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Hydro Policy Shown to Have Been Right

When Depression is Over Power Situation will be of Vital Help in Assuring Early Recovery.

The current monthly letter of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, in dealing with the subject of power supplies and requirements at the present time, confirms strikingly the conclusions reached by Dr. F. A. Gaby, Chief Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, in his comprehensive published analysis of power trends.

The provision of adequate electrical power to meet actual demands with reserve margin to ensure continuous service and to take up the temporary slackening that occurs during depression, is a subject regarding which many conflicting statements have been made, but which can readily be understood if the basic considerations set out in these surveys are kept in mind.

The first consideration is, what does past experience indicate as a necessary provision for future needs? In other words, what has been the past normal rate of growth in demand?

Broadly speaking, growth in electrical demand in the more populated portion of Ontario during the eighteen years up to 1930 was of the order of 11 per cent per year, a rate of growth that had been consistently maintained throughout this long period. The arrangements for new power supplies to meet these growing demands must be taken in hand well in advance, because it takes several years to arrange for water-power leases, to draw up designs, and to carry out construction projects for large hydro-electric power plants. This, on a million-horsepower system, means that hundreds of thousands of horsepower must be planned or contracted for and under construction, in addition to the power actually in use at any time.

The other main consideration is, how much reserve power capacity in excess of actual demands is it considered good practice to maintain actually available? To care for ordinary operating contingencies and ensure continuous reliable service, many large power undertakings keep a reserve or spare capacity on hand of 30 per cent or more. The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, with its uniformly high standards of construction and other favourable circumstances, is able to maintain its service with a minimum reserve capacity of but 10 per cent. These minimum percentages apply to prosperous times, and represent the desirable spare capacity at the time of the day and year that the power demand is greatest.

Of course, when the factories shut down for the night, extra reserve capacity corresponding to their temporarily discontinued power demands must be kept available until morning. Correspondingly, when there is an industrial depression, extra power reserve capacity in accordance with the amount of idleness of factories must be kept on hand. Otherwise the factories could not resume operation and re-employ their workmen when the dawn of recovery appears.

If, up to the beginning of the depression, the power authorities have been faithfully and wisely carrying out their duty of planning and arranging new sources of power to meet normal growth of demands, the extra reserve power for recovery from depression will be available when needed, and the factories will not have to wait for power plants to be constructed before they can resume operation. (In some of the large municipalities there is as much as 30 per cent of the electrical motors idle due to the depression.)

This is the fortunate position which the power users of Ontario and their employees are in to-day. The Hydro-Electric Power Commission in 1929 had arranged for power supplies to become available year by year up to 1936-7 from the only economical sources available to it—namely, from its new Chats Falls plant and from purchased power. The quantities provided were moderate, being 30 per cent less than the full amount required to take care of an eleven per cent rate of growth for the period concerned. However, as a result of these provisions, the Commission at the end of 1933 had a total commercial capacity of 1,257,000 horsepower for the industries and other power users of the great 25-cycle Niagara system. This affords reserve power capacity, above the reduced primary power demands at this stage of the depression, of nearly 315,000 horsepower. Unless recovery from depression, is exceptionally rapid, this quantity should be sufficient to safeguard Ontario industries and workmen from the disastrous delays that, without such power reserves, would have hampered the process of return to fuller activity—a beginning of which is now in evidence.

Of course, in the meantime, until general industry resumes its normal demands for power, it is important to keep the cost of maintaining these necessary special power reserves as low as possible. The Hydro Commission is accomplishing this through contracts under which the reserve power is used for producing process steam, but such power can immediately be withdrawn at any time it is required for the Hydro municipalities or for the maintenance of a supply of firm power. As a result of these efforts, there was in December, 1933, no commercial power capacity idle on any of the Commission's systems owned by Hydro municipalities except the Niagara system, and even on that system, the amount of unutilized commercial capacity was less than 125,000 horsepower, or 10 per cent of the 1,257,000 horsepower total available.

When it is remembered that a large proportion of Ontario's industrial capacity and of Ontario workmen were still idle last December, it cannot truly be contended that the Commission's

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action in providing the moderate quantity of 315,000 horsepower—of which only 125,000 horsepower was idle—to take up the slack of Niagara system demands, has been other than a wise and necessary safeguard.

HAILEYBURY YOUNG MEN START A LIBERAL CLUB

Among the signs of an approaching election is the fact that throughout the country there are various new clubs being formed or re-organized. These include particularly the organizing of the young men and the ladies. During the past few weeks several ladies' organizations have been started, sponsored by one or other of the three political parties in the province, not to mention the branches of some of the same said three parties. Young people also have been banded together in different organizations. Last week at Haileybury, for instance, they organized what is called the Twentieth Century Liberal Association, this being an organization specially for the young men. At the initial meeting addresses were given by G. A. Giachino, president of the Cobalt Liberal Association, J. R. Robinson, barrister, who was recently successful in forming a similar organization at New Liskeard, John Bruce and H. G. Pickard. The president of the new club for young Liberals at Haileybury is John Bruce. The secretary is W. R. Finlay. Other officers include C. Chenier, W. D. McArthur, Jean Renaud and Val Chevrete. Mitch Hepburn was named as honorary president, and the following were appointed as honorary vice-presidents:—D. H. Angus, A. J. Murphy, H. G. Pickard and J. A. Legris.

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Komonen of Sudbury Wins Boston Event

Flying Finn from Sudbury Shows Great Form Over Long Grind in Classic Race. Works as Carpenter at Frood Mine.

