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# Bilateral Relations

## USA

### Seaway Tolls to Remain Same for 1984

On November 2 Transport Minister Lloyd Axworthy and United States Secretary of Transportation, Elizabeth Hanford Dole, announced that there would be no increase in the joint Seaway Tariff of Tolls for the 1984 season. In making the announcement Mr. Axworthy said that many Seaway users had suffered adversely in the last year and thus it was important to retain the existing tariff for the coming year.

He indicated that western Canadian grain producers, whose grain provides 52 percent of Seaway tonnage, would be the "major beneficiaries" of the freeze. "The Government of Canada received many representations from farm groups opposing increases at this time and this measure will help producers during this period of economic difficulty," the Minister added (Minister of Transport press release, November 2).

### Garrison Diversion Debated

On October 17, Environment Minister Charles Caccia told Terry Sargeant (NDP, Selkirk-Interlake) that "in conjunction with our Secretary of State for External Affairs, we made representations on the Garrison proposal both on Phase One and Phase Two. We registered Canadian concerns very strongly and very firmly once again . . . Yesterday [October 16] we obtained agreement to a meeting to be held in Washington between Canadian and American officials in November. They will work out a number of irritants related to Phase One."

On November 2, the House debated Mr. Sargeant's Private Member's Motion of February 9, 1981 which stated:

That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should consider the advisability of taking those measures necessary to ensure that there is no damage caused to the Manitoba environment by the completion of the Garrison Diversion Unit in the State of North Dakota and, that such measures to be considered could include:

1. The convening of a joint meeting between provincial, state and federal authorities affected by the Garrison project;
2. The offer of legal and technical assistance to those citizens' groups in Canada now attempting to halt the progress of the Garrison Diversion; and

3. The bringing to trial in the World Court, the government of the United States, should Canada be unsuccessful in its efforts to receive satisfactory assurances regarding the future safety of her environment.

Dan McKenzie (PC, Winnipeg-Assiniboine) was the first speaker. He began by saying that it was too late for any of the three measures suggested in Mr. Sargeant's motion as "The United States has made it perfectly clear that it is going to complete the Garrison Diversion and to get assurances that it would not continue without further consultation.

He said that if the United States proceeded with the Garrison "a multimillion dollar Canadian industry [fishing] will be destroyed simply by changing the direction in which the river water flows." The International Joint Commission had already warned that the introduction of foreign species of fish into Lake Winnipeg would result in a major reduction in the more highly valued species. In addition, the project, if completed, would violate the 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty: "— waters herein defined as boundary waters and waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted, on either side to the injury or health or property on the other side."

Bill Blaikie (NDP, Winnipeg-Bird's Hill), after informing the House of "allegations which emanate from the US and involve bogus scientific information as distributed by the Department of the Interior" (also referred to by Terry Sargeant during Question Period on October 17), moved an amendment to the motion, an addition which became item Number Four. It read as follows:

The Canadian Government do everything in its power to investigate charges that falsified information has been used in preparing U.S. environmental assessments relating to wetlands and wildlife habitats in North Dakota and that, further, the Government do everything in its power to ensure that no falsified information has been used which might result in adverse environmental effects to Manitoba's waterways.

Suzanne Beauchamp-Niquet, Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, assured the Manitoba MPs that the Government was very aware of the risk of damage to the ecosystem of Manitoba by the present plans for the Garrison Diversion project. Consequently, she said, it had taken steps "to ensure that the

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