

appear and are accepted. Meanwhile, it will be well to remember the vastness of the issues which are being determined and the vital consequences which the decisions will have on the future of industrial development in the Columbia and its placement, whether in Canada or the U.S.A. It will be well also not to forget the topographical advantages which, by divine providence, have been given to Canada and which are assets just as real for us as are the minerals from our mines and the products of our fields and forests.

North of the Columbia there lies the basin of the Fraser, where one of its tributaries, the Netchako, is in process of being dammed to create a great lake whence water will be carried by tunnels through the coastal range to be dropped into the sea at Kitimat, generating perhaps a couple of million horsepower eventually. This great project is fortunately national in character, and in consequence the IJC is not involved.

Projects of similar character are now under study in the Northwest Territories and Yukon, where the headwaters of the Yukon River, to mention one example, would be dammed back and diverted to advantageous sites of high head on the steep western slopes of the coastal range. The particular sites now contemplated are fortunately in Canada. Equally fortunately, under the provisions of Article II of the Treaty of 1909, which was adopted on the special insistence of the then Secretary of State of the United States, there is no doubt that Canada has full jurisdiction to dam and divert the Yukon River and its tributaries in Canada. In consequence, these great projects to divert waters through mountain ranges to gain heads which on the aggregate may amount to several thousand feet, involve no international complications whatever.

However, there are other sites in the territory of Alaska which, if adopted, would raise in the IJC in a very acute form the questions of allocation of benefits as between the owners of the head and the owners of the storage. An estimate of perhaps 6 million horsepower is involved in one of these alternative proposals alone.

I have mentioned some rather large figures of power to be generated and made available, but please do not think that this means there is going to be power in Canada which will be surplus and to spare. This is certainly not the case, for the most carefully-made predictions show that only a comparatively short time remains until we may expect that all our economically available hydro power will be in use....
