

No. 31

*From The Prime Minister of Canada,
To The Premier of Quebec.*

OTTAWA, March 12, 1941.

MY DEAR PREMIER,—

I should like to invite your attention to certain aspects of the St. Lawrence Waterway negotiations, which my colleagues and I have discussed with you and with your colleagues recently. It seems to me that it is desirable to confirm understandings which will need to be carried out by the Governments.

2. The Canadian Government has under consideration an Agreement with the United States of America which will provide for the development of waterway projects in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin.

3. The Agreement will include within its scope:

- (a) provision for diversions into or from the Great Lakes System, subjecting them to a measure of international regulation and control;
- (b) provision for regulation and development at Niagara;
- (c) provision for deepening the Welland Canal;
- (d) provision for the development of the International Rapids Section of the St. Lawrence River;
- (e) provision for the development of the National Section of the St. Lawrence River;
- (f) ancillary provisions, including adequate protection for power and navigation interests in the St. Lawrence River below the international boundary line, and authority to enable the Governments to establish appropriate boards of control.

4. Appropriate arrangements are being made with the Government of Ontario, designed to insure a just apportionment of the rights and obligations arising out of the development of power in international waters bordering upon that Province and to give to the Province suitable representation on international boards dealing with matters in which that Province is interested.

5. Considering the project as a whole, and bearing in mind that it involves the undertaking of works in the National Section in which your province is directly concerned, as well as works in the International Section involving problems in which Quebec has an important interest, it seems to be desirable to settle, before a final agreement is made between Canada and the United States, any questions that might arise between the Government of Canada and your Government.