

is monstrous that my London mails should reach me via New York, two sides of a triangle. The Chicago mails from the U.K. and all points West of Chicago should arrive via Canada."⁽¹⁾ Again on March 1, 1906, Grey wrote privately to Lord Elgin, the Colonial Secretary: "The C.P.R., as you are aware, will have two 18-knot steamers on the Atlantic next May. Negotiations are now in progress between the C.P.R. and the Allan Line, which will probably result in the sailing of one 18-knot steamer every week, thus bringing Canadian ports within five and a half days of the United Kingdom. . . . The suggested improvement ought not to rest at this point. We ought to have 20-knot steamers sailing from the United Kingdom to Canadian ports on the Atlantic."⁽¹⁾

Lord Strathcona, the High Commissioner in London, said in a speech in 1906: "In a few years I hope there will be steamers crossing from the United Kingdom to Canada in three-and-a-half or four days." And he never hid his own confident belief in the commercial success of a 25-knot passenger service between Britain and Canada. In February, 1907, he said - "I should be very glad if there were a faster service. The

(1) Grey of Howith Collection. Vol. 13. Folder 7. (Document 003491).

(2) Ibid. Vol. 13. Folder 8. (Document 003506).