

many years considered that navigation and power should be developed concurrently in the international rapids section, it was thought advisable to place on record, on an international basis, the nature and extent of Canada's undertaking to provide an uninterrupted waterway between Lake Erie and the port of Montreal. That is the main purpose of the notes which were exchanged yesterday.

The Senate will recall that last September the Prime Minister and President Truman discussed the desirability of proceeding as quickly as possible with both the seaway and power phases of this project.

They agreed that it was desirable to proceed with both phases of the project as a joint undertaking by our two countries, but the Prime Minister informed the President that if this were not possible the Canadian Government was prepared to proceed alone with the construction of the seaway when appropriate arrangements were made for construction of the power phases of the project. The President promised to support this alternative proposal if it was not possible to obtain congressional approval for the joint undertaking at an early date; and, as honourable senators know, it has so far been found impossible to obtain that approval.

While we shall always welcome the co-operation of the United States in undertakings of this sort, which benefit the economies of both our countries, it is fitting that, on the eighty-fifth anniversary of confederation, we should have been able to take this major step toward the accomplishment of a goal which has, for

half a century, excited the imagination of so many Canadians. After many years of negotiation and working out of arrangements for co-operation in the joint enterprise with our great neighbour to the south, Canada is now prepared to construct, alone, this deep waterway which will link the ports of the Great Lakes with all the other seaports of the world.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

On the motion to adjourn:

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: Honourable senators appreciate the position in which this house now finds itself. We have concluded all the business that has so far come before us, and we are now awaiting the remaining legislation from the House of Commons, consisting of the usual Appropriation Bill and the bill for the redistribution of seats in that house. I am unable to forecast when this legislation will come to us, though it is hoped that it may reach us some time tomorrow afternoon. As honourable senators know, the House of Commons has been debating the bill for the redistribution of its seats for the last three days, practically without intermission. How long the debate will continue I am unable to guess. All that I can say at the moment is that for the time being the minds of honourable members of the House of Commons appear to be centred in their seats. In these circumstances, I think it would be better for us to reassemble at the ordinary time tomorrow afternoon.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.
