

gives the commission absolute jurisdiction. Is the Canadian section, or the government, or the department, negotiating with reference to the matter of illegal diversion of waters, thus lowering lake levels and doing damage to navigation on the great lakes?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The commission is not dealing with the subject of the lake levels. The matter was dealt with in the St. Lawrence treaty, and it would be that treaty that would govern.

Mr. BENNETT: I think what the hon. member for Broadview was referring to is whether or not any action has been taken or is contemplated by the government of the United States in connection with that agreement which was arrived at between Canada and the United States in connection with the scenic beauty of Niagara falls. It will be remembered that we ratified the agreement, but it was thrown out by the United States senate. Then it was resubmitted, and I am not familiar with what has happened since. I was rather curious to know whether or not any action has been taken, because pieces of rock have fallen off from the face of the falls since then; there has been a gradual destruction by nature of the face of the fall itself. The Prime Minister will remember that Hon. Charles Stewart was then Minister of the Interior, and he negotiated the agreement. He felt then that it was a matter of considerable urgency, and I rather agreed with him. We endeavoured to get it disposed of, but we had no better success than the right hon. gentleman. I was wondering whether it has been cleaned up since then or is in process of being disposed of.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The United States government has presented to our government the point of view that all these waterways matters should be dealt with more or less as one in connection with a coordinated plant. It would involve consideration of questions of diversion and levels, power, scenic beauty and the like, wherever they arise from the head of the lakes to the St. Lawrence, and along its international course. Thus far it has not been possible to reach agreement between the two countries as to proceeding only in that way.

Item agreed to.

Representation abroad, including ministers plenipotentiary, secretaries and staff, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Civil Service Act or any of its amendments—further amount required, \$60,000.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: This item is to make provision for the legations which it

[Mr. Church.]

is intended to open in Belgium and Holland. There will be the one minister but two offices. Details are given on page 28 of the supplementary estimates.

As hon. members are aware, it is over ten years since Canada first established a legation at Washington, and we have since established legations in Paris and Tokyo. It has been felt that we ought to extend our diplomatic service somewhat, and our business interests with Belgium and Holland are greater than those with any other countries in Europe or other parts of the world other than those in which we have legations at the present time. For that among other reasons we felt that the next legations to be opened should be in Belgium and Holland. It is customary in the case of many countries to have one minister represent his own country in two different countries.

Mr. BENNETT: South Africa does.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes. The Irish Free State, although it took action subsequently to Canada, has now legations in seven foreign capitals, and South Africa has legations in eight. This will bring our number to five. I might point out that the countries comparable with our own in the matter of population such as Argentina, Belgium, the Netherlands and Sweden, have from thirty-seven to fifty-two posts abroad.

Mr. BROOKS: Will the Prime Minister tell us in which city the legation will have its headquarters; will it be in Holland or in Belgium?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: At Brussels and at the Hague. There will be two offices, but the one minister will be named as minister to both. A chargé d'affaires will act for him in the one country during his absence in the other country.

Mr. BENNETT: It is perhaps in connection with this item that I should have made the observations I did in connection with promotions in the service. I can only express the hope that it may be possible to find a place for one of the members of the service as minister at Brussels and the Hague. I believe there are within the service itself a number of men who are qualified by their long experience to fill with distinction such an appointment and thereby indicate, at least, that there is a career in that branch of the public service.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I should like to add, in connection with the legation at Brussels, that it will be recalled that a year or two ago the Belgian government sent a distinguished representative to Canada. Bel-