

(f) Extension of the Government Telegraph System down the St. Lawrence.

Aids to navigation in the shape of Lighthouses, Range Lights, Fog Horns and Alarms, and lightships were provided at hundreds of places. In this connection Canada was very much behind the age in 1896. To-day other countries recognize that Canada is in the van of progress in Marine Lighting.

Montreal, with the improvements that have been made, and those designed, will very shortly be one of the most modern ports in the world.

The St. Lawrence Channel is to-day a riverway along which the largest boats of the Canadian lines can navigate with security.

Western Grain, which had been coming through American ports, is now coming through Montreal in ever increasing quantities, and the ports of New York and Buffalo are becoming alarmed at the formidable competition for which Montreal is responsible.

In this connection the following striking admission was made by "The Mail and Empire," the chief Tory organ, in an editorial published September 1896:

"In shipping circles at New York and other North Atlantic ports of the United States, envy, and something like panic have been produced by the steady set of the outward wheat forwarded to Montreal. During the past three months the Canadian port has received more wheat from the interior than have all its rivals of the United States put together."

Canal Tolls and Tonnage Dues were abolished in 1903.

MARINE INSURANCE REDUCED.

The very best evidence that could be adduced to prove the wisdom of the Government's policy in improving the St. Lawrence route is that since 1900, when the improvements began to take effect, the rates of Marine Insurance on cargoes of vessels, and on the vessels, have steadily decreased. The following are the rates which prevailed for each year from

	On Butter, Cheese and merchandise, per \$100.	On Grain, per \$100.
1900.....	84½c.	99c.
1901.....	63½c.	78c.
1902.....	55½c.	78c.
1903.....	49c.	56c.
1904.....	45c.	50c.
1905.....	37c.	41c.
1906.....	45c.	45c.
1907.....	38c.	38c.

It is estimated conservatively that the saving caused by the reduction of insurance amounted last year to \$922,000, that is to say, that much money has been saved to shippers and producers of Canada, by the wise expenditures of the Government.