

mately prove effectual in bringing about a much needed change by the establishment of uniform Rules and Regulations for the management of Pilotage matters, which will be applicable to the entire Province, in lieu of the present unsatisfactory system.

The unreciprocated facilities afforded by our Shipping Laws to foreign tow boats—referred to in the Board's last Annual Report—still continue to be extended, greatly to the disadvantage of our local tow boat owners. Your Committee can merely express the hope that the continued representations of the Board may induce the Dominion Government to give the matter the attention it deserves.

RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION.

Although the Parliamentary Session at Ottawa has just closed without any appropriation having been made for the purpose of assisting railroad construction within this Province, the promotion of which would be of the greatest benefit in colonizing the country and developing its resources, it is satisfactory to learn that assurances have been given by the Government which will enable the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway Company to proceed with the construction of that line so that the subsidy applied for may be fairly expected to be granted during the next session of Parliament. It may be here mentioned that no new subsidies to Railway Companies were granted during the recent session.

It is to be hoped that other projected lines may in the near future be also commenced. Mining and agricultural enterprise in the interior of the Province must remain at a comparative stand-still in the absence of such necessary facilities for transport.

The extension of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railroad northward from Nanaimo to Comox and the branch of the same line to a point on the Straits of Fuca, where it will connect by means of a Steam Ferry with the American system of railroads on the opposite shore, will, it is confidently ex-