

SHIPMENT OF WHEAT VIA BRITISH COLUMBIA

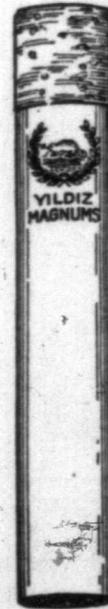
Honorable W. H. Cushing, Minister of Public Works in the Government of Alberta, was in Victoria last week conferring with Premier McBride relative to the shipment of wheat from western Alberta via the Pacific Coast. A large steamship company, which has been operating two or three years, has approached the Alberta government for assistance in the erection of terminal elevators at Vancouver. Hon. Mr. Cushing states that Alberta is taking the stand that if Vancouver wants the trade, it should provide the necessary facilities. His trip to Victoria was to see what the government will do, but nothing definite was formulated. At the beginning of the shipping season, Mr. William Whyte, second vice-president of the C. P. R., stated that no wheat was offering, when the question of terminal facilities was mentioned. The C. P. R. has installed a sacking plant, Vancouver, but Alberta people declare that an elevator is necessary before any large amount of wheat will move toward the Pacific coast. Honorable Mr. Cushing who is a believer in the future of the Pacific, says that in due time European goods will be imported into Alberta and Saskatchewan through Pacific portals, since there is less transshipment by this route.

ONTARIO'S REPLY TO THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT.

The Ontario Government in sending its reply to the Dominion Government regarding the applications forwarded to the latter asking for the disallowance of the Provincial Hydro-Electric legislation, takes a stand somewhat similar to that of the British House of Commons in its dispute with the Lords. The official document goes fully into every question affecting the rights of the province, and concludes:—

"The people of Ontario take their position in the positive and unshaken foundation formed by the British North American Act, and the decisions which have been indicated and in agreement with the principle laid down by the present Minister of Justice and respectfully submit that for upwards of 200 years the Lords and Commons of Great Britain have legislated without fear of the Royal veto, although its existence has been undoubted, and, therefore, in full accord with the spirit and genius of British institutions, the people of the province are entitled to all rights of British subjects elsewhere, as free, as has been practically pointed out by the Minister of Justice, to legislate within their jurisdiction as the Lords and Commons of Great Britain are free to legislate and cannot submit to any check upon the right of the Legislature to legislate with reference to subjects within its well-defined jurisdiction, although a technical right to disallow may exist.

"Any other view would mean that there are different grades of British subjects in the Empire; that the people of the several provinces of the Dominion have not and are not entitled to the full and free enjoyment of those civil rights and liberties which are enjoyed by British subjects in the Mother Country, a condition of things which would be intolerable. Without therefore, in any way suggesting the possibility of such interference, an appreciation of the very grave and serious consequences which must inevitably follow



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such an act fully justified, in the opinion of the undersigned, a respectful recital of the rights of the province in this behalf, and a clear intimation of its attitude in respect thereto."

ZINC MINING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Those interested in the mining of zinc have met in Nelson, B. C., and discussed the practicability of building up a zinc smelting industry in British Columbia. At present, whatever zinc ore is mined in British Columbia is smelted in the United States, and with freight and duty it is an expensive operation. The zinc mine owners have the same complaint as the lumbermen in British Columbia in that a high tariff on their products entering the United States handicaps the Canadian operator, while the United States zinc men have a practical monopoly of the Canadian market. Mining interests on this side of the boundary will demand the exclusion of the product of the United States manufacturer and the preservation of the Canadian market for the output of the industries that it is proposed to establish in Canada. The ores of the interior of British Columbia are rich in zinc, and it is hoped to promote an extensive mining industry which will be of vast importance to the progress of that province.



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