

beauty of the Niagara river and falls and the more effective use of the waters in the Niagara for power purposes and the building of a controlled single-stage project in the international rapids section of the St. Lawrence.

An agreement with the United States of America was signed at Ottawa at 2.40 this afternoon in the Prime Minister's office by the plenipotentiaries appointed by His Majesty the King in respect of Canada: myself as Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howe, Minister of Munitions and Supply, and Mr. Read, legal adviser of the Department of External Affairs; and by the plenipotentiaries appointed by the President of the United States of America: Mr. Moffat, the United States Minister to Canada, Mr. Berle, the Assistant Secretary of State of the United States, and Mr. Leland Olds, Chairman of the Federal Power Commission of the United States. This agreement covers the development of power throughout the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence basin and makes provision for a deep waterway from the head of the lakes to the harbour of Montreal. It also contains provisions dealing with and controlling diversions from the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence watershed and for the preservation of the scenic beauty at Niagara. Generally, its scope is similar to that of the Niagara convention of 1929, and the St. Lawrence Deep Waterway treaty of 1932.

The copy of the signed agreement for the President of the United States of America is being taken to Washington to enable the president to communicate it, in a formal manner, to the United States congress. The agreement will be formally brought to the attention of congress on the afternoon of Friday, the 21st. On the same day, when the House of Commons assembles, it will be communicated to the parliament of Canada together with the texts of the Canada-Ontario agreement, the texts of relevant correspondence between Canada and the United States from May, 1938, to the date of signature of these agreements, the texts of relevant correspondence with the governments of Ontario and Quebec during the same period, and a general plan of the power and navigation development in the international rapids section. In order to permit simultaneous publication in congress and in parliament, the agreements will not meanwhile be tabled.

By an exchange of correspondence tabled in the House of Commons at an earlier date, provision was made for the establishment by the two governments of temporary Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin committees, in order to make the engineering investigations that were necessary to expedite work on the project, in the event that the development was approved by parliament and by congress. Reports addressed to the President of the United States of America and to the Prime Minister of Canada have been submitted by these committees, which have been working in co-operation. These reports give the general description of the project, the recommendations of the committees and the estimates of costs.