

I think you will agree that we are doing our utmost.

In the United States a new Congress is sitting and a new executive has taken over. New proposals for United States participation in the seaway have been made. All I can say at this time is that, as we have already made clear, we would be glad to explore the possibility anew, providing that this does not delay the development of power under present arrangements and does not cause any serious delay in the completion of the whole waterway.

How will the project affect the area in the international section of the river?

It will change the whole front on both sides of the international boundary line, for a distance of fifty miles. The project approved of is what engineers term the 238-242 controlled single stage project. It consists of:

- 1 - A dam in the Long Sault Rapids and two power houses a short distance below this, one on the Canadian side, one on the American side, each capable of developing 1,100,000 horsepower. This dam will flood communities on both sides of the river and on the Canadian side for a distance of approximately thirty miles by a width of one to three or four miles.
- 2 - A control dam in the vicinity of Iroquois Point, the object of which will be to control the level of the pool and to protect the down river interests at Montreal.
- 3 - A side canal to carry navigation past the Long Sault Dam and a side canal to circumnavigate the control dam at Iroquois.
- 4 - Dikes where necessary.

The 238-242 single stage project means that after its completion, it will be 238 to 242 feet above sea level. The average elevation along the front from Cornwall to Prescott is 220 feet. It is easy then to visualize that upon completion, communities such as Mille Roches, Moulinette, Wales, Dickinson's Landing, Farran's Point, Aultsville, Iroquois and one-half of Morrisburg, will in some cases be from 18 to 22 feet under water. All along the front for a distance of thirty miles communities will be submerged. Farmhouses, schools, churches, cemeteries and homes will disappear. These, it is hoped, will rise again on the new shore line, where modern and up-to-date communities will relocate.

Is the project urgent from the point of view of defence?

From the point of view of national defence, I believe that the development of the St. Lawrence Deep Waterway is of the greatest importance. Without the construction of the Seaway, the large deposits of high grade iron ore in Labrador cannot be moved economically and expeditiously to the Great Lakes steel centres.