

in recognition of the arrangements that would then exist between Canada and the United States with respect to the Seaway Project.

The following day, the Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier, presented to the House a resolution for approval of this agreement. Accordingly, on December 7, the House went into committee on this resolution, which was discussed by Mr. Blackmore (SC, Lethbridge) and Mr. Gillis (CCF, Cape Breton South), read a second time and concurred in. Before the close of the sitting, Mr. Chevrier moved to introduce Bill No. 34, "respecting construction of works for the generation of electrical power in the International Rapids Section of the St. Lawrence River", which thereupon received its first reading. The second and third readings of this bill, and its passage, took place on December 12, when Mr. Adamson (PC, York West) and Mr. Knowles (CCF, Winnipeg North Centre) spoke on the subject.

St. Lawrence Seaway Authority

On December 4, the following resolution was presented by the Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier:

That it is expedient, for the purpose of providing a deep waterway between Montreal and Lake Erie, to create a corporation to be called "The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority" with power, *inter alia*, to expropriate; to construct, maintain and operate all necessary works; to borrow amounts not exceeding three hundred million dollars; to establish tariffs of tolls and to employ such officers and employees as may be required for the purposes of the Authority.

Mr. Chevrier discussed his resolution at some length,* and was followed on the same and subsequent days by a number of members of his own and Opposition parties.

On December 7, Mr. Chevrier moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 33, "to establish the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority". Accordingly, the bill was read for the first time. It received its second reading on December 11. The third reading and passage of the bill occurred on December 12.

Trade with the British West Indies

The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, made the following announcement on December 13:

The United Kingdom has now authorized extensions and additions to the British West Indies Trade Liberalization Plan, to take effect at the beginning of next year. Under this plan, limited quantities of traditional exports from dollar countries are being admitted to the markets of the British West Indies. It is estimated that some 650 firms have taken advantage of the present plan. The dollar value of the increased trade which will result from these new measures will not be large in total nor can it be estimated with any accuracy. For a number of Canadian exporters, however, it will provide a welcome opportunity to enter again into this trade. For others it will mean that increased quantities of their products will be admitted to those markets. All of this is definitely a step in the right direction. It is our great hope that further expansion will become possible in this trade in the future.

The British West Indies was the starting point for many of our manufacturers when they first looked abroad for export markets. There has been a tradition established of mutually advantageous trade. Because of the currency difficulties of the sterling area, British West Indian markets have unfortunately been closed to many of our goods since 1947. We have done our utmost in Canada, however, to provide a market for goods from the British West Indies, and from other countries in the sterling area, so that they might earn dollars with which to buy our goods. Canada has become a principal and substantial source of dollar earnings for these colonies. These efforts have obviously been recognized and appreciated in the United Kingdom, and I am happy to announce that we are now having increased opportunities being made available for Canadian goods in the British West Indies.

* For the text of Mr. Chevrier's remarks on his resolution, see page 20 of this issue.