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THE AMERICAS

1. The United States

After half a century of study by Canada and the United States, and three decades of negotiation, construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project began in 1954.

The arrangements made in 1952, after the International Joint Commission had approved joint development of power in the International Rapids Section by the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission and the New York State Power Authority, were revised in 1954 after the passage by the United States Congress in May of the Wiley-Dondero bill authorizing and directing construction on United States territory of the 27-foot navigation facilities required between Lake Ontario and Massena, New York. Discussions with United States representatives took place during July and August. Under the 1952 arrangements Canada had undertaken to construct or complete (at a total estimated cost of about \$261,000,000) 27-foot facilities in the Welland Canal; in the Canadian section of the St. Lawrence, at Lake St. Francis, Beauharnois, and Lachine; and in the international section, in the Thousand Islands area, at Iroquois, and at Barnhart Island. By agreement reached on August 17, 1954, Canada will be relieved of its obligation to widen channels in the Thousand Islands area and to construct forthwith a 27-foot canal and locks at Barnhart Island, costing about \$2,000,000 and \$70,000,000 respectively. Canada will build all the facilities in the Canadian section mentioned above, and the canal and lock at Iroquois in the international section. The Canadian Government has expressed the hope that the United States will not build duplicate facilities at Iroquois at this time.

The two governments recognized, in the exchange of notes of August 17, 1954, that it was of great importance to both that the seaway be used to the maximum extent, and they therefore agreed to use their best endeavours to avoid placing unreasonable restrictions on the transit of passengers, shipping or trade in the international section of the seaway. They also agreed to consult before the enactment of any new law, or the promulgation of any new regulation, applicable on either side of the international section, which might affect shipping registered in Canada, the United States, or any other country. It was also agreed that either government could request consultation "with respect to any laws or regulations now in force in either country which affect the shipping interests of the other country in the international section".

Construction of the power works began shortly after the United States Supreme Court on June 7 denied to a challenger of the New York State Power Authority's license a petition for a writ of *certiorari*, thus ending litigation in the United States. Canada has begun work preliminary to construction of the new canal and lock at Iroquois. It is expected that both the power and seaway projects will be completed by the end of