

D.B. Detweiler, 1902-1920

3 Vols. 6 in.

Daniel B. Detweiler (1860-1919), businessman and pioneer promoter of hydro and waterways developments, was born at Roseville, Ont., on April 10, 1860. He was educated and spent the early years of his business career there. He travelled for thirteen years for a Berlin, Ont., button manufacturer, then in 1901 joined the Oberholtzer Shoe Co., later known as the Hydro City Shoe Co., of which he became vice-president. He was also president of the Algoma Power Co. An active proponent of public distribution of Niagara hydroelectric power, he helped launch this project in co-operation with E.W.B. Snider, by organizing the first meeting of the Western Ontario Hydro Power Association in 1902. The following year the Ontario Legislature passed an act to provide for construction of municipal power works and distribution of power, and to authorize a commission (3 Edw. VII c. 25); Detweiler's associate, E.W.B. Snider, was the first chairman of the Ontario Power Commission, of which Hon. Adam Beck later became chairman. Detweiler was also an advocate of the development of the St. Lawrence Waterways system for ocean traffic to the head of the Great Lakes, and was the prime mover in the organization at Berlin in 1912 of the Great Waterways Union of Canada of which he was the first president. He died on April 18, 1919, at Kitchener.

Subject files relating to inland waterways and hydro-electric power development. ~~4 vols.~~ ~~7 in.~~

1. "History of the Great Waterways Union of Canada," 1909-1920.

Vol. 1 2 in.

A bound file containing correspondence, pamphlets and newspaper clippings relating to the proposed St. Lawrence route, deepening the Welland Canal, financing, engineering, water power, U.S. - Canadian co-operation, etc. Indexes to the printed matter and calendar of the correspondence are included. The greater part consists of correspondence, original letters received and copies sent, conducted with officials of the Chicago Chamber of Commerce; Senator Townsend, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Coast and Insular Survey; and a number of newspaper editors, civic officials, engineers, etc. The file and indexes were compiled at the Public Archives in 1921.

2. Niagara electrical power, 1902-1918. Vols. 2-4 5 in.
  - (a) Minute book of a meeting of Ontario manufacturers and businessmen which met at Berlin, Ont. in June 1902, to consider a proposal to transmit power from Niagara Falls to Western Ontario Municipalities. Also clippings, reports and minutes of sub-committee meetings. D.B. Detweiler was secretary. Index on pp. 61-63 to the contents. Includes memorandum dated 1918 on history of the movement, 1902-1903. Vol. 2 1/2 in.
  - (b) Correspondence and memoranda relating to the development and utilization of Niagara power, and the "Berlin Conference" and later meetings, 1902-1903. Vol. 2 1/2 in.

(c) Canvass of power users. Approval forms signed by various manufacturers in the municipalities concerned, expressing approval of the proposed power development and citing their potential h.p. consumption. Arranged by towns, 1902. Vol. 2 1/2 in.

(d) Transcripts of newspaper reports of meetings of the Berlin Board of Trade, Niagara Power Commission, Ontario Power Commission, and conferences of Western Ontario Municipalities relating to Niagara power, amendments to the Municipal Power Act, etc. Index, 1902-1906. Vol. 2 1/2 in.

(e) , Printed Material, 1893-1896, 1902-1918. Vols. 3-~~4~~ 2 in.

Pamphlets and newspaper clippings relating to the growth of hydroelectric power development. ~~Vols. 3-4~~ ~~2 in.~~

Pamphlets, etc.

Bill No. 156 "An Act to Amend the Municipal Act", 1902

X "Niagara's Power Past, Present, Prospective" by Frederick Nicholls,  
1905

The Niagara-Welland Power Co. Charter, 1905

Galt B. of T., Dinner, 1906

Galt B. of T., Niagara Power, 1906

X Official Report of the Ontario Power Commission, 1906

"Catechism on the Power Question", 1906

- X Proceedings of the Western Ontario Power Organization, Galt, 1906  
Bill No. 243 "An Act to provide for the Transmission of Electrical  
Power to Municipalities, 1906
- X "Genesis of the Power Movement", H.E.P.C. of Ont., 1907  
"The Power Bund", Berlin, 1910
- X "Ontario's True National Policy in regard to Black and White Coal"  
by W.K. McNaught, 1910
- X "Hydro-Electric and Hydro-Radial Undertakings" by W.K. McNaught,  
1916
- X "Public Ownership and the Hydro-Electric Commission", 1917  
Memorandum on provincial legislation and executive action on the  
Niagara power question, part of a brief re the case of the  
Electrical Development Co. vs. the Attorney-General argued  
before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.  
"Notes on Hydro-Electric Power", 1918

Clippings

- "Private Clippings re Power, Water Supply and Electricity, 1893-  
1896
- Miscellaneous clippings re power development in Western Ontario,  
1905-1911

Reports of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission, 1906-1907.

~~Vol. 4~~ ~~list.~~

- x First Report, Niagara District, 1906
- x Second Report, Trent District, 1906
- x Third Report, Lake Huron and Georgian Bay District, 1906
- x Fourth Report, Ottawa Valley and St. Lawrence River  
District, 1907
- x Fifth Report, Algoma, Thunder Bay and Rainy River  
Districts, 1907

Presented by Mr. J.R. Detwiler, son of D.B. Detweiler.

x Transferred to library.