

the line. As before stated such traffic embraces in itself "the conditions of a true reciprocity." I also regard this traffic as permissible, for the reason that the links across the interjecting territory of Canada are such as probably would have been constructed by American capital, if allowed that privilege, in order to complete direct through routes, in case such links had not been constructed by Canadian capital. It is for these reasons that I oppose any interference with the "transit trade" between different points in the United States over Canadian lines east of Sault Ste. Marie.

3. I recommend that no attempt be made to enforce the "long and short haul rule" against American railroads engaged in competition with Canadian government railroads and sustained by it in their efforts to direct American commerce from American lines. Such enforcements of that rule would operate directly as an aid to the Canadian government in its raid upon American commerce, and I hesitate not to characterize it as unwise, unpatriotic, and unjust.

Under every form of government, from the family to the State, the exercise of restraint implies the duty of protection, and in all great questioning this rule commends itself to the inherent honesty and integrity of the American mind. Upon no other principle can our railroads be justly or beneficially regulated.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

And now in conclusion I would say, let not the question of principle involved in this subject be lost sight of in considering it in its economic and commercial aspects. That would be discreditable to us as a nation. The very thought of allowing the Dominion of Canada to interfere in any manner with the course of our material development is upon its face absurd. The pride and self-respect of this nation revolt at it. Rather must the United States by a loyal fidelity to those conditions which constitute the muniments of its greatness and power exercise a paramount influence over the commercial development of this continent. American statesmen who fall below this mark will fail to meet the demands of "a proud, expectant nation." But there need be no fear of failure here. The whole subject of Canadian aggression has been referred to an able committee of the Senate of the United States, and it is earnestly to be hoped that that body will be guided to such conclusions as shall be conformable to the interest and mission of the United States on this continent and at the same time be just to Canada.

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