

of resources can be developed and made use of to the greatest advantage, we well might wish that our forefathers had found some method other than the river line to express the political divisions they set up. But as matters stand, these have now become fixed, and cannot be changed, and so we have to accept the problems which are posed. And we must bend our minds to find, through co-operation, the methods which will give solutions equitably and to the full benefit of the peoples in either country who are affected.

Following the establishment of these early settlements along the seaboard, there ensued a population movement inward from the coast, developing in the middle of last century into successive waves in a crescendo of migration which rolled on, always westward, until the shores of the Pacific were reached.

The Mississippi and its tributaries in the great central plain, flowing generally from north to south, lay across this line of advance; and so the paths of travel were mostly overland by trails which were widely spread and ill-defined. In any event, the pace was far too rapid for the deliberate diplomatic processes which had led to river-line boundaries and those who sought to exercise sovereignty had to revert to the simpler technique, for them, of making use of the global concepts of parallels of latitude or degrees of longitude as the definitions of the separations of political ownership.

Difficult as river boundaries have proved to be in regard to the modern uses of the waters affected, the problems are simple compared to those which have resulted from this particular phase of the boundary-makers' activities; for the latitude and longitude boundaries, determined from the stars, run right across the natural configurations of the earth's surface with no attention to realities, and rivers great and small are required to cross and re-cross these imaginary lines with no regard whatever to the service or convenience of man.

And so, in the use of these waters and of the channels through which they flow - for navigation in trade and commerce, for domestic purposes and sanitation, for irrigation, for the generation of electric power, for fisheries, for the conservation of wild life, and for sport and recreation - by reason of all these uses, which have now become very important, other intricate problems have been set and these, like those along the river-line boundaries, cannot be evaded but must be solved through measures of co-operation in order that due benefit may be given to the peoples in both countries who are concerned.

These were the complex and vital needs which had to be met and which were very clearly in the minds of the plenipotentiaries who negotiated the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, on behalf of Canada and the United States. This treaty sought not only to rationalize and solve the particular questions then causing concern, but it seeks also for the future to dispel trouble and prevent disputes. This it does by providing, in the International Joint Commission, a continuing mechanism through which any problems along the boundary of whatever sort, not only of water, can be brought under review at their inception and, we hope, before danger might arise that these problems might