

to the treaty, the Canadian Government would consult at once with the provincial government of British Columbia, the province in which the Canadian portion of the river is located, with a view to proceeding promptly with the further detailed negotiations required with the United States and with the necessary action for approval within Canada. The President agreed that both governments should immediately undertake discussions on this subject looking to an early agreement.

These things have now been done. The way has been cleared for the completion of the necessary financial and related arrangements in the United States and the ratification of the Treaty by Canada.

Two Sets of Documents Signed

The primary purpose of the first set of documents signed today was to agree now on the clarifications and adjustments that would eliminate possible sources of controversy between the two countries in later years. These documents contain important, if rather technical, provisions regarding such varied matters as conditions governing flood control; the intention to complete arrangements for the initial sale of Canada's share of the downstream benefits at the time when ratifications of the Treaty are exchanged; the avoidance by Canada of stand-by transmission charges in the event of sales of downstream benefits in the United States; provision for co-operation in connection with the operation of the Libby dam in the light of the Canadian benefits from it; clarification regarding water diversions; the procedures relating to hydro-electric operating plans; the adoption of a longer stream flow period as a basis for calculating downstream power benefits; various matters relating to power-load calculations; adjustments to be considered in the event of the provision of flood control by Canada ahead of schedule; the avoidance of any precedent regarding waters other than those of the Columbia River basin; and clarification regarding the position of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909.

The other set of documents relates to the arrangements to be made for the sale of the Canadian entitlement to downstream power benefits for a period limited to 30 years. The arrangements which the two governments have agreed upon will be beneficial to the United States in facilitating the coming into force of the Treaty and thereby removing uncertainty about the availability of power and flood-control protection for the northwestern part of the United States for a considerable period of time. Equally, they will benefit Canada by removing uncertainty about the return to be received by Canada from the Columbia River development during the first 30 years after the completion of each dam.

The Treaty, together with the arrangements now being made, represents an important step in achieving optimum development of the water resources of the Columbia River basin as a whole, from which the United States and Canada will each receive benefits materially larger than either could obtain independently.

These arrangements fully respect the sovereignty and the interests of the two countries. As was said in the Hyannis Port communiqué, "close co-operation across the border can enhance rather than diminish the sovereignty of each country by making it stronger and more prosperous than before".