

7 EDWARD VII., A. 1907

From his knowledge he did not say the bay as far as the mouth of the Churchill river is navigable from June 1 to November 1. He was creditably informed that there is more or less Arctic ice comes down and blocks the mouth of the Churchill harbour for a period in the summer time.

Asked how far up the mouth of the Churchill could vessels go, Mr. Tyrrell explained that as the harbour stands at present, they could only go in about three-quarters of a mile inside the mouth of the harbour, but the rock bound basin is about eight miles long and a mile wide. It is filled with silt from the mouth of the Churchill river, and would have to be dredged, but a harbour could be made with comparatively little trouble about eight miles long. There would no difficulty in building elevators, wharfs and warehouses at the point the vessels would come to.

The witness said it would not be difficult to build a railway from Churchill to the Peace river country. By keeping a little south it would traverse a good agricultural country, after you get 100 miles from Churchill. By following the lines of the Churchill rather than a straight line to the west, the line would go through a good country.