

First Water Report: Sebecook

From:

State of Maine

First Annual Report

State Water Storage Commission

January, 1911

## SEBECOOK RIVER

At Hartland, on West Branch, are two dams, the upper affording a head of about 6 feet and operating two wheels for a lumber and planing mill, which uses half the flow. The remaining water is carried farther downstream, and discharged under a head of 16 feet, with a second dam providing a fall of about 11 feet, used by the Linn Woolen Co. for the manufacture of shawls, rugs, dress goods, etc. This company has about 180 horsepower of wheels and 150 horsepower of auxiliary steam.

At Pittsfield, on West Branch, is a dam affording a head of about 11 feet, utilized by the Waverly Woolen Company, which has at least three wheels aggregating 300 horsepower and 250 horsepower of auxiliary steam (used only in times of very low water). About half a mile farther downstream is a privilege affording a fall of about 10 feet; one-third of the flow at this point is utilized by the Smith Woolen Company (one wheel of 60 horsepower and auxiliary steam of 85 horsepower), and the remainder of Robert Dobson & Co., manufacturers of woolen goods, who have 150 horsepower of wheels and 215 horsepower transmitted electrically from the Sebecook Power Company's plant near Burnham.

At Corinna, on East Branch, is a dam affording a head of 10 feet, used for a flour and grist mill, with wheels of about 90 horsepower installed.

At Newport, on East Branch, is the plant of the Newport Woolen Company, which utilizes a fall of about 10 feet, with 135 horsepower of wheels and 75 horsepower of auxiliary steam.

At Detroit, on East Branch, is a dam with head of about 12 feet, used for a lumber mill, with turbines of 250 horsepower.

Near Burnham Junction, on the main river, is a timber crib dam with masonry abutments, built in 1903, giving a head of about 27.5 feet. This is owned by the Seabasticook Power Company and used for generating light and power to be transmitted, mostly to Pittsfield at present. The plant is not yet fully developed; three pairs of wheels are installed, rated in the aggregate at about 800 horsepower, and the company has 400 horsepower of auxiliary steam. The minimum flow at this point is considered to be good for 1,200 horsepower.

At Clinton is a dam affording a head of about 6 or 8 feet, used for flour and grist and lumber mills. Wheels of about 200 horsepower are installed.

In the town of Benton, the Seabasticook Water Power Co. has a hydro-electric plant developing 1200 H.P.

At Benton Falls, a fall of 25 feet is utilized by the United Box Board & Paper Co., which has wheels of about 800 horsepower installed and manufactures wood-pulp board.

The Ft. Halifax Power Co. completed in the early part of 1908 a modern concrete dam and power house at the mouth of the river in Winslow. The machinery installation has a rated capacity of 2800 horsepower.