

With a depth of one inch, this area will contain 107,331,840,000 cubic feet of water. At a mean discharge per the Chicago drainage channel of 15,000 cubic feet per second, it will take  $107,331,840,000 \div 15,000 = 7,155,456$  seconds to depress the surface of the lake one inch.  $7,155,456 \div 3,600 = 1,988$  hours =  $82\frac{5}{8}$  days. And to depress the lake surface  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches will take  $82\frac{5}{8} \times 3\frac{1}{2} = 290$  days.

To depress the lake surface the first 3 inches . . . . .	249 days.
“ “ “ last $3\frac{1}{2}$ “ . . . . .	290 “
“ “ “ <u>        </u> “ . . . . .	<u>        </u> “
	$6\frac{1}{2}$ “ . . . . .
	539 “

The foregoing calculations have not been verified.

#### EXTINCT OUTLET OF LAKE MICHIGAN.

The evidence in support of the theory that Lake Michigan, at some remote period of its history, discharged a part, at least, of its waters into the Gulf of Mexico by way of the Desplaines, Illinois and Mississippi rivers, is not only convincing and conclusive, but overwhelming.

#### THE HARVEST.

A report is the fruition, the crop, of an inquiry of this character. There is practically little else to show for the labour expended. Hence, if there be no report, there is no fruit, the result seems barren, the energy is wasted. When, as in this case, the report is only partial, the result may seem wholly incommensurate with the expenditure, a very small mouse indeed. But to judge fairly, it should be borne in mind that the report itself is only a small part,—the tangible part indeed,—a mere fraction of the labour involved in the preparation, in the accumulation and sifting of material in the initial or preliminary stages of the investigation. Very frequently the labour and outlay between a full report and no report at all, that is a report nipped in the bud, differs very little, although in the latter predicament there is practically nothing to show for the expenditure.

#### THANKS.

It affords me much pleasure to avail myself of this opportunity to acknowledge my obligations and return my best thanks to the following gentlemen for favours and courtesies conferred on me in connection with this service:

To all the gentlemen of the staff of the Marine and Fisheries Department with whom I have had official connection, for the very great kindness on all occasions, and for the cheerfulness and promptness they invariably evinced in affording me information and assistance.

To Hon. Edward Murphy, jr., United States Senator for the State of New York, for his great kindness in procuring for me through the public departments at Washington, several valuable reports, which have been to me of exceedingly great use in this investigation.

To Hon. J. B. Riley, United States Consul General, Ottawa, for many favours, not the least of which have been books, reports, and public documents procured from Washington, very rare and valuable, and difficult to obtain. Words fail to convey my appreciation of his kindness.

To General William P. Craighill, Chief of Engineers, United States Army, for all the information and other favours conferred on me, and the promptness with which he responded to my inquiries, both directly and indirectly.

To Major W. L. Marshall, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, in charge of the United States Engineer Office, Chicago, for drawings and blue prints of the United States survey of the proposed canal connecting Lake Michigan with the Mississippi River.