Running strong at the finish, after three favourites or former winners had dropped out at the end of 17 miles, Dave Komonen, age 35, known as the "Phantom Finn," of Sudbury, Ont., on Thursday won the 38th annual Boston Athletic Association marathon. His time was 2 hours, 32 minutes, 53 4-5 seconds.

Komonen finished second in last year's race. He has won the United States marathon and the 25-kilometer titles.

Johnny Kelley, of North Medford, who had dogged Komonen throughout the race, finished second. Komonen had put on such a burst of speed nearing the finish that he had left Kelley far behind. The little Medford Irishman finally looked behind him, saw that he was in no danger of being beaten out for second place, and then took his time finishing. His time was 2 hours, 36 minutes, 50 2-5 seconds.

Canadian Receives Cup Both Komonen and Kelley were given ovations by the cheering thousands at the finish. Among those who greeted the runners was Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield, of Boston.

The Canadian was given time enough to catch his breath before receiving the silver cup and laurel wreath that is the reward for finishing 25 miles and 385 yards of running in front.

Third was Bill Steiner, of New York, a man with a great record for long distances, but who found the going too hard for him. His time was 2 hours, 40 minutes, 29 1-5 seconds.

One hundred and ninety-three men, long in wind and leg, started over the highways, Boston-bound, from Hopkinton, promptly on the stroke of 12 noon on the long grind of 25 miles and 385 yards.

Taavi Komonen (called Dave by his English-speaking friends) was formerly a resident of Toronto but couldn't get a decent job there. He came to Sudbury to work at his trade as carpenter at the Frood Mine. He worked on the job steadily and honestly, doing his training on the side when off shift. Friends at the Frood helped him pay his way to Boston to take part in the famous marathon. That's about all the story, except the volumes that may be read between the lines to suggest that Dave Komonen is a real type of good sport.

As a sequel to his win, Sudbury intends to honour Komonen this week. He will be the guest at a civic luncheon, sponsored by the Sudbury board of trade, with Hon. Chas. McCrea, Hon. Wm. Finlayson, W. O. Langdon, president of the Northern Ontario Associated Boards of Trade, and other distinguished guests will also be present for this civic tribute to Komonen.

NOTABLE STRIKE REPORTED IN TOWNSHIP OF MUNRO The North Bay Nugget this week says:—"The Matheson district is witnessing a revival of old mining pro-

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TIMMINS

Garden Notes from Horticultural Society

Eleventh Article in Series of Letters Issued Weekly by Timmins Horticultural Society for Benefit of Readers of The Advance.

The following is the eleventh in the series of weekly articles provided readers of The Advance by the Timmins Horticultural Society:—

Garden Notes Sweetpeas may be grown to perfection in the North, but like everything else, a little planning, time and attention are needed.

Give Sweetpeas all the sun you can. Like all other climbers, they should be well supported, and the best and most natural support is made of switches. These switches (preferably birch for strength and lasting quality) may be secured in early spring before the leaves appear, and should approximate eight feet in length. This length will allow a staking below ground of one foot and a fence of six to seven feet high. This fence should be well supported, otherwise winds and rains would bear it down with irreparable

damage to the vines. At each end or corner of the fence there should be sturdy poles or iron stakes. Stretched between these, and interlaced between the switches, there should be three or four strong wires. This is a lot of work and some fanciers erect a more permanent framework. In this case, piping is generally used in place of wooden poles and a light wire cable is strung from top to top upholding some very open and light type of wire netting on which the vines may climb. These metal parts are usually painted green for protection and appearance. The netting should be as light and open as possible; as it is, the wire may be too hot for the sensitive tendrils of the vines.

Sweetpeas need special cultivation. As soon as the frost is out of the ground in the spring, a trench should be dug, one foot wide and two feet deep. Well-rotted manure mixed with a little soil is placed in the bottom above which is put a layer of four inches of rich well-broken sand loam. The seeds are then sown four inches apart in alternate positions on either side of what will be the fence. (To obtain speedy results, nick off a fraction from the outer layer of each seed with a pocket knife.) Cover the seed with another four inches of light soil. This will leave a depression of four inches to fill in later on after the peas have pushed through and (another important feature) to fill in for protection in the case of late frosts. Deeper and more generous cultivation of sweetpeas is possible, but we would not advise it for this locality. In the case of over cultivation, our short and speedy growing season would make the vines "go to bush"—that is, develop excessive foliage and few flowers. The same result occurs in close planting. The vines then should not be further fertilized until the blooming stage when the careful application of liquid fertilizers would be beneficial.

Next week's notes will deal with bulbs Timmins Horticultural Society Flowers—Box 1458. Vegetables—Box 1378.

LEE GOLD ENCOUNTERS VEIN ON FIRST LEVEL

Sinking of the shaft at the Swayze property of Lee Gold Mines is continuing to its present objective of 250 feet, according to J. J. Byrne, president. A crossover on the 125-foot level encountered the No. 1 vein a distance of approximately 55 feet from the shaft, showing a width of 14 feet. While assay results are not known at present, Mr. Byrne stated that the vein condition is similar to the surface showing.

Meanwhile, the shaft is being continued down to a depth of 250 feet and has now reached a depth of around 169 feet. It is the intention of the company, when a station has been established at the 250-foot horizon, to open up the 1st and 2nd levels. Considerable attention will be given to these levels to prove conditions on the Nos. 1 and 2 veins before continuing the shaft down to the proposed objective at 500 feet depth.

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