THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NIAGARA FALLS
The Campaign for the Preservation of Niagara Falls

Advised by
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President

PHILADELPHIA
American Civic Association
1906
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(Address by J. Horace McFarland, president, at the annual convention of the American Club Association, Milwaukee, October, 1888)

Not fourteen months have passed since the first widespread public suggestion of what might be done to check the impending destruction of Niagara. The interest of the people has been widespread in every way by floods of press, by modest but effective contributions and in the passage of resolutions of estimations and interest in the preservation of Niagara Falls. The remarkable excitement that was awakened in the press has been due in very large part in adopting this work to a man who was an estimable man.

When I speak of Niagara, I speak in a somewhat general manner of the whole greatness of the work and of the people, and I was reminded by a Frenchman, who once said, "Allow me to say that you are wrong in saying that Niagara Falls belong to all you Americans. They belong to nobody and to everybody in the world. To destroy them would be to hurt all of us fellow men. Therefore, I beg leave to enclose a contribution of ten francs, so as to become a member of your association if it is allowed to a French writer."

It will be remembered that the first widespread call to action was through the publication in 'The Ladies' Home Journal' in September, 1885, of a picture and an article on "Niagara Falls, reading a statement up in the House," "We Make a Tomb-Pile of Niagara." Briefly, as I recall the facts, there was issued a direct
appeal by mail to President Roosevelt and to Earl Grey, the Governor-General of Canada. This was, I believe, the first nationalization of the question: for up to this time the custody of the Falls in the United States was apparently in the state of New York, and many privileges for its development had been freely and even scandalously given away by the legislature of that state.

Awaiting the result of this publication in some anxiety, it was with great relief a report in "The Washington Post" was noted, reading that the President's office was being flooded with letters demanding that he act for the salvation of the falls.

A little later it was discovered that the capital head of the Dominion of Canada was also being deluged with communications of the same import. The excerpts of the letters to read from a letter of an excited correspondent in Manitoba were:

"Do you know, sir, that Earl Grey has so much wronged the people of this country, he has no real control of matters in Canada. He can express any opinion or take no action, and can stress in papers a desire to understand so ignorant of Canadian affairs as to presume that he has any real control of matters in Canada. The President of the United States was the only one who seemed to have the real authority in the case, and that letter was directed to him."
"As to the grounds for Federal intervention, so far as proposed, I think there can be no fair doubt. * * *

The character of Niagara Falls as one of the greatest natural wonders, its situation in a boundary river on the frontier of a foreign country, its undoubted historical relation as a natural possession and common heritage—all these elements in the case would fully justify you in proposing through the ordinary diplomatic channels the consideration of this subject by the two governments immediately concerned."

Thus the national campaign was launched.

It became obvious that some deaverance from the President himself was desirable. About, therefore, was made to Mr. Roosevelt on November 27th by the three executive officers of the American Civic Association to arrange for a personal interview with the President that afternoon. Thereupon a special message was immediately sent as a means of effecting the arrangements.

Taking the copy of the proposed message, the President read it over the most promptly and characteristic of him, impressing in all each of its essentials. Two of them were: the importance of a national step saving Niagara Falls.

"I was asked three or four weeks ago," said the President, "to suggest a method of saving Niagara Falls. You may have thought that all Congressmen are not interested in aesthetic propositions and that in my way I have suggested in half a dozen lines that the Congress should come to the United States, spend its groves of trees to be a national possession, so it New York cannot preserve and give to the nation Niagara Falls, then it should step in and preserve it for all the people."

When I asked Mr. Roosevelt what the American Civic Association could do to help in the matter to bring attention to the Congress, he replied briskly and impressively:

"Have as many organizations and individually intelligent people as possible write direct to their own Congressmen and Senators urging action. That will help greatly.

It will be general good that the President 1st mention Niagara Falls in a speech of his. He talked to us. It is not as well in that regard as was the first read over the President.

