

ation of navigation are concerned that I have taken perhaps more of the time of this House than I ought, but I would like to point out that the waterway between Port Arthur and Montreal is the only water route entirely under Canadian control. The United States have the Mississippi, they have the Erie Canal, and if they proceed with the Oswego-Albany Canal they will have a third route. It is possible that in years to come the Governments may not be on as friendly terms as they are to-day, and the United States Government, simply by placing a toll on that small section of the St. Lawrence waterway under their control, could deprive us of our navigation, or could at least prevent us from operating unless we carried out what they desired.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: Do you mean that they would drive the traffic to the American route?

Hon. Mr. REID: Yes, to American ports. For instance, if they put 5 or 10 cents a bushel on grain going through their seven miles of canal, of course the traffic would go to Albany. One-sixteenth of a cent will send it one way or the other. That would of course be a very serious matter for us, and if the United States imposed such a toll there would be no way of taking vessels to Montreal; the toll would absolutely stop navigation on the St. Lawrence east of Prescott. We could not take freight any farther east by water, but would have to take it by train.

According to the propaganda in the United States, if this deep waterway is constructed our own ports will get all or nearly all of the 119,000,000 bushels of Canadian grain that goes to Buffalo. I do not believe that for one moment, and I will tell you why. When we enlarged the Welland Canal we were to receive all the grain, but we have never got any larger percentage since that canal was enlarged. The United States continued to get their share, and I am satisfied that the United States will develop some waterway of their own and will make rates that will take a larger portion of our traffic through New York, as has been done in the past. The reduction of rates will of course be of benefit to our great Northwest, but I am referring now to the statement that Montreal would receive all our Canadian grain.

I did not intend taking any great length of time, nor was it my purpose to find fault with anyone. I believe that in what has been done up to the present we are protected in so far as our navigation system and our water-power are concerned, but we have now reached the point where whatever is done may be of serious consequence for the future, and I would urge again that when the St. Lawrence water-

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way project is being considered the points I have raised should be borne in mind. I hope also that the action taken by next Session will be fully in line with the interpretation placed by the right honourable gentleman from Brockville, the honourable leader of the Government and myself upon the statement of the Minister of Public Works.

Hon. Mr. McLENNAN: On behalf of the Senator from DeSalaberry (Hon. Mr. Béique) I would like to call the attention of the House to the following matter: The Chairman of the Committee should be requested to see to the editing of the bluebook, with a proper preface or introduction, and all required explanatory notes, with such additional information as he may obtain from the Railway Department or the Department of Statistics, and with authority to receive from Mr. Payne for publication, any additional statement he may deem proper.

The motion for concurrence in the report was agreed to.

SOLDIERS' SETTLEMENT BILL

SECOND AND THIRD READINGS

Bill 288, an Act to amend the Soldiers' Settlement Act—Hon. Mr. Dandurand.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

THE SENATE

Friday, June 8, 1928.

The Senate met at 12 o'clock noon, the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

DIVORCE BILL (ONTARIO)

POSITION OF THE SENATE

Hon. W. B. ROSS: Honourable gentlemen, I wish to read a statement relating to the Bill which we have been discussing somewhat with closed doors. I shall read it without any comment at all: I am not going to add anything to it or subtract anything from it. It will be open to every member of the House to discuss it as much as he sees fit:

Before the Orders of the Day are called, I wish to make a short statement to this House in respect to the Divorce Bill which was passed by this House in the early days of the Session, namely, on the eighth day of February, and which now stands for consideration in the other House.

I have already given to this Chamber some of the reasons why, in my opinion, it is