

Canada, U. S. in Agreement On Location of Four Dams

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Washington Correspondent

Washington - (Special) - Canada and the United States have at last reached a tentative agreement on where to build four big dams on the upper Columbia river system and how to split the power benefits.

This agreement, expected to be formally announced next week possibly, is considered by officials here of great significance and value to the Pacific Northwest states.

The tentative agreement calls for the United States to build Libby dam in western Montana, and for Canada to build Mica creek and Arrow lakes dams, both of them major storage projects on the upper Columbia in British Columbia. Canada will probably also build Duncan lake dam, a smaller project north of Kootenay lake.

The benefit of all these upstream dams with big reservoirs is that they will make possible greater kilowatt production at the various dams already built or abuilding in the Columbia river as it winds its way to the sea. All these downstream dams are in the United States.

Will Split Power
Under the agreement, the United States will split with Canada the extra power attributable to the construction of Mica creek and Arrow lakes storage dams by Canada. So half of the energy will be retained in the Bonneville system for delivery to Pacific Northwest customers and the other half will be delivered back into British Columbia for Canadian use.

Informed sources estimated that this would result in an additional 2.5 million kilowatts of firm power at virtually no extra cost, simply because the big federal dams on the lower Columbia such as McNary dam were equipped with extra generators to be used chiefly when upstream storage dams were built.

Negotiators representing both governments have been holding frequent meetings since the first of this year. Their next meeting is at Ottawa on Sept. 26, at which time it is expected they will work out final details and prepare to announce the terms of the new pact. At present officials of both governments are remaining discreetly silent about the agreement except for consultations with interested groups within and outside the government.

Detailed Information
Representatives of the electric utility industry in the Pacific Northwest have been given detailed information on the proposals and the affect of them in the region. This

was regarded as necessary or wise in view of the benefits that will accrue to such non-federal dams on the Columbia in Washington state as Priest Rapids, Rocky Reach and Wanapum. These have been built by combinations of public power agencies, but with financing made possible by contracts for sale of energy to private power companies.

Even if the agreement is buttoned up next week in Ottawa, it might be another year before construction of any of these dams could begin. First a formal treaty will have to be drafted and submitted to the Senate at Washington, to the parliament at Ottawa and to the British Columbia legislative assembly for triple ratification.

Once these legal steps have been taken, funds will have to be advanced for construction. The Army Corps of Engineers will build Libby dam, as authorized by Congress in 1950. But Congress will have to put up the money in next year's appropriations bill for public works.

It will take five to six years to complete Libby dam, eight or nine years to build Mica Creek and four or five years for Arrow Lakes. Another benefit to the Pacific Northwest will be additional control of floods along the banks of the Columbia. Libby dam itself will control the Kootenay and eliminate further flooding which has been so common and costly at Bonners Ferry, Ida.

The Canadian dams will reduce flooding tendencies along the lower Columbia. For this the United States will pay Canada an estimate \$3 million annually in cash-informed sources reported.

The Canadian investment in construction costs of the three dams on her side of the border would run to some \$400 million. The latest estimate of the cost of Libby dam is \$324 million.

400 Feet High
Libby dam site is 15 miles upstream on the Kootenay from Libby, Mont. The proposed project would be 400 feet high. It would have an installed generating capacity of 344,000 kilowatts. It would store over 4 million acre-feet of water.

Mica Creek site is up near the big bend of the Columbia where it starts south from its most northern point in B.C. An immense project, Mica would be 740 feet high - 30 feet higher than America's tallest, Hoover dam. It would have an installed capacity of 1,160,000 KW (about the same as John Day dam on the lower Columbia). Its usable storage would be 11,685,000 acre-feet. It would cost \$302 million.

Arrow Lakes dam would be not far north of the border on the Columbia. It would be 170 feet high and its usable storage would be over 5 million acre-feet. Cost would be

some \$65 million. No power plant is contemplated at this dam, according to the International Joint Commission engineer report.

Duncan Lake is another storage dam with no power generators. Located on the Duncan river in B.C., it would store 1.4 million acre-feet, rise 142 feet high and cost \$25 million to build.

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*
Emeritus Consultant in Medicine
Mayo Clinic
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(Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1960)

Sciatica

Sciatica is a pain, often severe, running down the back of the thigh, along the path of the big sciatic nerve which comes off of the lower end of the spinal cord and runs down to supply the thigh and leg. When a physician sees a patient with sciatica, he looks for the trouble first in the roots of the nerve as they come off the spinal cord at the lower end of the spine - in the region of the lower back.

Often the patient is suffering from a severe backache which can be due to changes in the spinal vertebrae and the muscles and nerves - changes often related to arthritis or fibrositis. In some of the worst cases the trouble is the rupture of one of those discs that is to be found between every two vertebrae. When the disc ruptures, some of the material goes backward to press on the nerves that join to form the sciatic. In the

worst of these cases, a cure can be obtained only by a surgeon who will operate and remove the diseased disc.

Rarely, when a man or woman has had an operation for the removal of a cancer, the appearance of severe sciatic pain must raise the question, could cancer cells be growing around the lower end of the spine and pressing on the nerves? This sometimes happens. Fortunately, in many cases, with time and physiotherapy the pain goes away.

Questions I Cannot Answer

It distresses me not to be able to answer more than a few of the tens of thousands of letters I get. In the first place, there just isn't enough time in the day and, in the second place, in so many cases I cannot possibly make any suggestion without an accurate diagnosis, and I cannot make a difficult diagnosis without seeing the patient,

talking at length with him, getting many tests and x-ray studies made, and perhaps consulting with an able specialist of some type.

For instance; as I write this, my secretary lays on my desk a letter from a man who wants me to help his shortness of breath. How I would like to lessen his daily suffering, but without seeing him, I cannot guess whether his shortness of breath is due to heart disease, or asthma, or bronchiectasis (a dilation of the bronchi), or emphysema (due to a rupture of thousands of the little air sacs), or a pneumoconiosis (his lungs full of tiny particles of rock due to years of mining), or kidney trouble, or high blood pressure, or a lung tumor - or any one of perhaps 40 other diseases.

Similarly, when hundreds of people write asking me for an ointment for their chronic

skin disease, I am very sorry but I must not attempt anything. First, because I do not know what kind of skin disease they have, and second, one just cannot treat skin disease by mail.

Dr. Alvarez' booklet on mental illness may be obtained by sending 25 cents and a large, stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request to Dr. Walter C. Alvarez, Dept. MMT, The Register and Tribune Syndicate, Box 957, Des Moines 4, Iowa. (Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 960)

Salem - (UPI) - Philip Averill, director of the state crime prevention division, will represent the Oregon Justice Department at Boise, Idaho, Sept. 25-28 at the Western Institute on Crime and Delinquency Prevention.

British Secretary Visions Danger

Washington - (UPI) - Lord Home, British foreign secretary, said after meeting with President Eisenhower today that Soviet attempts to extend the cold war to Africa could lead to a "dangerous and explosive" world situation.

The foreign secretary said any attempt to promote ideological warfare in independent African states would be a "disaster" for the Africans and could lead to a Korea-type situation.

He made the comments after a 45-minute conference with the President on American-British strategy at the forthcoming United Nations General Assembly session.

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