

(6) Thus with the construction of the Georgian Bay Canal, all the forces and tendencies which have worked against the Maritime Provinces in the last few years will be reversed or overcome. Instead of trade with the rest of Canada decreasing, it will increase. Instead of the Maritime's markets in the rest of Canada shrinking, they will be opened out and will grow. Instead of progressive industrial and economic decay, there will be development. Instead of the children of the Maritimes leaving to find employment elsewhere, they will stay at home and get rich and population will have to be augmented by large immigration to work in the growing industries.

(7) The fundamental economic interests of the Maritimes will approach closer and closer to those of the rest of Canada. Sectionalism in the Maritime Provinces will disappear. The problem of the Maritimes will be solved.

Mr. YOUNG (Weyburn): Who signed that?

Mr. RITCHIE: That is a statement made by myself as counsel, to be put into the record, but I may say that I did not prepare it, to be quite honest. If you will bear with me, so much has been said that I thought it would be advantageous to have a summary of the position that has been so far taken.

Mr. HANSON: Is the statement that you have just read the statement that was sent to members of Parliament some weeks ago?

Mr. RITCHIE: I cannot answer that. I certainly did not send it to them. However, it will be here in the record; it is being printed now, so the public at large will be able to obtain copies and so will be enlightened in reference to this great project, as to the position taken by the Maritimes. I am a Maritime man myself, and so I take some interest in the matter. I have prepared a short statement which I think it will be advantageous to put on record. It is the position of the company, summarized.

*Montreal, Ottawa and Georgian Bay Canal Company*

Primarily, we ask no money or guarantee of any kind whatsoever.

1. *Powers*.—(a) Construct and operate a deep draught, all-Canadian Canal.

(b) Develop and sell incidental hydro electric power.

2. *Safeguards*.—(a) Construction according to detailed plan which must be approved by the Government.

(b) Tolls for navigation to be set by Railway Commission.

(c) Price of power to be set by the Railway Commission.

(d) Government can take over works at any time on seven days notice, therefore, this work may be turned into a public ownership enterprise at any time when the people's representatives so desire.

(e) No possibility of profit to promoters until through navigation is established and after that only such reasonable profit as the Railway Commission shall from time to time allow.

3. *Provincial Rights*.—(a) All power must be marketed in Ontario and Quebec. (No other market).

(b) Provinces have undisputed control of distribution within their territory and may tax it on distribution if they so desire.

(c) Highly improbable that Provinces have any legal rights to interfere with canalization and development and sale of incidental power on the Ottawa River.

(d) The Ottawa River waterway belongs to all the provinces of the Dominion.