

Resources

greatly improved, compasses, provisions, fur wraps, etc., being carried, and everything being done to ensure safe passages. The standard ice-boat is of oak planked with cedar, the planks being covered with tin, and is 18 feet long, 5 feet wide, and 2 feet 6 inches deep. The boat has a double keel which serves for runners, and four leather straps are attached to each side. The passage usually occupies three and a half hours, but when there is much "lolly" (small particles of ice, floating in the water often to the depth of several feet), and when tide and wind are unfavourable, the trip requires sometimes from five to seven hours. The boats travel not less than three together, each manned by five hardy, powerful and courageous men, and an experienced ice-captain is in charge of the fleet. A variety of crossing conditions prevail. Sometimes large ice-fields jammed between the two shores, enable the passage to be made without putting the boats into the water at all; but as these floes are moving the voyageurs are often taken considerably out of their course, and are obliged to land several miles away from the objective point. Again, rough or hummocky ice renders the passage difficult and laborious, but frequently lanes of open water enable the crews to row. At other times lolly, which has to be worked through, necessitates great expenditure of time and labor. Should snow storms arise, there is danger of losing the bearings, and travelling far out of the course. For about a distance of one mile on each side of the Strait, the ice is attached to the shore and is known as the "board ice." This leaves only seven miles for the ferry, but owing to the tide, which runs about four miles an hour carrying with it the ice fields, the distance travelled by the boats is considerably increased. Teams carry the passengers from the edge of the board ice to the Railway stations. A trip by the Capes is a unique experience.

Highways

Prince Edward Island is exceedingly well provided with means of internal communication. In addition to the Railway, there are extensive waterways