

## (G) INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND AGREEMENTS

### 1. ST. LAWRENCE WATERWAY PROJECT

#### (a) *Meeting of Canadian and United States Officials at Ottawa, 4th of January, 1940.*

On May 28, 1938, the Secretary of State of the United States addressed a note to the then Canadian Minister at Washington transmitting an informal and tentative draft of a proposed general treaty dealing with the utilization of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin. On December 26, 1939, Mr. Loring Christie, the Canadian Minister at Washington, transmitted a proposal to the Secretary of State of the United States that a meeting be held in Ottawa between members of the public services of the two countries for informal discussions to clarify a number of questions of detail preliminary to a consideration of the broader questions of policy involved. This invitation was accepted and the following United States officials left Washington for Ottawa on Saturday, January 6, to take part in the suggested discussions:

The Honourable Adolf A. Berle, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State.

The Honourable Leland Olds, Chairman, Federal Power Commission.

Mr. John Hickerson, Assistant Chief, Division of European Affairs, Department of State.

#### (b) *Visit of Canadian Officials to Washington, 23rd of January, 1940.*

Negotiations were continued in Washington after the arrival in that city on January 21st of a Canadian Delegation headed by Dr. O. D. Skelton, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The following is a statement issued by the Secretary of State of the United States on the arrival of the Canadian Delegation in Washington:

"We are glad to welcome Dr. Skelton, the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, and his colleagues, who have come to Washington for the purpose of continuing negotiations for a new treaty providing for the development of the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes Basin.

"Both Canada and the United States have been interested in this development for many years. The treaty which was negotiated covering this subject in 1932 met with certain objections; and as a result, both the Canadian Government and ourselves decided to reopen the negotiations on a new basis, looking towards the conclusion of a new treaty dealing with the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin as a whole.