

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES



INFORMATION DIVISION
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HISTORIC DEVELOPMENTS ON ST. LAWRENCE

An address by Mrs. Ellen L. Fairclough, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, at the dinner on International Day, July 4, 1958, during the St. Lawrence Seaway inundation ceremonies, Cornwall, Ontario.

You are today celebrating the completion of one of the most important stages in the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project. With the creation of the huge body of water above Cornwall, the hydro authorities on both sides of the International boundary have a supply of potential power which will undoubtedly have most beneficial results in the development of the industrial area of Eastern Ontario and adjoining New York State.

With the filling of the huge reservoir which has been created out of the St. Lawrence Valley, a water head has now been reached which should soon be turning over the huge turbines in the power houses built by the Ontario Hydro Commission and the New York State Power Authority. The benefits of this additional power will undoubtedly be felt locally as well as throughout the hydro grill which covers this province.

Various Canadian and American public and governmental bodies have been involved in this week's operations. The Department of Transport has been concerned with the handling of shipping and the dismantling of the old canal system. Also involved have been the Ontario Hydro Commission and its U.S. counterpart, the New York State Power Authority; the St. Lawrence Seaway Power Authority and its American counterpart, the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

I suggest we try to look at this week's happenings in perspective in order to appreciate fully the significance of these historic developments.