In summation, Mr. Roosevelt should by
an interested acquaintance, who did not know of my
Niagara sentiment, of what had happened in connection
with one great projected power development. It ap-
pears that there was a dispute between two companies
(each of which had obtained from the state of New
York all it wanted in the way of Niagara concessions
as to which should have the use of what is known as
the "Devil's Hole," a remarkable depression near the
lower river that would serve to save a vast amount of
expensive work in the building of tail-races or tunnels.
One concern had possession through a real estate com-
pany, but had not perfected its charter as a corporation,
having the right of eminent domain. While it was
hunting for money to develop its concession alone
came another company with the right of eminent do-
main, and snatched the "Devil's Hole" from the first
corporation. The intervening corporate scrap ended in
an amicable arrangement for a division of the facilities
for reaching the lower regions by way of the "Devil's
Hole," and, indeed, a combination, financial and other-
wise. This combination, including the General Electric
Company, depended upon the signature of a man of
money, who was abroad at the time the agreement was
finally drafted, but who arrived in New York and
hurried at once to Buffalo early in last December, ready
to do his part in the conclusion of the arrangement
which should start another great power development.
The parties of the other side and the lawyers concerned
were waiting in an office in Buffalo, to which the gentle-
man aforesaid hastened from the station. Just before
he reached the office, a newsboy passed crying out the
afternoon papers with the President's message. With
mild curiosity, one of the men present bought a paper
and cursorily looked over the message. He struck the
phrase referring to Niagara Falls:

"Nothing should be allowed to interfere with the
preservation of Niagara Falls in all their beauty and
majesty," followed by the President's emphatic reccom-
dation that if New York state could not safeguard
the Falls the nation must do it. Dismayed, this man
turned to his associates and read them this part of the
President's message. Then arrived the capitalist, ready
to take up the waiting pen. But that agreement has not yet been signed. It was seen that at last the great, patient, American public was to be awakened, and that it might be unprofitable to proceed.

It was early realized that nothing could be accomplished with the Congress unless that body was made to understand that the people wanted Niagara saved. Therefore, all the members of the American Civic Association were enlisted in the attempt to influence the Congress. Every one was urged to write to his own immediate representative in the House and to the two Senators from his state. Again the press helped, in presenting a request that letters be sent to Representatives and Senators. In answer to all these efforts, letters did begin to pour upon the Congressmen, to which the Congressmen responded, for the letters were from those whose imperative insistence could not be properly denied. Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania, said to me:

'I have received very many letters from persons in Pennsylvania urging the preservation of Niagara Falls. These letters were for the most part from people of whom I did not pay attention. I suppose, however, I should thank them for their efforts.

'If the agitation could not be effective unless a bill for a acts legislation. The next work, therefore, was to see that such legislation was introduced. Inquiry at Washington early in January showed, however, that if there was to be legislation of this kind it should originate in connection with the House committee on Rivers and Harbors, of which Thos. E. Burton, from Ohio, was chairman. At this time effort was made in and a Senator or Representative who would make a prominent effort of Niagara, and that brought about some understanding of the terrific pressure of work placed upon the Congressmen by their constituents. Senator Knox, for instance, was warmly interested, and gave extremely valuable confirmatory opinions on the absolute power of the United States to control Niagara river as a navigable stream. This confirmed the opinion of the present Attorney-General Moody and was later joined in by another ex-Attorney-General, John W. Griggs, to the effect that the national
interest was paramount in Niagara Falls, both as a navigable stream in part and as an international boundary stream.

But Senator Knox just about this time was engrossed by a Panama Canal emergency, and had to definitely decline to be our leader. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, the President's friend, had already manifested interest but could not be induced to take an active part. There was, of course, not the least use in appealing to the two futile Senators of the Empire State itself, although before the campaign was ended we were able to secure a promise for a favorable vote from Senator Piatt as well as from many other Senators and Representatives.

