

THE DEEPENING OF THE WELLAND CANAL

It is essential to the commercial independence of Canada, perhaps prerequisite to the preservation of the political union of the provinces, that we shall have, within our own boundaries and subject to no control but our own, the means of transporting the products of every part of our country to every other part, and also that we shall maintain all-Canadian routes by which the produce of all the provinces may reach the world's markets. With anything short of this, we must be commercially dependent upon others.

THE WORK OF THE PAST.

For the purpose of developing our internal commerce and of achieving and ensuring our commercial independence, successive Canadian governments have, besides their expenditures on the Intercolonial, bonused privately owned railways to the extent of upwards of 350 millions of dollars, while the provinces and municipalities have done as much more. Something like 120 millions have also been expended on canals and probably another 100 millions in deepening channels and harbors, building lighthouses, breakwaters, etc. Most of this expenditure has been for the two-fold purpose of regulating the freight charges of our railways and of creating all-Canadian rail and waterways to the seaboard.