

purposes, has made cities, having large quantities of electrical power to offer, appear formidable competitors of cities less favored. The idea that power transmitted by electricity is all that is needed to start up immense manufacturing industries is very largely a matter of imagination. We are sure that the promoters of the great Cataract Power Co., of Niagara Falls (N.Y.) were sorely disappointed when their lands were so slowly taken up, and their anticipated rapid developments for the consumption of their power failed to materialize. Cheap power is by no means the all-important feature in attracting new industries. As evidence, there are outlying towns in this province, such as Trenton, which are in a position to offer free site and free electric power to manufacturers, and yet, for the most part, they have achieved very indifferent results. There are other matters, which it is not in the province of this Committee to report upon, which are important to the manufacturer seeking a site, such as facility for transportation, facility for publicity, close association with other industrial enterprises, ease of obtaining contented employees with suitable residences for their accommodation, reasonable arrangement as to site, taxation, water privileges, etc.; indeed, if Toronto ratepayers generally were as much interested in promoting industrial enterprises and getting them to locate in Toronto, as are the citizens of our rival municipalities, we would see Toronto's manufacturing interests develop more rapidly. Something should undoubtedly be done to promote and awaken an interest along this line in Toronto.

4. PROBABILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF CHEAP ELECTRIC POWER FOR TORONTO.

While electric power is not the all-important inducement in procuring new industries that is generally supposed, your Committee believe that cheap electric power would be a great boon to our city, especially to the smaller manufacturers, and that reasonable measures should be taken to procure power connection with one of the companies operating at Niagara Falls. It might be well for the Board of Trade to appoint a committee who would assist in bringing about and encouraging such an enterprise.

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We can scarcely anticipate that electric power being furnished under present conditions in our city (it being developed from coal) can be produced at a much cheaper rate. Our hope for cheaper power is to bring the current from one of the great Niagara generating plants. We take it that there is no probability of obtaining power from the same source as the Hamilton Electric Light & Cataract Power Co., since they are not likely to generate more power than Hamilton can conveniently consume, even though, otherwise, arrangements could be effected. Neither is it probable that we can obtain connection with either of the great power companies on the United States side of Niagara Falls. There are two

companies organized for developing and operating plants at Niagara on the Canadian side. One of these, the Canadian Niagara Falls Power Co., is in reality an off-shoot of the Cataract Power Co., of Niagara Falls, (N.Y.) It is only now getting under way with its plant. A new organization recently completed is the Ontario Power Co., of Niagara Falls, Ont. This company is about to begin operations, and alleges its intention of delivering power to Toronto. The question of long-distance transmission of electric current has by no means been satisfactorily solved. The loss is very considerable, to say nothing of the heavy cost of the installation of the lines and the expense of their maintenance. The nearest

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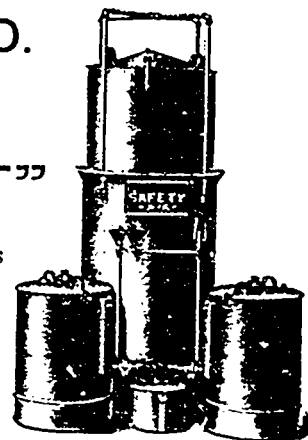
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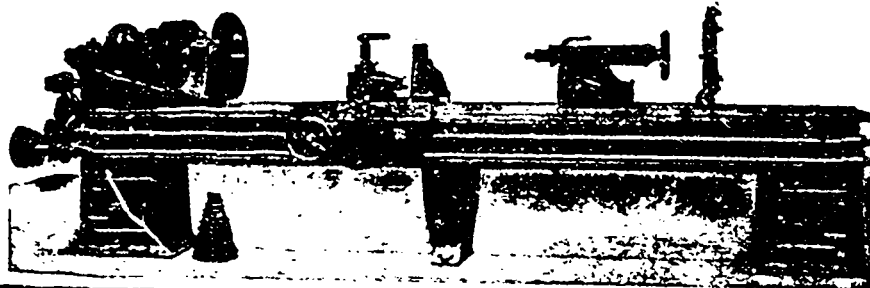
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