

that 600,000 horse-power can be developed. I do not wonder at those who are seeking for such opportunities of development striving with every endeavour to obtain them. It is a larger proposition than Niagara falls. I am told that the total output of Niagara falls is 450,000 horse-power, which is only a small thing in comparison with the Long Sault. The Niagara falls is only two-thirds the size of it. No wonder attention is given to it, and no wonder that there is such energy exercised in trying to obtain possession of it.

CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: I would just like to ask a question, and get to a point. Do you think that, if 600,000 horse-power can be developed without injury to navigation, it ought to be done? Or should it remain idle?

MR. CUMBERLAND: Are you asking me the question?

CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Yes.

MR. CUMBERLAND: I say, subject to the rights of navigation, you can raise as much as possible. I did not say 600,000, but the proposition states that they can maintain 600,000; and this is all on the American side. There is a smaller portion, somewhere about 100,000, on the Canadian side, with another little step—to put in a canal and a minor power-house. I am glad indeed to think that there are possibilities for the creation of power in that neighbourhood; and those private companies say—and evidently Brockville and Cornwall have been very much affected by it—"we will give you all the electrical power that you want." Can they? They cannot. Who says whether they shall or whether they shall not? The American Government. And at this present time, as I am advised, there is no authority for export. At this present time when those offers are being made to Brockville and Cornwall and other places, and to Canada for the future, there is no power for the export of one single pony-power of electrical energy from the American side to the Canadian; not one. How much is the offer worth? It depends entirely upon the Government; therefore it must begin with the Government. Now, supposing that this whole power was on the Canadian side and we could develop it all on the Canadian side, we cannot get an absolute right of exporting it to the state of New York. To-day the surplus power at Niagara Falls happens to be on our side. What license can you get for export to the United States? For a year? No. For a day? No. All that you can get is a revocable license, subject to revocation at any time. Now, under those circumstances, seeing that this is the condition of the use of the power developed from this water in the Long Sault channel, the first point to settle is not, how should it be done? Or, who shall do it? But; what are you going to do with it after you have got it? I think those are prime points. Because remember, we are dealing not with to-day; we are dealing with Canada in its future. I submit, there-