

the Province of Ontario, a few miles east of the City of Cornwall; thence for a distance of 115 miles it runs westerly through the middle of the river in what is known as the International Rapids section. Hence, in order to develop the St. Lawrence, it is necessary to seek the concurrence of the United States.

What is the proposed Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway?

It is a 1,200-mile channel, 27 feet or more in depth, extending from Montreal to the head of the Great Lakes. Together with the St. Lawrence Ship Channel, already provided by Canada, it will create a 2,000-mile route from the Atlantic Ocean to the heart of the North American continent. Its proponents seek the deepening of the present channel in order to allow 25-foot craft to carry their cargoes through the St. Lawrence River up to the Great Lakes and conversely to permit large Great Lakes freighters to reach Montreal. Coupled with this is the development on a joint basis of 2,200,000 horsepower in the international section of the St. Lawrence River with the power equally divided between the two countries.

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway should be distinguished from the St. Lawrence Ship Channel which is a channel extending from Montreal easterly to a point 30 miles below Quebec. This channel was deepened by the Federal Government for the purpose of providing safe navigation for ocean-going vessels from deep water to Montreal. It has a depth of 35 feet at extreme low water and it will provide a link with the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway when the latter is completed.

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway is but a small part of what is known as the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin. This is a vast drainage system covering an area of 678,000 square miles, 493,000 of which are in Canada and 185,000 in the United States. It includes Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, together with all the tributary rivers and streams, the most important of which are the St. Lawrence River, the Ottawa River, the St. Maurice River and the Saguenay River. The height of land in Canada at the northern limit of this drainage area averages about 1,800 feet above sea level.

You will therefore immediately appreciate the economic significance of this vast drainage basin comprising a potential waterway, together with a potential reservoir of white power in an area of Canada where no coal or black power is available.

What does the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway consist of?

It consists of five steps which are its chief assets and its chief liabilities.

Chief assets, because they contain 9 million horsepower of electrical energy, most of which is undeveloped. Chief liabilities, because these steps have to be levelled out in order to permit 25-foot craft to ply from one end of the seaway to the other. The five steps are: