

Dominion and the provinces and disposed of by an amendment of the British North America Act.

Both the provinces and the Dominion must make concessions and recede from their present attitude. On the one hand the Dominion should not unnecessarily declare undertakings to be for the general advantage of Canada or authorize companies to carry on business through Canada and elsewhere, and on the other, the provinces should not restrict Dominion corporations which are clearly within Dominion authority.

The largest question at present to be disposed of is that of rates of public utility companies. Such companies are first such as carry on business in more than one province. The right to incorporate and control them need not be discussed. This can be done only by the Federal Government. There is no means by which the Province of Ontario can control a freight rate from Toronto to Halifax. The provinces must concede very much which may, unquestionably, be within their jurisdiction in respect to such undertakings. An electric railway incorporated by a province and in many respects a purely local concern may exchange traffic with a railway which is without doubt beyond provincial control. For the advantage which would be gained by the people of the provinces in fixing rates, a large measure of control should be given to the Federal government. There are phases of control such as indicated which can be disposed to greater advantage to the public by Federal law, and there are others which, for what may be called Dominion undertakings, may be more readily disposed of by the provinces. Let it be conceded that in some respects and for some purposes provincial undertakings are better under Dominion supervision, and in others Dominion undertakings better under that of the provinces. The limits of concession on either hand may be readily determined when the principle of the decision of control is decided upon. Whether a railway runs to the frontier or whether it crosses a railway declared to be for the general advantage of Canada, should not decide the question. It is whether the undertaking is in its workings a part of one for the general advantage of Canada.