It was a most fortunate happening which brought us at this time into connection with the Merchants' Association of New York, a strong and vigorous organization of the great metropolis. Mr. F. B. DeBerard, its editor and statistician had already, on behalf of that association, sold at Albany an undertaking to urge upon the citizens of New York an amendment of the constitution of the state providing for the diversion of Niagara water. It was with Mr. DeBerard that I visited Senator Knox and Mr. Senator and it was in his connection at the discovery, as well as in the letter of Senator Lodge and public-spirited statesman, Ohio had a man who was both able and willing to care for the interests of the whole nation in Niagara Falls.

But a somewhat different part of my story in February was extremely important to urge the President to further action. By this time it had appeared that even if the Congress should act toward an international treaty, it was the President only who could institute negotiations for a treaty, and that he could do this without any action by the Congress. Therefore, on February 14, Mr. Woodruff, Mr. DeBerard, and myself called upon him. A memorandum was presented to the President reciting the view of the American Civic Association and of the Merchants' Association of New York as to the desirability of immediate action and presented to him a letter from the Canadian Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, to the effect
that up to that time no representations had been made to the Canadian government by the government of the United States in regard to the preservation of Niagara Falls. Mr. Roosevelt read this memorandum with more than his accustomed speed, and my heart sank, because I did not believe that he could possibly have comprehended it. Turning to his desk he pressed a button, and when Private Secretary Loeb responded the President dictated a letter to Secretary Root, transmitting our petition, insisting on immediate attention to its suggestions, and quoting from the letter from Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Thus this marvelous man had been able to appreciate in probably one-tenth the time required by any other human being the full and complete purport of our petition!

At this interview, Mr. Roosevelt expressed a fear that the interest which had been aroused could not be maintained against the concrete effects of organized selfishness. We told him of the work planned and called his attention to the substantial help that had just been arranged for in great periodicals.

Discussing in New York one day the need for additional help, both in money and in publicity, it was proposed between the three general officers of the Association to insert an advertisement in the Outlook, mentioning the danger to Niagara Falls and asking for contributions to aid in the campaign for their preservation. Mr. Howland said, "The Outlook will be one of five periodicals to insert this page without charge." We at once called upon Mr. S. S. McClure, of McClure's Magazine, who assented instantly and cheerfully. A visit to the editor of the American Magazine, Mr. Sedgwick, brought just as cheerful an answer. Dr. Albert Shaw, of the Review of Reviews, promptly agreed to the same proposition, adding a request for information upon which a strong editorial utterance could be based. In like manner, The World's Work, Collier's Weekly, Suburban Life, Everybody's Magazine, Public Opinion, and a half dozen more of the leaders—producing in all a monthly circulation of more than two millions—agreed with unswerving alacrity to insert the Niagara page. The cash -
rising thus secured was in excess of $2,000, and its awakening influence upon many millions of people can scarcely be estimated.

So matters stood, while we were assured that the International Waterways Commission, to which had been referred, more than a year previously, the investigation of the danger to Niagara Falls, would soon report. This report seeming to be interminably delayed, I wrote to the President the second week in March, urging him in so many words "to stick a pin in the legs of the International Waterways Commission," because we could not keep the agitation throughout the country forever at fever heat, and no action could be properly instituted in Congress until this Commission had reported. I do not know whether or not he put in the pin, but I do know that the report soon came into his hands and was promptly transmitted to the Senate and the House of Representatives, with a short but vigorous message suggesting the enactment into law of the propositions made by the American members of the International Waterways Commission for the preservation of Niagara Falls, without waiting for the ratification of a treaty. The President added:

"The law can be put in such a form that it may be in effect for three years, provided that in that time an international agreement has been reached. By that event I hope that this nation will do its utmost to prevent the wonder, the existence of which we should regard as a matter of pride to every dweller on the continent."

Very great satisfaction was felt at this message, at the report, which, when read over promptly and present untruly the alarming facts to Niagara power development, and to the people at large. It was not until the evening of the careful re-reading of the report that it became made that its recommendations were essentially volume I, while reciting the danger of diversion, the American members of the International Waterways Commission found it inexpedient to suggest any voluntary restraint of the diversion of water. This remarkable report is among other claims that I made

"The glory of Niagara Falls ... the United ..."
its water rather than in its height or in the surrounding scenery.

