

THE RAILWAY & SHIPPING WORLD,

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The Canadian Ticket Agents' Association.

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The Transportation Commission.

Although it was officially announced that
Sir Wm. Van Horne, Montreal, J. Bertram,
Toronto, and H. Kennedy, Quebec, had been
appointed a Royal Commission to investigate
the transportation problem in Canada, it does
not appear that the commissioners have ac-
cepted office, or been vested with any pow-
ers, or that they have had any consultation
with the Government on the question. Sir
W. Van Horne, it was announced June 23rd,
had declined to act, as also had H. Kennedy.
It is understood that J. Bertram has ac-
cepted, and that W. Fry, of Quebec had
been appointed in place of H. Kennedy. Two
secretaries were appointed by the Depart-
ment. The matter was recently mentioned
in the House of Commons, and the report of
the committee of the Privy Council to the
Governor-General, dated May 19, has since
been issued as a sessional paper. The report
sets out that the Minister of Public Works
had been considering questions affecting the
transportation of Canadian products to the

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markets of the world through and by Cana-
dian ports, with a view of placing the Cana-
dian producer in a position to compete suc-
cessfully with the producers and exporters of
other countries. The question involves the
consideration of a number of points, including
the conditions of original shipment; the stor-
age requirements of lake, river and ocean
ports; the harbor facilities of the inland
lakes, rivers, and Atlantic and Pacific ports;
the conditions with regard to the navigation
of the St. Lawrence river for ocean steamers,
and the enlargement or improved operation
of the canal system; the question of competi-
tion by U.S. vessels from Lake Superior ports,
and the diversion of Canadian products to
Boston, Portland, New York or other U.S.
ports. The commissioners named were direct-
ed to make such enquiry along the lines
indicated; obtaining such evidence and in-
formation, and making such reports and re-
commendations as in their opinion the exigen-
cies of the case may require.

Since the above was put in type an Ot-
tawa despatch, dated June 23, states that
Sir Wm. Van Horne has declined to act on
the commission, as also has H. Kennedy,
of Quebec, but that J. Bertram would accept
appointment. W. Fry, of Quebec, has been
appointed to act in place of H. Kennedy.