

Hydro

130479

February 5, 1934.

Mr. C. Harold Hale,
The Orillia Packet and Times,
Orillia, Ont.

Dear Mr. Hale:

I have your letter of 1st. I may not have the facts wholly in my mind, but as I have understood them the town of Orillia is seeking the right to develop power and to distribute it within an area of sixty miles. The Hydro is based chiefly on the principle of one public development for Ontario owned by all the participating Municipalities. If rights are to be granted to single Municipalities to distribute over large areas as well, then the whole spirit and intent of the Hydro undertaking is defeated. If this had been permitted in the past, it seems to me we would never have the organization we have now or anything like the rates we have now over the Province as a whole. I am giving you the above as my first impressions.

As respects a Municipality's right to develop for itself, of course, the case is different, and I would think the duty of the Hydro Commission in that regard is merely to make investigations and comparative estimates for the guidance of the Municipality in question, so that if a mistake is made the responsibility will in no sense whatever rest upon the Hydro Electric Power Commission.

Yours very truly,

AM/E.

Commissioner.

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