

WATER POWERS OF CANADA.

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Prior to the world war the price of fuels was such that ample motive power could be secured through their agency at such reasonable cost that the development of water power only took place where the natural facilities greatly favoured it or where coal costs were relatively high. With the advent of war coal costs soared and supplies became uncertain, whilst power requirements became vastly greater and in consequence greatly stimulated the development of water power. The return of peace has not yet produced any marked amelioration in the coal situation, although the reduction of industrial activity has considerably reduced the power demands.

At the present time any great activity in water power development awaits improvement in financial and industrial conditions, but the general stock-taking throughout the world in regard to water power resources continues and there can be no reasonable doubt that as conditions improve the development of water power will attain even greater proportions.

The United States Geological Survey in 1921 issued an Atlas illustrating the water power resources of the world, which it places at 439,000,000 horse power, 43.3 per cent of which are in Africa and 14.1 per cent in North America. The developed water power is estimated at 22,829,000 horse power, more than half of which is on this continent and over 12 per cent in Canada.

In Table 116 are listed the more important water power countries, together with their population and water powers. It is interesting to note that, with the exception of Norway, Canada has the greatest per capita development, and next to the United States, the greatest actual development, whilst its undeveloped resources are proportionately the greatest.

116.—Developed and Available Water Power of leading Countries.

Countries.	Water Power.			
	Population.	Developed.		Available.
		H.P.	Per 1000 population.	H.P. (Minimum).
Sweden.....	5,814,000	1,460,000	251	4,500,000
Norway.....	2,700,000	1,350,000	500	5,500,000
Italy.....	40,000,000	1,150,000	287	3,800,000
Switzerland.....	4,000,000	1,070,000	267	1,400,000
France.....	41,500,000	1,400,000	34	4,700,000
United States.....	105,683,108	9,823,540	93	28,000,000
Canada.....	8,788,483	2,762,880	314	18,255,316

With this brief reference to the water powers of the world we may proceed to a more particular consideration and analysis of those of the Dominion. It has already been shown that Canada is richly endowed with water power resources and is in the forefront as