

United States does not renege on the assurances it has already given us that it will not undertake any work in connection with the Garrison project that might have a damaging effect on waters flowing into Canada." The United States assurances, she said, were also based on the recommendations of the 1977 report by the International Joint Commission, particularly its main recommendation that construction of those parts of the Garrison which might affect waters flowing into Canada be "put on hold."

Mrs. Beauchamp-Niquet brought the House up-to-date on the Canadian representations with regard to the Lonetree dam:

... on October 3 of this year, the Canadian Government, in a memorandum to the Department of State, specifically deplored the fact that the contract for construction of the Lonetree dam, the main work of the Garrison project's water distribution network, was awarded on August 24, 1983, before consultations scheduled by the International Joint Commission were finalized and agreement was reached by both Governments. This Government was particularly critical of the U.S. step because it was taken after a meeting of representatives of both Governments in Ottawa on July 20 of this year to discuss technical aspects of Canadian concerns about some of the project works, on the basis of plans and technical specifications that had been submitted to the Canadian side. At the meeting, a substantial amount of useful information was exchanged and resulted in a fruitful discussion that seemed to prepare the ground for a high level consultative meeting equally productive that both governments intended to have in September . . .

The Canadian Government did inform the United States that it appreciated the general assurances given on various occasions by the Administration, as well as the qualification tied to the last estimates approved to this date by Congress for the 1984 fiscal year that no monies earmarked under the current commitments of Congress shall be used for the completion of sections of the Garrison diversion project in North Dakota that could pollute, introduce foreign biota into or unduly increase or decrease the volume of water flowing into Canada. [The Government] must make sure that the general guarantees given by the United States at the ministerial level will translate into technical assurances and guarantees included in the specifications for the Garrison project.

Mrs. Beauchamp-Niquet added that the Government was cooperating with officials from the US State Department and Department of the Interior in order to monitor, clarify and resolve specific issues of a technical nature raised by the Canadian representatives. However, despite a very useful exchange of information during the bilateral meeting of experts held in Ottawa on July 20, Canada had not yet received any answers to some of its major concerns about the impact of the project on the flow of water into the Hudson's Bay basin. Consequently, she said, the Government had decided "to officially submit to the State Department a final list of technical issues of concern for Canada in connection with the Garrison project," including technical alterations to the works provided under Phase One.

### Acid Rain Keeps Falling . . .

On October 19 and 20 Opposition Member Ed Broadbent (NDP, Oshawa) and John Fraser (PC, Vancouver South), raised the issue of acid rain "which is destroying our buildings, killing our lakes and doing untold harm to our citizens." Environment Minister Charles Caccia told both of them that "we have already moved toward the reduction of acid rain emissions by 25 percent . . . We are anxious to move with the Americans because we know that the ultimate objective of twenty kilograms per hectare per year can only be achieved together . . . We are anxiously waiting for them to be ready with a plan so that we can start negotiations, get a treaty going and reach our objectives together."

Ontario and Quebec were both participating in that effort and the Minister reminded the House that Ontario had set "objectives of 43 percent for Ontario Hydro and had reduced standards of emissions for INCO." Any final solution would depend, however, on the United States. "That," the Minister stated, "is corroborated by a statement made yesterday [October 19] by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, James Medas, who said that Canada cannot begin solving its own acid rain problems without a joint policy with the USA."

On November 4, Mr. Fraser asked External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen if he had been able to give Secretary of State George Schultz or EPA Administrator William Ruckelshaus any commitment as to when Canada would proceed to a 50 percent reduction of sulphur emissions. Mr. MacEachen told him that "in order to achieve the proper reductions of sulphur emissions, it requires coordinated action between the US and Canada" and that while the federal Government and the provinces had reached agreement on a target, the US at the time of the meeting in Halifax had not yet been in a position "to indicate what would be their proposals . . . Therefore, a point plan or a joint agreement could not be reached."

On November 18 Environment Minister Caccia told Mr. Fraser that he had raised the issue of acid rain with Mr. Ruckelshaus in Indianapolis on the previous day. "I have asked him where, and when, he thinks he would be able to put forward a proposal which would be acceptable to his administration. It seems to me that at this point . . . the issue of acid rain between Canada and the US is becoming a leadership issue which the President of the United States must resolve himself in order to come to a decision. The administration is divided on this matter."

Mr. Caccia was not asked, nor did he make any reference to a Southam News report from Washington on November 15 (*The Citizen*, November 15) which said that the National Clear Air Coalition, a collection of United States environmental groups, had charged on November 14, that the EPA was planning to relax an important regulation governing sulphur dioxide emissions. The group, according to the report, had said that the effect of the "change governing new-generation power plans would be to increase by as much as 50 percent allowable emissions by some plants."

Bruce Jutzi, First Secretary in the Canadian Embassy's environment section and spokesman for the Embassy, said that the Government was aware of the proposed rule change and that it would likely present a diplomatic note to the State Department "within three or four days" requesting an official explanation. "We view this