ed them down the river, and the dam or water power would not have been of any use except for power for driving machinery other than saw mill machinery. The offal when manufacturing logs into lumber would have furnished sufficient fuel for all the power needed; in fact, the saw dust and bark now furnish fuel enough for the saw mills, so that a large per cent. of the offal from a mill is sold for fuel. The water power was of no special benefit to the lumbermen except to create slack water above the dam for storing and sorting logs, when bringing them down by river.

VALUE OF WATER POWERS

Water power has come to be one of the most valuable assets, I think, in this country, and should be utilized at every possible point, in that way encouraging manufacturing. No place obliged to use fuel for power can compete with villages or cities that have water powers. Of late, water power is used very generally to generate electricity for driving street railways, and interurban lines, and for lighting cities and running motors for all kinds of manufacturing. Eau Claire is especially well situated on account of the many places on the Eau Claire and Chippewa and Red Cedar rivers for storing water for power. There should be more dams for reservoirs on these rivers, to check the floods caused by melting snows and the extraordinary rains, so that the power-plants may have use of the stored water in the summer, when needed, and in the winter, when the streams are frozen by the severe weather we have. Reservoirs would supply the necessary water to maintain the power required for any and all kinds of manufacturing, and to a great extent prevent the low lands during flood-times from being submerged, and many times doing great damage. The benefits from improvements of our water power will be better appreciated in years to come. I am strongly of the opinion that Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls and Menomonie will become large manufacturing centers because of the cheap pow-

er they are able to develop and furnish for all sorts of manufacturing, for they will be in position to furnish power and light for different centers so much cheaper than these services can be rendered by creating power by the use of fuel, as many of our larger cities are obliged to do, where they have no water power.

POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

Nearly all of the electric power being used in Eau Claire for the street railway and the interurban lines, and the lighting of Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls and Menomonie is now brought from Cedar Falls dam, twenty-five miles west of here. A large number of motors are in use in Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls and Menomonie, for driving manufacturing concerns, and the demand for them is increasing all the time. The power the Chippewa Valley Railway, Light & Power Company has at the Dells dam is now being largely used by the paper mill, hence the power it is itself using here comes largely from Cedar Falls and Menomonie over a high tension line. Besides the power the company is bringing here, it is sending power to Red Wing, Minn., and it is about to close a contract to send enough more power over there to enable the Red Wing people to extend its lines to Lake City and Wabasha, where they have contracts with a few flour mills to drive them by electricity. They find it will be much cheaper for them to get electricity from here than to use fuel for steam to create power. The company is also figuring to run power to Altoona, and later on will probably build an interurban line to Altoona, and very likely another to Menomonie. It has now machinery installed at Cedar Falls to use only a quarter of the power available there. The dam is constructed for installing wheels as fast as power will be needed. The Chippewa Valley Railway, Light & Power Company has dam-sites on the Red Cedar river by which it can develop 25,000 to 30,000 horse-power whenever there is a market for it.

There is now being constructed on the Chippewa river, about twenty-five miles above Eau Claire, a concrete dam that