

magnify and enlarge through controversy to an extent which would create issues and disputes to alarm and embitter public opinion in either country, thus making their eventual solution increasingly difficult.

In the brief time at my disposal tonight, it is not of course possible to give you any comprehensive description of the detailed provisions of the Treaty of 1909 under authority of which the work of the International Joint Commission is carried on, nor can I give you an account of the three score and more of cases which, during the 42 years of its existence, have come to the Commission either in the form of references on matters of wide interest on which the governments required recommendations as to the policy which should be adopted, or as applications for the construction and operation of particular works where the Commission's conclusions take the form of an "order".

I have thought that, rather than attempt to cover these matters generally, it might prove more interesting and acceptable if I were to take several of the issues which are current, and then give you a more specific description of what is involved and how the solutions are being worked out. To this end, I propose to mention the studies which are now approaching a conclusion in the Saint John River basin in New Brunswick, Maine and Quebec, as a fine example of that spirit of close co-operation and sympathetic understanding of the difficulties and points of view of those concerned on either side which is a characteristic of the Commission's various engineering boards and other groups whose task it is to advise upon the technical aspects of the questions remitted to them for study and report.

I will then refer to the situation in the International Section of the St. Lawrence in regard to the development of power, and the addition of works for navigation, as these proposals presently stand as a consequence of the Commission's order of October 29, 1952, and of subsequent developments. I will include some observations relevant to the levels of Lake Ontario, which is a subject inherently related to the St. Lawrence.

Then I propose to mention very briefly the remedial works at Niagara for the preservation and enhancement of the scenic beauty of the Falls, which is a matter on which the Commission has just been able to render a unanimous report to the two governments.

Then, finally, I will conclude with a short account of the acute problems which are before the Commission under the Columbia River Reference of March 9, 1944. These are problems for which no acceptable solutions have yet been found, and I think you will be interested to know, objectively, the points of view which have been expressed, and between which we will continue to seek for an equitable agreement which will be mutually acceptable.

This schedule leaves out many current problems of great importance, such as those of tidal power in the Bay of Fundy - the suppression of pollution in the connecting channels of the Great Lakes - the pollution of the air by smoke and industrial fumes over Detroit and Windsor - the problems of flood control and minimum flows of the Red River, and of irrigation in southern Alberta and northern Montana.