

an additional reason for early construction in the interest of defence. The Board, after searching analysis, stated the project would increase military potential out of all proportion to expenditure in manpower and critical materials, much of which would be required to be used in any event as additional power had to be provided.

Having in mind these considerations and reaffirming its previous Recommendations for the construction of the St. Lawrence project for navigation and power, the Board recommended:

"That the two Governments take immediate action to implement the 1941 St. Lawrence Agreement as a vital measure for their common defence."

Thus there is now on the public record the advice of the two bodies which have been created by Canada and the United States jointly to consider matters of mutual interest and concern along our boundary both for Peace and for Defence. The International Joint Commission, established under the Waterways Treaty of 1909, and the Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence, set up by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister King at Ogdensburg in August 1940, have both recommended - repeatedly - that the St. Lawrence project for navigation and power should be built - and promptly.

As the matter stands the resolution of the PJBD is directed to the implementation of the 1941 Agreement but I have no reason to doubt that this Board will be equally in favour of the alternative now being proposed by the Government of Canada. What the PJBD has pointed out is that the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project is now necessary; it has not concerned itself in any way with the arrangements by which this desirable dual objective may be fulfilled.

As regards the International Joint Commission, this body, as I have said, made favourable recommendation on the project in 1921, and further action must await an application from the two Governments covering the works on either side needed to be built in the International Section of the river.

I regret that the time available to me does not permit me to deal with some of the other very important matters concerning the boundary waters south of the Province of Ontario, such as the preservation of the scenic beauty of Niagara and the abatement of pollution in the connecting waters of the Great Lakes, which are being dealt with by the International Joint Commission, but I would say that in these and all other matters which are before the Commission we seek, as we have been instructed in the Treaty to seek, to dispel any differences which may arise before they may magnify and thus cause trouble on the border; we seek also to proceed in equity, to recognize the equality of the interests and the rights of Canada and the United States and to promote the mutual advantage in all matters which are remitted to the Commission for investigation or which come before it for decision, as the case may be; and I claim for the Permanent Joint Board on Defence a like attitude of close co-operation and intimate association in working for the solution of the problems which give us both great concern for our Defence, particularly in these dangerous times.