"Works are now authorized and partially completed at the Falls which will divert from Niagara river above the falls about 27 per cent of the average discharge and about 33 per cent of the low water discharge, which is more than double the quantity now flowing over the American Fall.

"The effect of this withdrawal of water is to injure both the American and the Horseshoe Falls in nearly equal proportions. While the injury will be perceptible, it may not be destructive or disastrous.

"The commercial value of the water power at Niagara Falls is very great, but if compared with values set aside by wealthy communities elsewhere for park purposes this value is not too great to be devoted to similar purposes. The place is visited annually by about 200,000 people.

With all these excellent conclusions, the Commission yet was willing to recommend, that but a trifling limitation be placed upon the proposed developments. Thus, while setting forth the danger, the Commission hesitated to suggest any substantial restriction and instead proposed legislation which would have been agreeable to the interested power-development companies.

Early on April 6th after a detailed character of this report had appeared, the western telephone was put into active service in answer to an interview with the President and a strong protestation in opposition to the report of the International Waterways Commission. The importance of this was made apparent when a telegram was received from Mr. Burton that he expected to introduce a bill vitalizing the recommendation of the International Waterways Commission on Wednesday, April 4th. He was urged to delay, and did delay, and on that day another interview was had with the President, at which a careful memorandum was presented to him, setting forth in vigorous phrase the danger of accepting the recommendations of the International Waterways Commission and protesting against any such legislation as that suggested. The President read this memorandum much more slowly than usual, and then said deliberately:

"I am inclined to think you are right in this matter.
I will refer this paper to Secretary Taft, who is absent for a few days, and after I hear from him I will take it up with Mr. Root. I will also send a copy of it to George Clinton and ask him what he has to say about it." "You know," he added somewhat apologetically, "I must take the conclusions of my advisers in these matters. I cannot possibly look them all up myself. Indeed, I am at the mercy of my advisers."

Mr. George Clinton, it may be explained, is one of the members of the International Waterways Commission. At this interview it was arranged that the President would confer with Mr. Burton about the proposed legislation. We had with Mr. Burton a very full discussion as to the proposed bill, securing his promise not to introduce the bill he had already prepared enacting into law the recommendations of the International Waterways Commission, and instead to prepare a real Niagara preservative measure.

Again, on May 7, the President transmitted to the Congress, but this time without any recommendation for enactment, another report of the International Waterways Commission, including both Canadian and American members. A protest was again sent to the President, calling attention not only to the fallacies in this report, but to other dangers which had later appeared.

Before this, however, the first of the important hearings held by the Committee on Rivers and Harbors in regard to the Burton Bill had taken place. These hearings were held April 12, April 16, April 17, April 19, April 20 and April 21, in Washington. At all the hearings the power companies, now thoroughly alarmed, were present by attorneys, engineers, and promoters, representing the danger to their interests, and each of them insisting that his particular development would not hurt Niagara Falls. Every one of them was particular to state how deeply interested he was in the glory of Niagara Falls, and each one as regularly managed to sneer at those who would set aesthetic considerations before business, before he got through with his statement. The hotels of Washington benefited by the presence for many weeks of the attorneys and lobbyists of the forty-million-power aggregations who
besieged the President, his Cabinet and the Congress with their pleas to be let alone in their plans for using God’s Niagara wonder to make private gain.

At the hearing on April 21, there was brought together a notable body of representatives of the people. The Merchants’ Association of New York was represented by ex-Attorney-General John W. Griggs, as well as by Mr. DeBerard; the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society had there its secretary, Mr. Edward Hagaman Hall; while Mr. Chas. R. Lamb, President of the Municipal Art Society of New York, also appeared. Your President and Secretary were at hand on behalf of the American Civic Association, and indeed, conducted the hearing for the side of the people. It was a dramatic and intensely interesting occasion, for aside from the seventeen officers representatives of the people and the fifteen members of the Committee, the room was crowded with lawyers, engineers and officers of the Niagara power-developing companies.

General Griggs’ clear legal exposition, showing the complete and paramount jurisdiction of the United States over the Niagara River and the right and conclusive answers to the pertinacious and sweeping arguments of the Committee, swept aside completely the arguments and protest of the people in Niagara Falls, as against thirty-one officers of the state of New York.

I presented not only the protest of the people through the American Civic Association, but letters from Dr. Lyman Abbott, editor of “The Outlook,” Mr. Edward Bok, of the “Ladies’ Home Journal,” Mr. Norman Hapgood of “Collier’s Weekly,” and Dr. Albert Shaw of “Review of Reviews.” More than that, I had strong resolutions from the American Periodical Publishers’ Association, representing more than six millions of monthly circulation. It was thus an impressive weight of public sentiment that was urgently presented in favoring a bill for the real saving of Niagara.

Hon. Chas. M. Dow, president of the New York State Reservation at Niagara, was also present, and his statement was of great importance. But he showed that the power-developing people had already narrowed
the Horseshoe Falls 500 feet, and that instead of the contents of the engineers that the American Fall averaged 4 feet in depth, the actual depth, as measured only the day before by careful engineers of the state of New York and the province of Ontario, was less than 2 feet.

What I have said and shown and read should indicate that nothing was left to chance, but that everything was patiently followed up which would tend toward the success of the Niagara movement. Yet I have not mentioned a tenth of the daily effort. Your officers were insistent and energetic in their endeavor, and the members of the Association rallied nobly to our call.

One more interview there was with President Roosevelt, and to me at least it was a thrilling interview. It occurred when on the 12th of May I called upon him to protest against any serious consideration of the report of the International Waterways Commission, and to assure him that our effort in the Congress was proceeding and succeeding.

The President kept me in the Cabinet room until all of his immediate callers had been disposed of, and then he moved to his private office. Seating me at the other side of his desk, he asked: "Mr. McFarland, I am afraid that you and your friends will destroy Niagara Falls." Astounded, I answered: "How can we do that, Mr. President?" To this he replied, "Because you expect too much. You can't have everything." I said, "Mr. President, why can't we be satisfied to give up one-third of the beauty of Washington, or one-third of the beauty of the White House?" Brusling his vigorous fist down upon his desk he said, "It is not a question as to what I could afford to give up. It is a question of what I could save; for I have not been able to save even one-fourth of the big trees of California." Just then an opportune interruption from the living side of the White House took the President away, and gave me a chance to settle my somewhat disturbed thoughts. When the President returned I said that we could not afford a retreat from our position, and asked him why he thought we could not succeed. He said that he had been talking with Secretary
Root, who had recounted to him the circumstances surrounding a constitutional convention in New York twelve years before, when there was a general sentiment for Niagara preservation, for which, when it came to making it concrete in an amendment, no support could be found, because it interfered with vested interests. I said, "Mr. Roosevelt, do you even suggest that the United States today has the same attitude toward these propositions that it had twelve years ago? If so, you and many others have labored in vain." He answered, "Perhaps conditions are better now," to which I rejoined, "They surely are, Mr. President; and it does not strike me pleasant to have you say that we are making a mistake in insisting on the rights of the people in Niagara. I do not think I ought to come here to be discouraged in this effort for which there is all too little practical help."

Springing to his feet, he said, "I do not want to discourage you! Keep right on in the same line, and I hope you will win out."

This conversation indicated that there was a state of mind in Secretary Root that needed to be investigated, whereupon I immediately sought him, and for a half-hour poured against his inscrutable face and into his attentive ear the urgency of one strongly affected with "Niagaritis!" Extremely few words would he say, except to reiterate at the first the position stated to the President. Great, honest man that he is, he soon agreed with me that conditions had changed, and finally gave me just what I wanted—a statement which was in effect that any enactment we could get through Congress which showed a real intention to save Niagara Falls would be of inestimable value to him in attempting to negotiate a treaty. I left his presence feeling that his attitude toward the question had distinctly improved.

