

C129030

- 4 -

4. The general picture of conditions in the Kootenay and Columbia is one in which all pressing problems have been dealt with and in which all problems that are not urgent but likely to be important in the next year or so, are well under way.

It has been the view of the Canadians interested, that it is most desirable that there should be a general over-all reference of the Kootenay-Columbia problems to the International Joint Commission. On the other hand, it has been the view of the Canadian interests that no action should be taken by the Canadian authorities with a view to such a reference, because the taking of the initiative would involve a loss of bargaining position.

There can be no real doubt that Canadian interests would be in a better position if the United States asked for the reference. This is particularly true in so far as storage is concerned. For example, a project for storage in the Arrow Lakes at the present time would be welcomed by United States interests, if the Canadian Government proposed to pay for the storage. If, on the other hand, it was proposed that the United States Government would pay its proportionate share of the storage, it would mean practically all of it, ^{so} it is certain that the United States authorities would oppose it at this stage.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
(M.G. 26, J 4, volume 182, pages C128861-C129464)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA