

MONTREAL, OTTAWA AND GEORGIAN BAY CANAL

14.—Encourage and assist Canada to construct the Ottawa and Georgian Bay Ship Canal as an Imperial work.

In the event of war it is not only upon the salt seas that the protection of trade and commerce has to be considered—there are large inland seas of fresh water, nearly 2,000 miles from tide-water, within the territory of the Empire's leading Colony, and down which a large quantity of the raw food products of the United Kingdom (i.e., destined for consumption within the Kingdom) are floated to the sea. These food products are constantly expanding in volume, and it is a safe prediction that before many years the major portion of the imported food products of Britain will come from the prairies of Western Canada. These inland seas border upon the shores of an envious and jealous rival, who, although she acknowledges the United Kingdom as by long odds her best customer for her exported goods, spares no pains to show her enmity and dislike to British dominion upon the North American Continent. Of course, it may never go further than that, and all good Britishers will fervently hope and pray it may never do so; but the ways of diplomacy are devious, complications may force the United States into an alliance against us, and a