

as all-sufficient and trusted to them as implicitly as our investors are now trusting the Acts passed for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway in reliance on which we have recently supplied more than \$40,000,000 to build the line.

The bonds and shares of the Chignecto Co. were largely taken by financing houses, bankers, trust companies and other investing firms. And except in cases of death or settlement they still hold them for the most part. The trust companies have many thousands of shareholders and there is no doubt whatever (evidence of which came before me just previous to leaving London on the 21st of March) that many of these avoid Canadian securities and will continue to do so as long as the Chignecto claim is unsettled. To what extent this abstention exists, it is impossible to estimate, but I am sure it is considerable. A fair settlement of the Company's claim would remove these objections to Canadian securities in their minds and give a result of many times more value to the Government and to Canada than all the money that may be awarded us.

We make no legal claim and are without local influence of any kind, which all the more entitles us to equitable treatment. I beg to submit that our claim is one that would be most fairly appraised by a neutral party, and we will accept an award so arrived at.

I, with due respect, therefore again appeal to you to favourably consider this petition and agree with me in some method of settling the only question between the Government and the unfortunate bond and shareholders, namely, what amount they are to receive.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. D. PROVAND.