

Mr. GALLOWAY: There was some trouble in them all.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: We had some trouble with the turbines, and that matter is now being taken up with the builders for adjustment.

Mr. DUFF: They send their own engineer for six months.

Mr. FRASER: Have the boats been paid for?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Yes. Everything is paid for.

Mr. MACMILLAN: I have heard it said that those boats are so high-powered that they almost throw people up against the rail in making the turns during the passage.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: I am glad you asked that question. There are so many things that one may hear. It is difficult to answer them all. I can only say this, that I travelled on one of those boats last summer from Vancouver up to Alaska and back to Prince Rupert, and they were admirable in every way.

Mr. MACMILLAN: I am talking about the tri-city service.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: I should say that was an absurd rumour.

Mr. DUFF: Although there are some hairpin turns on that route.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: There may be some hairpin turns, but there are no better boats, no more comfortable boats, and no better handled boats on the water to-day.

Mr. GEARY: Will you tell me if there was an adequate service for all the traffic offering before you put on the three boats?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: I will answer that question offhand, but I can only answer it in a general way because it is a general question. I should say that during the tourist season there was not enough service. I am just speaking offhand. I am giving you my general knowledge.

Mr. GEARY: And you went in to take out your share of it I suppose?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Yes.

Mr. DUFF: And to help the railway.

Mr. FRASER: The builders have not been released?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: No.

Mr. FRASER: Here is a rumour I have heard: one of the boats was sent back from Halifax to the builders for repairs.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: No, that is not so.

Mr. FRASER: That is not so?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: No.

Mr. FRASER: What fuel do they use?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Oil.

Mr. FRASER: You have had some trouble with them in regard to their performance.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: We have had some trouble with the turbines, and that is now under discussion and adjustment with the builders. It is not a serious trouble, but it is a trouble which involves the obligations of the builders, and we are now conducting negotiations with them.

Mr. FRASER: Was there any alteration in the power supposed to be put into the boats after they were laid down from the original plan?

Mr. GALLOWAY: The horsepower was increased somewhat.

Mr. FRASER: The reason I asked that is because Mr. MacMillan asked the question a moment ago, and I have heard the report that they were too heavily powered. What have you to say to that?