

10. SITE OF WORKS

(1) The topography of the locality and the ground at the site of the works are of such a character as to render possible and of comparatively easy attainment the large power development contemplated at a quite reasonable cost.

(2) Your Committee is of the opinion that from the physical standpoint a power development on the south shore of the Soulanges section of the St. Lawrence River is fundamentally sound and that with proper safeguards and regulation a navigable canal can be developed synchronously with the power development and utilized as a link in the St. Lawrence Great Waterway, at a reasonable cost to the Dominion of Canada for locks and bridges.

(3) While the present plans are not in accordance with the proposals of the International Joint Board for this section of the river mentioned in their Report of 1926, nevertheless, in view of the amount of money already expended, and of the possibility, as we believe, of the utilization of this canal for navigation purposes, we think that from the navigation standpoint the scheme should not be abandoned.

Reference will now be made to those portions of the Report of the Commons Committee which affect specifically any Honourable Member of the Senate, the Senators so specifically named are Senator Wilfrid Laurier McDougald, Senator Andrew Haydon and Senator Donat Raymond.

SENATOR WILFRID L. McDOUGALD

The following extracts constitute a summary appearing in the Commons Report of the evidence and findings as affecting Senator McDougald. Beneath each extract will be found any comments or modifications of the findings of the Commons Committee which after having heard further evidence we feel it our duty to make.

PARAGRAPHS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

(1) Senator McDougald was first summoned to the Senate on the 25th June, 1926, but owing to the dissolution of Parliament was not then sworn in and his appointment lapsed. He was again summoned in October of that same year and was sworn in the following year. Since 1922, except for a short interval in 1926, until 1930, Senator McDougald occupied the position of Chairman of the Montreal Harbour Board and, as he stated in evidence, assumed a position of high responsibility in connection with the development of the St. Lawrence Deep Waterway.

This Committee finds that this is correct, except that Senator McDougald was summoned to the Senate June 25, 1926, and took his seat 9th December, 1926, and not as stated in the said paragraph.

(2) In May, 1924, the then Dr. McDougald was appointed a member of the National Advisory Committee, whose membership included the Honourable G. P. Graham, as Chairman, and Honourable Clifford Sifton, and several gentlemen interested in existing hydro-electric power developments.

(3) On the 20th April, 1928, Senator McDougald was appointed a member of the Special Committee of the Senate to inquire into and report from time to time on the matter of the development and improvement of the St. Lawrence River for the purposes of navigation and production of electric current and power and matters incidental to such a project. That Committee held several meetings in the month of May, 1928, and to which reference will be made more specifically hereafter.