

St. John River system; proposed investigation by  
International Joint Commission

13. The Prime Minister reported that the Premier of New Brunswick had requested a study of the possibility of providing water storage on the upper reaches of the St. John River system. The main object would be to regulate the flow of the river below Grand Falls and make possible the construction of new hydro-electric power plants urgently needed in the Province. It was proposed, after informal discussions with officials of the New Brunswick Government, that the question be considered by the International Joint Commission and draft texts of a possible reference had been prepared and concurred in by the Premiers of New Brunswick and Quebec.

An explanatory memorandum had been circulated.

(Memorandum, Secretary of State for External Affairs, July 14, 1950 - Cab.Doc.180-50)

14. The Cabinet, after discussion, agreed that:

(a) the possibility of providing water storage on the upper reaches of the St. John River system be referred to the International Joint Commission; and

(b) the Commission be asked to indicate how interests on either side of the boundary would be affected; to estimate the costs of such projects and to indicate how these costs should be apportioned; the investigation to be limited to the St. John River system above Grand Falls.

Economic and Social Council session; further  
instructions to Canadian delegation

15. The Secretary of State for External Affairs reported that the Economic and Social Council now sitting at Geneva had before it two matters concerning refugees, namely:

(a) consideration of the report of the ad hoc Committee on Statelessness and Related Problems; and

(b) drafting of a Resolution of the General Assembly outlining the scope of the activities of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

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RG 2, A5a,  
Vol. 2645

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