

- 10 -

10. In the course of discussion it was pointed out that, if improvements in rivers flowing across inter-provincial boundaries or constituting the boundary between two provinces were declared to be works for the general advantage of Canada, certain doubts would arise as to what jurisdiction the provinces claimed over such works. There might also be demands for the Federal government to assume financial and administrative responsibility for such works once Parliament asserted its jurisdiction over them. In the circumstances, it appeared preferable to have the new legislation apply only to rivers flowing across the international boundary. Even on this limited basis, however, particular care should be exercised to ensure that the legislation did not, in any way conflict with the provisions of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909.

11. The Cabinet agreed that the Department of Justice be instructed that the new proposed legislation to provide federal control over the construction of works, which interfered with the normal flow of rivers crossing international or interprovincial boundaries, should be restricted to rivers crossing the international boundary, and that particular care should be taken to ensure that the various provisions of the legislation did not, in any way conflict with international obligations Canada had assumed under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 or otherwise.

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; staff reductions in International Service

12. Dr. McCann, referring to discussion at the meeting of May 27th, 1954, said that as a result of the decision to reduce the International Service of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, a substantial number of C.B.C. employees would soon have to be released.

He had advised the management of the Corporation that no public statement should be made in this connection and that the necessary staff reductions should be effected gradually and without publicity.

13. The Cabinet noted with approval the report by Dr. McCann on the staff reductions to be made by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in implementing the decision of May 27th, 1954, to reduce the Corporation's International Service.

Canadian coal; subventions on purchases by railways

14. The Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys referred to the decision at the meeting of March 10th, 1954, that the subvention on C.P.R. purchases of Canadian coal be calculated on the basis of a 5-mill rate with a maximum

RG 2, A5a,
Vol. 2656

Privy Council Office
Bureau du Conseil privé

National Archives of Canada
Archives nationales du Canada

001730