

tralia by not offering them the fullest inducements to come into it."

What view do Canadians now resident in Australia take of the prospects?

"They are very enthusiastic about it, and sanguine that the service will be a great success. The wonder, in their opinion, is that it has not been dealt with before. They consider that a market will be found in Canada for nearly all our staple products, as well as many lesser things in which facilities for cool storage will give Victoria special advantages as against the other colonies."

How soon do you expect definite information from the different Governments on the question of the subsidy?

"That is difficult to say, but the sooner the better. There is a great deal in a good start, and, as I have already pointed out, it is desirable to make a start while the Chicago Exhibition is yet in progress. We could provide luxurious accommodation for a large number of saloon passengers. You know what the *Miowera* and the *Warrimoo* are. Lord Hopetoun, who travelled by the *Miowera*, declares that for sea kindliness and comfort she was one of the best boats on which he has ever voyaged. He was certainly not hard to please, for he would not allow us to offer him any other than the ordinary accommodation. In conclusion, I may say that the chief difficulty in the way is that those concerned may take the small view of declaring that such a service as we propose would give Sydney special advantages as against Melbourne. Once before we took the same view in making it compulsory that Melbourne should be made the chief port for the mail boats, but enlightenment came in due course, and in this instance we hope too that the little local view will be lost sight of in the presence of wider federal interests."

---