

conditions surrounding you when you get into that country. You may find that the road, which is the most direct line to the Pacific coast, will not be the road that will open that country for colonization. You may find the road running one way for colonization purposes and another way direct to the coast.

"You may also find that a line running north from the northern part of Ontario will be required for the development of that country. You must go upon information, upon sound and reasonable lines, and when you do that, give to that country all the development which the people require. Not only build that line, but operate it as a government line. A government line, it seems to me, would be peculiarly suitable to that country for colonization purposes, and I see no reason why the problem should not be solved in that way. If within a certain number of years, a practical route be found, then extend that road to the Pacific coast? Build it as a government road from Quebec to the coast. Be not afraid to undertake that project, but do not undertake it until you have the information, the data which will enable you to deal with it. I am not saying this for the purpose of delay. I believe in going ahead with the work once you get the information and the data which are necessary."

I have read all that the hon. gentleman has said on that point, and I think the fair deduction from it is this: The very moment you get enough information, go ahead with the road. Surely the hon. gentleman, at his age, is not going to say that the people must go into that terra incognita before there is a railway.

**To-day Railways are the Pioneers of Settlement. If that Country is to be Settled, Railways Must go First.**

The hon. gentleman says that as soon as there is information obtained about that country, go ahead with the enterprise.

"I am not saying this for the purpose of delay. I believe in going ahead with the work once you get the information and the data which are necessary."

Now, if to-morrow the information and the data were forthcoming, then the hon. gentleman would believe in proceeding at once with the work. As the First Minister has explained, there are mountains of information upon this subject.

An hon. MEMBER. Where are they?

**Mountains of Informations.**

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. They are everywhere. There are more on the Table of this House than any hon. gentleman of the opposition has waded through. The library is full of them, the woods are full of them. There are survey parties in every part of that district to-day, and in a few short months probably there will be no part of Canada better known than the country between Winnipeg and the city of Quebec. As soon as the snow goes away next spring, I have no doubt that the surveys will be in that forward state that the actual work of construction may be and will be undertaken. Now if the information is forthcoming

**The Hon. Gentleman's Policy is to Build at Once, Not to Wait.**

Now, we have him on his second transcontinental trip across the continent. We have got him as far as Quebec. Now to Winnipeg the distance is 1400 miles. I will allow that here he proposes to build a colonization road. I suppose he means a cheap road, a road inexpensive to operate. If so, I would take exception to the wisdom of putting in a cheap road in a country that is about to be settled up. If there is any class of people who are entitled to cheap rates, to the best railway facilities for their commerce,