

WINTER NAVIGATION.

The Council was, by invitation of the Harbour Commissioners, represented on a deputation which met the Dominion Cabinet at Ottawa on 12th Jan. inst., concerning winter navigation, etc., Messrs. Henry Miles, Geo. E. Drummond and C. E. Gault being the Council's representatives on the occasion, they expressing the opinion that the experiment should be made with an ice-breaking boat of endeavouring to keep the river open between Montreal and Quebec, as, if successful, it would mean the lengthening of our season of navigation by several weeks.

THE FRENCH RIVER ROUTE.

It being represented to the Council that it was desirable that consideration should be given to the possible improvement of the French River between Georgian Bay and Lake Nipissing, the matter was referred to the following committee:—Henry Miles, Chairman; Geo. E. Drummond, Fred. W. Evans, C. E. Gault, W. I. Gear, A. J. Hodgson, John Macfarlane, Alex. McFee and David Robertson. That committee's report as follows was adopted by the Council on 16th Jan. inst., and a conference with the Hon. Mr. Tarte is being arranged for in accordance with its recommendation:—

The Committee, appointed by the Council to consider the proposed improvement of the French River between Georgian Bay and Lake Nipissing, and its probable bearing on the port of Montreal and the St. Lawrence route, begs respectfully to report:—

That, in its opinion, such a project, embodying, as it does, deep water navigation between the Great Lakes and Lake Nipissing, is of the greatest importance to Montreal as the national port of the Dominion and to the St. Lawrence route.

In the opinion, therefore, of this Committee, the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade should seek an early opportunity of conferring with the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, with a view to having such further survey and examination made as may be necessary to determine the feasibility of the proposed improvements from an engineering and financial standpoint.

MORE STRINGENT INTERPRETATION BY RAILWAY COMPANIES OF
"OWNER'S RISK" CLAUSE.

Early in the spring the railway companies changed their regulations so that shippers were compelled to sign bills of lading for certain classes of goods at "owner's risk" which were previously carried without that limitation. The Council, being aware that shippers considered this change a grievance, adopted the following resolution, which was communicated to the