

Dr. Wilfrid Laurier McDougald, Montreal, P.Q.
Honourable Sir Clifford Sifton, K.C.M.G., K.C., Toronto, Ontario.
Major-General John William Stewart, C.B., C.M.G., Vancouver, B.C.
Honourable Adelard Turgeon, C.M.G., C.V.O., Quebec, P.Q.

The Committee concur in the foregoing recommendation and submit the same for approval.

(Sgd.) E. J. LEMAIRE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: There seems to have been confusion always in the public mind as to the functions of that National Advisory Committee. It was in no sense international, held no meetings jointly with the similar committee of the United States Government. A committee was appointed on each side of the line to advise its own government whether this project, if carried out, would be beneficial to its own country. It had nothing to do with the other country.

Mr. MANN: That was the committee which was appointed by this government for the purposes which you have just mentioned.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: The reason I interject this is so that members of the committee will not be led astray in thinking that it had functions similar to the Joint Engineering Board. Each side appointed members of a joint engineering board that met internationally as well as nationally; but this board was simply for the Dominion Government.

Mr. MANN: Exactly. If I have created the impression otherwise I regret it. It was purely a Canadian order.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: It is a general impression.

Mr. MANN: Well, I may say it was a general impression with me for quite a number of hours before I discovered it, it became a particular impression later.

Now, sir, I want to say here that it will become necessary—in discussing this in chronological order of events—to name certain gentlemen who will be named throughout the investigations and throughout the evidence and throughout the reports. I merely mention them by name as part of the circumstance of the chronology and for no other purpose; but it becomes a necessity in order to follow the chronology from beginning to end and so that you may appreciate what many persons interested—and some honourable gentlemen interested—was the value of the water power project both from a navigation point of view and from a power point of view. And, in that respect, I go to the report of the National Advisory Committee, which is Exhibit 77. I am reading from page 19 of the exhibit, and the report of the majority of the committee. After all, it was the report; but there were observations given by two of the members of the committee in the form of a minority report. This is the observations of the majority of the committee at page 19, Section 4:—

We believe that if a reasonable time were permitted in which to enable the resultant power to be economically absorbed the development of this national section would be undertaken by private agencies able and willing to finance the entire work, including the necessary canalization, in return for the right to develop the power.

Then at top of page 21:—

For the same reasons which convince us that the development of the national section of the St. Lawrence should be entirely domestic, we feel that the Welland ship canal should continue to retain its purely Canadian complexion and be completed to whatever depth may ultimately be agreed upon, at the expense of Canada.