

Mr. LANGFORD: Oh, yes, it is far beyond anything expected of them in the first instance.

Mr. AIKEN: Would you feel that the magnitude of the problem of the great lakes as an international problem would justify the creation of a new body to which both federal, provincial, and state governments might delegate some authority at least to co-ordinate the whole problem of the great lakes? Is there enough there to justify such a move?

Mr. LANGFORD: I must admit that this is getting into a realm in which I have had very limited experience. But I do know that the Canadian Institute of International Affairs has become very much interested, and they are setting up a group of lawyers and people of experience in that line to study this particular problem. I have been assisting them in any way that I could. I think they could give you a far more reasonable answer than I could, since I am not a lawyer.

Mr. AIKEN: Thank you, Dr. Langford. I know there are many others who wish to ask you questions.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Hahn, you are next.

Mr. HAHN: I just want to look at one phase of the problem of regulation, recognizing that many other problems exist. You feel without a lot of hearings and further work that the problem has been closely identified now so that we could proceed to start planning regulatory works which would be of definite benefit?

Mr. LANGFORD: I have not always been at a university. I have been in industry for many years, with a big mining company, and I really know what the procedure is. However, if I were in a mining company and met with this problem I would say that we now have enough information and that we should get on with the job.

Mr. HAHN: As I understand your thesis, you would put in regulatory works which would protect Montreal, and you would put in regulatory works which would protect lakes Michigan and Huron, and they could be designed to stop the water up at times of low water, and open it wide to cope with flood conditions, and by this means we could control within reasonable limits the level of the whole system.

Mr. LANGFORD: Yes, but that is not my thought. This is what the law hopes, and those who speak with some authority.

Mr. HAHN: You also indicated that in order to achieve this at times of low water we would have to pay the penalty of reduced flows through the system, hence the loss of power. But you cannot have everything.

Mr. LANGFORD: That is right.

Mr. HAHN: We have been given the information that it takes a very long time for the factor of lake precipitation or increased evaporation to spread itself throughout the lakes. Do we have information available to us now which would enable a reasonable response to these factors? Can we determine, or can we in fact achieve, reasonably close controls?

Mr. LANGFORD: It is pretty well understood that it takes from two and one half to three years for releases from lake Superior to be effective at Montreal, with corresponding lesser time respecting the other lakes. This is why I am very anxious to see it pushed vigorously. It is a matter of being able to predict these supplies. So let us hope that six months in advance we can say that we are going to have an excess of water to deal with on lake Huron, so that the people in charge of the regulatory works may start letting water down. It is only when these two things have been maintained that we can at any time co-ordinate our works with the forecast.