

The Queenston-Chippawa development was begun in 1917 as a war measure, when the consumption of power in munition factories was greatest, at a time when the duration of the war could not be foreseen. High wage costs and high prices of material raised construction costs far above the original estimate of \$10,500,000, besides which the ultimate capacity of the plant was enlarged. The cost of completing the first five units, totalling 275,000 h.p., is now estimated at approximately \$60,000,000.

The first of these units began operation on Dec. 28, 1921; three others commenced operations in 1922 and the fifth in 1923. A sixth unit was put into operation early in 1924 and two others are in process of installation.

Hydro-Electric Power Statistics.—The Canada Year Book of 1910 (p. xliii) described the turning on, on Oct. 11, 1910, at Berlin, (now Kitchener) Ontario, of electrical energy generated by the Niagara falls, and the initial work carried out by the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission for the supply of electrically generated power to 15 municipalities. The growth of the Hydro system in Ontario is shown in the amount of power used by its customers. In 1910, the Commission supplied 750 h.p. to 10 municipalities; in 1915, 100,242 h.p. to 99 municipalities; in Dec., 1924, the amount of power taken was 402,282 h.p. "The government electric utilities in Ontario have grown from a league of seven municipalities formed in 1903 until now the vested interests of the people in this class of property are represented by investments totalling nearly \$250,000,000, the bonded indebtedness of which is guaranteed by the Province of Ontario."

In Table 10 will be found a consolidated operating report of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission for the years 1912 (the earliest year for which the statistics are available) to 1924. The table shows that, during the 13-year period covered, the number of municipalities securing electricity from the Commission has increased from 28 to 241, the number of consumers from 34,967 to 374,408, the earnings from \$1,617,674 to \$18,798,723, and the operating expenses from \$1,377,168 to \$16,661,164.

10.—Consolidated Operating Report of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, 1912-1924.

Years.	Number of municipalities.	Number of consumers.	Horse-power used.	Earnings.	Expenses.
1912.....	28	34,967	-	\$ 1,617,674	\$ 1,377,168
1913.....	45	65,697	-	2,617,440	2,041,183
1914.....	69	96,744	70,698	3,433,656	2,678,328
1915.....	99	120,028	100,242	4,070,295	3,371,414
1916.....	128	148,732	120,768	4,983,601	4,140,066
1917.....	143	170,916	157,048	6,070,065	5,077,491
1918.....	166	183,987	159,990	7,082,039	5,736,335
1919.....	181	216,086	185,355	7,827,055	6,531,482
1920.....	184	245,666	208,232	9,707,901	8,094,056
1921.....	205	268,743	242,349	10,981,942	9,317,781
1922.....	214	303,090	294,061	12,756,104	11,343,766
1923.....	224	348,028	350,486	17,219,044	15,208,508
1924.....	241	374,408	402,282	18,798,723	16,661,164