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No. 50.

P.C. 695

CERTIFIED copy of a Minute of a Meeting of the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General on the 29th April, 1924.

The Committee of the Privy Council, on the recommendation of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, advise that to the Committee on the St. Lawrence Waterway constituted under the Minute of the Privy Council (P.C. 386) of 10th March, 1924, there be added a representative from the Department of National Defence, to be selected by the Minister of National Defence, who may appoint an alternate member to act in the absence of his principal nominee.

E. J. LEMAIRE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

No. 51.

From His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to the Governor General
No. 167.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C., April 29, 1924.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's despatch No. 32 of the 10th ultimo¹ regarding the Joint Engineering Board in connection with the improvement of the St. Lawrence River, and to transmit to you herewith a copy of a note received from the United States Government in reply to the representations which I made on the 12th ultimo. A copy of my note of that date was enclosed in my despatch No. 103 of the same day.²

I have received a verbal communication from the State Department to the effect that the United States Government desire to release this note for publication at the earliest possible moment, and I should therefore be grateful if Your Excellency would inform me by telegraph, with the least possible delay, whether your Ministers concur in its publication.

I have, etc.,

(For the Ambassador)

H. G. CHILTON.

His Excellency

The LORD BYNG OF VIMY, G.C.B.,

etc., etc., etc.,

Governor General of Canada,
Ottawa.

¹ No. 35.
² No. 37.

ENCLOSURE IN No. 51

From the United States Secretary of State to His Majesty's Ambassador
at Washington

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, April 28, 1924.

EXCELLENCY,—In your note of March 12, 1924, you informed me further in regard to the views of the Canadian Government with reference

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to the proposal for joint action by the United States and Canada for the improvement of the St. Lawrence River between Montreal and Lake Ontario for navigation and the development of water power.

In pursuance of the intention of this Government, as stated in my note of February 27, 1924, the President has appointed a national committee of nine members having as its Chairman the Honourable Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, which will act as an advisory committee to this Government on all questions that may arise in the consideration of the project.

While regretting that the Canadian Government does not desire that the committees for the two Governments shall meet in joint conferences, at least at the outset, to prepare instructions for the enlarged joint engineering board and to consider the broader aspects of the project for the proposed development of the St. Lawrence waterway, this Government would be grateful if you would inform the Canadian Government that the National Committee for the United States will be prepared at all times to meet in conference with the Canadian Committee in the event that circumstances should develop which in the view of the Canadian Government would cause it to appear that joint conferences by the two committees or by representatives of the committees might be desirable for the consideration of any questions arising in connection with the project.

This Government is pleased to note that the Canadian Government concurs in its suggestion that the enlarged Joint Engineering Board shall consist of six members, three representing the United States and three representing Canada, and to accept the proposal of the Canadian Government that two technical officers be appointed by each Government for the purpose of formulating the terms in which the matters to be enquired into by the Board shall be defined.

The United States will be represented on the Joint Engineering Board by Colonel Edgar Jadwin, Colonel William Kelly, and Lieutenant-Colonel George E. Pillsbury, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. Colonel Jadwin and Lieutenant-Colonel Pillsbury will also act as technical officers for the United States in collaboration with the technical officers to be designated by the Canadian Government the instructions which will be given to the engineers.

This Government is also pleased to note the acceptance by the Government of Canada of the proposal of this Government that there shall be included in the first instructions to the Joint Engineering Board the two fundamental questions, whether the scheme for the improvement of the St. Lawrence River waterway which the Engineering Board submitted in its report of June 24, 1921, is practicable and whether the estimates of the costs of the project made by the Board require revision, and to agree to the suggestion made by the Dominion Government that amongst other matters the enlarged Board shall be directed to inquire into the extent to which the water levels in the St. Lawrence River at and below Montreal, as well as the river and lake levels generally, will be affected by the execution of the project.

It will, of course, be understood that the instructions drafted by the technical officers will be subject to review and approval by the appropriate officials of the respective Governments before they would be given to the Board of Engineers by the Governments in conformity with the remark made on that point in my note of February 27, 1924. In connection with such review and approval, the instructions drafted by the technical officers will be submitted by the officers for the United States to the National Committee for this Government.

This Government would be pleased to be informed at the early convenience of the Canadian Government of the names of the technical

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