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Captain Michael Gitt Papers - Colonial Airlines Annual Reports 1946, 1948, 1953, 1954

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THE ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY AND POWER DEVELOPMENT

Various estimates of this vast project have been made which indicate its magnitude and from which we can get some idea of its effect on the future of Colonial Airlines -

One billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000) for construction of waterways, canals, locks, hydro-electric plants and auxiliary facilities. Of this amount about five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000) will be spent in and around Massena-Cornwall, the International Rapids section of the project.

Three billion to four billion dollars (\$3,000,000,000 to \$4,000,000,000) to be expended by private industry, principally steel, electro-chemical, mining, talc, pulp, rubber and related industries which will locate close to the source of cheap power.

Preliminary construction is rapidly getting under way. Initial contracts for several multi-billion-dollar units have already been let and before long full scale activity is anticipated.

Colonial is particularly fortunate in its geo-graphic location to this project. It has served the area covering the southern part of Ontario and the northern part of New York and adjacent states for many years. All of the cities and communities which are primarily affected lie directly along the routes which Colonial is authorized to serve, particularly the four centers which will be responsible for the administration, financing, construction and development of this mighty project—New York City, the gateway to the world; Washington, the capital of the United States; Ottawa, the capital of Canada, and Albany, the capital of the State of New York. For over twenty-five years, Colonial has served the city of Montreal—Canada's largest city, which will also be an important key point in this development.

The major expenditures for this project will be in the International Rapids sections around Messena-Cornwall which Colonial has been regularly serving. Colonial also provides regular daily service to a number of other towns which have a community of interest in this project, including Syracuse and Washington. Washington is the point from which all United States expenditures will be authorized and controlled.

It is estimated that it will take from seven to nine years to complete the construction of the Seaway. Also during this period, the air pattern will have to be realigned to provide for this expansion. This involves approvals by the regulatory bodies in Canada and the United States and the various communities must provide adequate air fields, runways, hangars, communications and other facilities required for modern air terminals.

POWER POTENTIALITIES OF THE ST. LAWRENCE LAKE ONTARIO TO MONTRAL [IMAGE]

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