

The Waterdown Review

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60c	lb. Liggetts Bulk Chocolates	49c
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CANADA'S FAVORITE DRUG STORES

GREAT POWER PLANTS

STRIKING FEATURES OF WORK
BY ENGINEERS.

Queenston-Chippewa Power Development is Well Under Way and One Interesting Detail is the Reversal of the Flow of the Welland River—Power Will Be Available Next Year.

SOME novel features mark the new Queenston-Chippewa power development on the Canadian side of the Niagara river, now well under way. One detail is the reversal of the flow of the Welland river, whose present mouth, where it runs into the Niagara, will become an intake. Niagara water will flow up the Welland for four miles and a half, and then through a nine-mile canal to Queenston at the edge of the cliff that marks the limit of the present Niagara gorge and the site of the falls in a former geologic age. Here will be the power plant, utilizing a fall of over three hundred feet to the level of Lake Ontario. The horse-power developed will be 300,000, but not all of it can be used without shutting down some of the power in the older Canadian plants. Otherwise, the limit of flow assigned to Canada by international agreement would be exceeded. Our quotations are from an article in the Engineering News-Record (New York), which we quote and condense:

"Work on the new hydro-electric development at Niagara Falls, which the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario started in 1918, is progressing at an expected rate of speed. Some little difficulty has been met in holding the slope in the deep cuts in the earth overburden, but this has not caused serious retardation, and the prospect now is that power will be available in 1921.

"As at present designed, the plant will develop 300,000 horse-power with a flow of 10,000 cubic feet per second or a development of 30 horse-power for each cubic foot per second. The old Niagara river power plants developed from 12 to 15 horse-power per second-foot, the new Ontario Power Company's development on the Canadian side about 17, and the new Hydraulic Power Company's development on the American side about 20.

"The project comprises four and one-half miles of river canalization and nine miles of power-canal dug in the dry. The river canalization is in the Welland river, whose direction will be reversed from its present mouth up to the canal intake, where the control works will be built. The canal extends across high land beyond the Niagara gorge to the power-house, which will be built at the foot of the gorge at the river elevation. Water will be delivered to the power-house by penstocks laid on the slope of the bluff.

"The river-channel section is being excavated by dredge and cableway, to provide sufficient waterway. Canal excavation is largely through rock with a heavy earth overburden. The first one and a quarter miles of the canal just beyond the river is in earth section; the remainder is in rock with the exception of a short earth section opposite the Whirlpool, where an old gorge, probably a former bed of the Niagara river, drops the rock bottom so deep as to make it impossible to found the canal on rock.

"At a distance of about 2,400 feet from the river the canal widens out into a forebay 1,000 feet long and 200 feet wide at the intake gate. The penstocks are of riveted steel plates 14 feet in diameter and about 450 feet in length and extend down the steep bank of the gorge and the river from the forebay to the power-house. No surge tanks or standpipes will be required.

"The work at present may be divided into that on the river, that on the canal proper, and that on the power-house. In the Welland river a dredge is working up from the mouth of the Niagara river and has reached the Michigan Central Railway bridge, about a half mile from the mouth. This dipper dredge is spilling into scows which are being taken out into the Niagara river and dumped. A cableway excavator farther up the river has done a certain amount of work, but is now operating at full capacity. Between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 cubic yards of earth is the total excavation in the river. About one-quarter of this has been removed.

"The larger part of the work in the canal has been done, beginning at the forebay end. The forebay itself is practically completed and channelers and drills are working in the rock cut between the forebay and the end of the earth overburden excavation. The construction railway is completed, all except a

short section at the upper end and is in operation carrying trains of earth and rock cars to the spoil dump, which is on a spur two miles to the west of the canal-line.

"Two of the big concrete bridges, those carrying the St. Catharines and Thorold Railway and that carrying the Wabash Railway, are completed. The twin bridges carrying the Grand Trunk and the Michigan Central are under way, the foundations being all done at this time. At the power-house site the whole face of the cliff has been stripped and a construction railway is being built down to the river edge from a connection to the main-line road, about a mile below the power-house site. A steam-shovel has been worked along about fifty feet above the river level and is engaged in excavating the power-house site."

FLAX-GROWING IN CANADA.

Industry Has Shown Signs of Reviving Since the War.