Of the Congressional hearings after this, of the injection into the campaign of the politics of "Billy" Lorimer of Chicago, who brought about a deadlock in the Rivers and Harbors Committee by his insistence that Chicago should have for her Drainage Canal many times more water than she needs to wash away her daily filth of
the continuous, patient, persistent watchfulness, ingenuity and strength of Mr. Burton; of the aroused interest of Senator Lodge; of the backhanded slap that came when our supposed friend, Senator Knox, attached to the bill in the Senate after it had passed the House, a "rider" providing for a pet Pittsburg company; of the daily correspondence with members of Congress; of the compromise arrived at under Mr. Burton in a conference committee; and of the intense joy felt when I received a telegram from Secretary Loeb that the President had signed the bill on June 29. I must not take the time to speak. It did seem then that the battle had been won, and when the bill was reported, differing absolutely in its terms from that first projected, but yet showing a real intention on the part of the United States to preserve Niagara Falls, I could not but feel that the effort of barely nine months was very well worth while, and that the American people should be congratulated on the magnificent way in which they had rallied to the defense of their chief scenic possession.

When the act of June 29, 1906, is read, it appears that the diversion for power production of a certain amount of Niagara water is placed entirely within the discretion of the Secretary of War, who is also charged with deciding as to the admission of electric power from Canada. It also appears that the bill is to remain in force but three years, during which time it is hoped and respectfully requested that the President will conclude negotiations with Great Britain for "Effectually providing by suitable treaty with said government for such regulation and control of the waters of Niagara River and its tributaries as will preserve the grandeur of Niagara Falls and of the rapids in said river."

With the provisions of this act in mind, I was not surprised to note that the Secretary of War was about to give a hearing at Washington to those who wanted Niagara water. Immediate application was made for a hearing for the American Civic Association, and a courteous response followed. The hearing was shifted to Niagara Falls; however, and there, on July 12, occurred perhaps the most dramatic and interesting of
all the hearings connected with this national movement.

I was not able, owing to the short notice, to secure the attendance of any one else interested in Niagara preservation, and thus arrived alone on the morning of July 12, at Niagara Falls. I found there a gathering of engineers, attorneys, promoters and financiers, by whom I was eyed with anything but friendly feelings, for many of them remembered my presence in the Rivers and Harbors committee room at Washington. Some sixty persons were present, representing every possible power development. After those desiring to divert water and those desiring to transmit power had presented their claims and filed all their proof without discussion, Secretary Root said:

"There is another interest, I am advised, represented here—the interest of the public in maintaining the integrity of the Falls or the volume of the water, and if any one is here who desires to be heard on that subject I would like to know of his presence."

Announcing that I was in the interest to which the Secretary referred, he kindly gave me permission to make the first statement, which I did, against the most hostile audience I have ever addressed for, save from the friendly fact of Secretary Tapp and the courteous neutrality of General MacKenzie, there was only scorn and disgust expressed on the countenances of those present.

When I had concluded the statement, in which I set forth our feeling that the sharpest possible restriction of both diversion of water and admission of power should be exercised under the terms of the act, and that those who were permitted to divert water should be compelled, under regulations to be made, to make attractive the surroundings of their power plants (a plea the necessity for which was enforced by showing photographs of unsatisfactory conditions), several of the power-developing attorneys and several attorneys representing the cities supposed to be benefited by Niagara power, made brief representations. But the main argument was produced by that eminent and eloquent attorney, Mr. Francis Lynde Stetson, who instead of devoting himself solely to the wants of the Niagara Falls Power Co., of which he is a vice-president and at-
torney, spent much of his time in abuse of your President and his position, and in criticism of our attitude. He sneered openly at the idea of a law for the preservation of scenery, and urged the trifling character of the opposition, which he said was produced by "an irresponsible association."

