

Morden" are making and breaking freshwater cargo records in grain and ore. Sons of the heroes of 1812, in the third and fourth generation, are serving with credit to themselves and their native Canada, in mine-sweeper, submarine chaser and super-dreadnought, in the wild waters of the North Sea, the winding reaches of Mesopotamia, and the fog and fury of the Atlantic tides. But our ships would have been more numerous, the numbers of these gallant sons would have been increased ten-fold, the task of securing their valued services for the Empire would have been ten times as easy, had the spirit and traditions of Canadian seamanship been maintained at highest pitch instead of being allowed to dwindle to the vanishing point.

Skilled seamen are scarcer on the Great Lakes today than trained aviators. It is easier to send a radiogram from a lake steamer than to launch a lifeboat. Every owner will tell you the same tale of the desperate scarcity of experienced men. And it held good before the war. Toronto and district has contributed 600 recruits to the Navy. Would they had been 6,000!

Our system, or lack of system, and our industrial development, are to blame for this crying scarcity of men. There has never been a well-organized supply school to furnish sailors as required for our inland waters, despite their immense commerce and immense possibilities. The school of hard experience