

## THE COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY, PROTOCOL AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

The basic documents which outline the proposals for a co-operative development of the resources of the Columbia River basin are the Treaty signed in January 1961, the Protocol and proposed Terms of Sale which were signed in January 1964 and the British Columbia-Canada Agreements signed in July 1963 and January 1964. A very brief look at these documents is desirable at this point in the presentation and a more detailed analysis of the documents is given in the Appendix to this paper.

### 1. The Columbia River Treaty

The basic Treaty for the development of the Columbia River was described in detail by the Prime Minister of Canada in a Press Release on the date of signing, January 17, 1961. That Press Release is contained in Hansard for January 18, 1961 and is reproduced on pages 82 to 97 of a White Paper on the Columbia River which was tabled in Parliament on March 2, 1964.

The main features of the twenty-one Articles and two Annexes of the Treaty are as follows:

- (a) Canada is to build within a nine-year period storage projects in the Columbia River basin in Canada at the Arrow Lakes, Duncan Lake and Mica Creek sites. Plate 2, a map of the northern portion of the Columbia River basin, shows the locations of these projects. These projects will control a very large amount of storage of which a part (though by no means all) will be committed for operation on agreed terms to produce power benefits downstream in the United States which will be shared equally between the two countries as well as substantial benefits in and for Canada itself. Some of this storage will also be operated to provide flood control, and payments totalling at least \$64,400,000 (U.S.) and possibly \$71,900,000 (U.S.) will be made to Canada for flood damage prevented in the United States.
- (b) The United States is to operate all its existing hydroelectric plants in the basin and any new projects on the main stem of the river so as to make the best use of the Canadian storage and therefore produce the maximum amount of power benefits possible for sharing by the two countries.