To an old trial judge like Secretary Taft (and he was the only man in the room who could really be affected by the arguments) this sort of thing could hardly be influential. Others who followed avoided abuse and simply stated their desires. An interesting and sly dispute between two companies opened the hearing, which occupied four hours and was followed by a test in the paper presented by the government Secretary. Taft, as before, "I need not keep up my games here. I have a certain amount near the Secretary without getting more of thirty seconds at once."

Subsequent to this hearing, numerous grants of water were given permitting the companies the actual use of the waters. The states in this hearing were: "A state of mind which was on the way to a state of purity and pleasure. I am very sorry to think I must remark that the President of the United States is up to that time the only honorary member of the "irresponsible" organization.

The Niagara Falls newspapers have not yet ceased abusing me for my preservation attitude. On July 12 I am to 14-16, 17-19, 23-24, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31. Let me bring this story of a needed movement to a close. I am not a "fakir" and I am "less interested in positions than in the coal trust whose representative he is credited related to me. On July 31 the Niagara Falls "Journal" gave me the benefit of three columns of editorial vituperation.
ally to secure that inordinate reward for their millions which was the purpose of their investment.

There is but one safety, and that is to persist in the demand for an international treaty. A letter received October 22, from Secretary Root, is not encouraging, for he advises me that although negotiations for the preservation of Niagara Falls "were set on foot between Mr. Hay and the British Ambassador pursuant to a request contained in the joint resolution of the Legislature of the state of New York, passed March 17, 1904," matter to the International Waterways Commission "for the ascertainment and agreement upon the facts forming the necessary basis for any possible treaty."

Secretary Root adds:

"At present the negotiations are pending, but on the basis of the two reports already made by the Joint Committee of Congress of Jan. 29, 1904 and, more recently, the facts developed in the hearings before the Committee of Congress."

"It is the opinion of the present Secretaries of State and of Canada, the latter not being here, that the settlement is possible."

"If Niagara is left without preservation, the situation must be far more serious."

I ask the Association and its friends, whether in New York or in other parts of the country, to observe mankind and to do their part.

CANADIAN NEWSPAPER

The hearing to take place at 10 a.m., Tuesday, November 29, 1904, at Washington, will decide as to what quantities of electrical power shall be admitted to the United States from Canada. The Barton Bill provides that not exceeding 16,000 horse-power may be admitted, within the discretion of the Secretary of War, and that he may within said amount issue permits for the admission of additional power from Canada to an extent which, in his judgment, will produce on the Canadian side which, in his judgment, will produce on the Canadian side 16,000 horse-power. It is also understood that these
figures are not to be construed as a direction to admit the power, but merely as limitations. The Secretary controls it all, under the law, and can shut it all out.

Canadian power companies propose to develop a total of about 125,000 horse-power, and it might be thought that if this power is not sold in the United States it would be sold in Canada, so that it would make little difference to the Falls whether the power were used in Canada or the United States.

The Hydro-Electric Commission of the Province of Ontario reported recently that if all the industries within electric radius of Niagara, in Canada, were to discard their engines and use electricity, a total of less than 50,000 horse-power might be used. At present, not half this amount is being developed and used by Canadian industries. Barely ten per cent of the vast amount of power proposed to be developed in Canada can be used within five years in that country, and, if the power is not transmitted to the United States, it will not be developed and the Falls will not be depleted. Thus the United States does have power in Canada in respect to Niagara-made electricity. If Secretary Taft refuses admission of the electric power generated in Canada, the water which would have generated it will continue instead to fall in majesty over the Falls.

A careful comparison has been made of the effect of the withdrawal of the water above Niagara Falls for which engagements have already been entered into, under temporary permits issued by the Secretary of War. The volume of water thus withdrawn will more than equal the present average outflow at their mouths of the Hudson, Delaware and James rivers combined. Even if no further permits are granted, this amount will inevitably be increased by the additional water required for the Chicago Drainage and Welland Canals.

Considering strictly the diversions already authorized on the American side, the amount likely to be used in Canada, and that which would be required for the 100,000 horse-power which Secretary Taft has been asked to admit, the total amount of water to be withdrawn for power and sanitary purposes would exceed 25,000 cubic feet per second.
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