The carefully considered effort which is being made by the Provincial Government of Ontario to encourage the cultivation of flax in the northern part of the province is a welcome evidence of foresight. For there is a very considerable shortage of flax in the world's markets, and the oil sources of supply are, for the time being, at any rate, seriously curtailed. Thus, in the days before the war, and for some time after its onset, great quantities of flax came from Russia, whilst Belgium and Holland also made considerable contributions. To-day, Russia is practically out of the market, and the supplies from Holland and Belgium are still limited. This condition has, of course, obtained for some time past, and, two or three years ago, when the demand for linen for airplane wings and other war purposes was making heavy calls on the linen production capabilities of the Allies, Canada applied herself seriously to the question of increasing the flax production of the country. To this end the Government promised a fixed price for the crop, and a bounty, running from two to nine cents a pound, to the spinner for the finished yarn. The authorities, moreover, suffered no delay in the matter. With characteristic energy they established a complete plant at Regina, Saskatchewan, for the extraction of the fibres from the flax, and arranged for the carrying out of a series of experiments in spinning, in Kitchener, Ont. The idea of the Canadian Government was, of course, not only to establish an industry which would help to meet the war needs of the Allies, but one which might be developed, after the war, to the increasing advantage of the Dominion as a whole.

Now flax is essentially the crop for the small holder. There is, it is true, really no limit to the scale upon which it can be grown, but the process of hand weeding, to which it so readily responds, makes flax a crop particularly adapted to the kind of labor generally available on a small holding. It is for this reason, no doubt, amongst others, that the Ontario Government has adopted the scheme, just referred to, of encouraging flax growing in the northern part of the province. Under this plan, various mills in older Ontario, will supply seed to be distributed among selected settlers in the north country, in quantities sufficient to plant two or more acres, whilst the settler when he has harvested his crop, to return to the mill an amount of seed equal to that which was sent to him. It is proposed then to compare the northern seed and fibre with the product grown from similar seed in the older districts, and if the results prove satisfactory, the Government is prepared to take still further steps to encourage cultivation.

Ultimately it is hoped to establish in Canada a complete linen trade, on a large scale, and not merely to cultivate flax for export. There is, however, to-day an immediate market for exported Canadian flax, not only for the sake of the linen which may be made from it, but for the sake of its many greatly needed by-products, such as linseed oil and cake.

Canada's Helium Gas.

Helium gas rising out of the ground in Alberta and other parts of Western Canada, and now used, in some localities of that country, to do the family cooking, may one time be carrying Britain's lighter-than-air flying machines in all parts of the world. It has been stated that there is enough of this gas, which makes a satisfactory substitute for the highly inflammable hydrogen commonly used for airships, to supply the entire British Empire for many years. The wells in Western Canada are the only sources of the gas in the Empire. Its weight-supporting ability is 90 per cent. that of hydrogen. Aviation is occupying a good deal of attention in Canada, and this natural supply of the filler for gas bags of dirigibles promises to advance interest in air navigation.

Wentworth Holstein Breeders Meet

The Holstein Breeders of Wentworth County met on Saturday last at the Department of Agriculture in Hamilton. The main business in hand was to consider the possibility of holding a consignment sale at Hamilton. The first step taken was to find out if enough suitable animals were forthcoming. On a canvass of the members present it was found that it would be a comparatively easy matter to select enough good animals for a creditable sale.

It was the unanimous expression of the members that only the best animals were to be consigned. On the suggestion of Chas. M. Flatt a prominent Holstein judge in the person of Mr. Stevenson of Ancaster was recommended as the judge to inspect the cattle before they are consigned. By this method only animals suitable for foundation stock will be offered, and buyers will be able to benefit from the services of an expert judge free of charge. While the sale will be widely advertised, it was felt by the members that it will be a special opportunity for new breeders to secure guaranteed animals at their own price, and it is hoped that many of the cattle will go into the hands of Wentworth breeders.

It was decided to sell the cattle subject to the tuberculin test at the purchasers option. As the date considered for the sale was late in November it was too soon to make any definite arrangements.

A meeting will be held on April 10th when it is expected there will be a complete list of animals to be sold. In the meantime the publicity committee will get busy in order to put Wentworth on the map as a Holstein centre.

Among those present and active at the meeting were: President, Hiram Dymont, Dumas; Chas. Gage, Ancaster; Gordon Brown, Ancaster; Mr. Lemon, Lynden; Walker Drummond, Waterdown, and others.

C. P. R. Farm Lands

We would call your attention to these lands, the last block of good virgin farm land in Western Canada, which marks the end of wholesale prices for virgin lands in the Prairie West. News of this block being opened up is being advertised through out Europe and the United States. The American farmers have been quick to see the opportunities offered in the past, and will see this opportunity as quickly as any. It is there fore up to those in Eastern Canada to make arrangements to visit the West and see these lands at the earliest possible opportunity. Those who act now and secure some of these lands will reap the benefit of quicker increase in value than at any period in the past, and the land will pay for itself from crops in a few years. The C. P. R. are offering you a farm on payment of one-tenth of the purchase at time of sale, and no other payments of principal for 4 years except interest. The balance of principal is extended over a period of 16 years. Those who do not wish to improve the land at once may purchase land on the 10 year contract, one-tenth cash and balance in nine equal payments. Write for information to J. E. Hess, Dist. Sales Agent Royal Bank Bldg., Brantford.