

would most certainly be disappointing, and if persisted in, would be attended with no small peril.

No one disputes the necessity for abandoning the St. Lawrence as a maritime highway for traffic in winter. Equally its climatic conditions will prevent this route being used by fast steamers in summer. I am fully in sympathy with those who are reluctant to take this view, and, unwillingly abandon the hope of securing a successful fast service on the St. Lawrence route. The facts, however, are uncontrovertible, and the climatic conditions are unalterable.

The Canadian Government has constructed one railway, and assisted in constructing a second railway to Halifax. The expenditure on both lines has been for national purposes. Is it not in the public interest that these railways should be utilized to the fullest extent for national needs? Would not a line of fast steamships constituting a regular ferry from the shores of Canada to the shores of Great Britain so utilize them? May we not correctly view such a line of fast steamships in the light of a corollary to the railways? Is not the ocean ferry wanted to complete the means of communication and make closer the connection between the Dominion and the Mother country?