

was carried over Canadian territory, and last year when Canada asked to have 10,000 of that horse-power back, as she needed it for war purposes, all she could get was 5,000 horse-power, and she paid a good price for it at that. And now, after that, we are asked to sweep aside our rights in this matter on the grounds that it is for war purposes. Canada got her fingers burned once, and she isn't forgetting it.

#### Favors International Development

"Canadians are not generally in favor of these public rights being handed over to private corporations. They have suffered enough now, and we have to look into all these matters very carefully. I would like to have an international development of all this power in the river, but to ask us to consider to allow a private company to develop it—"

United States Commissioner Tawney—"You will have your day in court."

"Mr. Keefer—"Yes, but we would like to be prepared for it."

In answer to Commissioner Tawney, Hydraulic Engineer J. W. Rickey, of Pittsburg, for the company, stated that the latest the work could be carried on would be the middle of December. If the case were adjourned till September 5th, it would only give 75 days to complete it, and as there might be stormy weather, he thought it very risky.

Attorney Gordon, representing the company—"I am appealing for this application to be heard now on a verbal request from the government to try and get out more aluminum."

Commissioner Magrath—"You had this in mind last year. Why didn't you ask us then?"

Mr. Gordon—"We didn't intend to do this work till next year."

Commissioner Magrath—"Do you mean to say that dredging the canal will not give you more water?"

Mr. Gordon—"All the water we can use the turbines are taking in now."

Commissioner Magrath—"But, of course, you can always extend the plant."

#### Commission of Conservation Interested

Arthur V. White, representing the Canadian Commission of Conservation—"The Commission of Conservation is interested in having the development of power in the St. Lawrence River protected. We need sufficient time to consider this matter properly."

Mr. Keefer—"It is just as important to keep navigation intact in this war as for the aluminum company to make more aluminum. The government of Canada is not trying to delay this matter more than necessary."

Mr. Stewart, Dominion Hydrographer—"Mr. McCarthy told me on August 1st that the application was in Washington, and would be in Ottawa right away. I got it last Friday (August 9th)."

As the commissioners could not get the opposing parties to agree to any definite time when the hearing could go on, they left the matter until the next day to decide. On the following day Commissioner Tawney read the statement of the commission fixing the date for the hearing at Montreal on August 29th.

The statement read: "That as the hearing of the application was approved of by the War Department at Washington, and as Judge Koonce, as counsel, had letters from the War Industries Board and the Aircraft Board, and as the construction of the weir was necessary for, and would increase the output of aluminum, and as it

would take from 60 to 90 days to do the work, December 15th being the latest date that work could be done in the river, the rules are suspended, and to facilitate the hearing the commission has fixed on August 29th at Montreal as the date, and all responses must be filed by August 26th."

After this decision was announced, the Canadian commissioners again referred to the fact that a certain part of the work had been done already without any application to or permission from the Commission.

Commissioner Mignault, Montreal, thought that the Commission should have been notified, despite the fact that the work was in United States territory. It might affect the Canadian side, especially the dredging of the canal.

Commissioner Powell also contended that this work should have been brought before the Commission, as deepening the canal would tend to lower the water on the Canadian side of the river.

[NOTE—We desire to make full acknowledgment to the Toronto Telegram for most of the above information, especially for the verbatim portions of the proceedings at Atlantic City, which formed part of a very complete report specially written for that newspaper by one of its staff who was in Atlantic City during the meeting of the Commission.—EDITOR.]

#### ENGINEERS DISCUSS PROTECTION OF PUBLIC AGAINST INCOMPETENTS

SASKATOON, Sask., August 12th.—The fifth session of the three-day convention of engineers was held here last Saturday morning. This session ended the second general professional meeting of the Engineering Institute of Canada. The relation of the profession to the public was thoroughly debated and it was decided that steps should be taken to protect the public against incompetents, so that only qualified engineers can carry on engineering work involving the expenditure of public money. The general opinions of the western engineers coincided with the opinions expressed by the Toronto engineers at their meeting last April 25th, as reported in *The Canadian Engineer* for May 2nd, 1918.

Secretary Keith called attention to the interference of municipal officials in engineering matters. "Too often," he said, "is the work of a good engineer spoiled by interference on the part of aldermen or citizens desiring to serve a selfish purpose."

President Vaughan stated that never had there been a more notable convention of engineers west of the Great Lakes, and expressed the hope that the public would appreciate the public-spirit shown by the Institute in organizing such a gathering for the welfare of the country at large. On this, his first visit to Saskatoon, he expressed surprise and delight at what he called "the city of the future."

On Saturday afternoon the engineers who were still in the city were conducted by the mayor on an inspection trip to the municipal power house, the filtration plant, the cold storage warehouse and the government grain elevator. James R. Wilson, M.P., explained the various interesting mechanical appliances at the elevator. The engineers were taken to the top of the structure, from which there is a view of the surrounding country for fifteen miles in every direction. At the filtration plant a demonstration was given of the operation of the filters, including the washing of the beds.