account does not exceed from 35 to 40 billion cubic feet of water. We can therefore say with a justifiable national pride that we have the largest reservoir in the world.

Many advantages accrue from this most important piece of work. Besides insuring the workmen against unemployment throughout the year and necessarily contributing to reduce the cost for producing motive power, it does especially attain its main object which was to control the river's water-flow. That you may realize, Mr. Speaker, the full importance of the control of that water-flow, I beg leave to submit that 12 tons of coal are required to produce one horse-power, and, as the additional power supplied by the storage of water on the St. Maurice river amounts to 48,000 horse-power which can be sold to the manufacturers, we may readily draw the conclusion that this construction is now saving 600,000 tons of coal per annum, and three times that amount when all the falls will have been likewise developed.

Under natural conditions, the St. Maurice river's water-flow, at Shawinigan, was of 170,000 cubic feet per second during the flood period in the Spring, but of only 6,000 cubic feet per second, during the Summer and Winter seasons.

To-day we can guarantee these companies 12,000 cubic feet per second the whole

year round, which is the power required by their industry. The increase given the Shawinigan Water and Power Co., when the water is low, is equal to 82,000 h.p., which means an average of 32,250 h.p. a year. The surplus power obtained when all the available falls are harnessed will be about 140,000 h.p. per year and 400,000 h.p. when the water is at its low level.

I have given, Mr. Speaker, according to the statistics I referred to, the necessary information about the water power of the Loutre river which is to be called after the name of the Prime Minister of the Province. I gave them out, not only because it is interesting to hear about the matter, but also to have the figures placed on Hansard. Now that I have given that information, let us see what conclusion we may draw. I said a moment ago that agriculture was progressing in the province of Quebec, but it did not do so itself. It required a campaign of education and we had to send agriculturists throughout the province to teach the farmers what they learned at school. We had to get also a minister well acquainted with agricultural matters and we found a very good one in the person of the hon. Joseph Edouard Caron who is as well known in Ottawa as he is in Quebec.

I spoke of our forests and I pointed out their development in recent years; but to obtain that result the government of the province of Quebec had to adopt a policy such as would show foresters that they were ready to help them. It is with that object in view that the government of sir Lomer Gouin created a new Department which is called the Department of Forest Management, to oversee the cutting of the wood and ensure the protection of our forests. The government is working hand in hand with the lumberers toward safeguarding our forests in the interest of the country. The new department will see to it that no undersized tree is cut. And all this, Mr. Speaker, required a lot of work and the provincial Government had to place at the head of the Departments men who were able to follow a definite policy.

As to water powers, it is about the same thing. They did not evolve spontaneously. A policy had to be drawn up. I remember the time when much power was wasted in the province of Quebec; we were selling water powers without even knowing their possibilities. What occurred in the meantime? The Government appointed a commission of running waters and to-day water powers are leased only after their capacity and industrial usefulness have been ascer-