

means traffic, and large modern freight carriers for facilitating economic transportation. The marvellous growth in population and wealth of the neighboring Republic has been assured from improved facilities of transportation, without which its 70,000,000 of population could not exist. Canada's position and requirements being similar, the conclusion must be irresistible that along the lines of cheap transportation and speed lies the highway of her industrial development.

3. The events transpiring in the Pacific, the awakening of nations to its future commerce, and the opening of China for industrial enterprise, indicate coming changes in the world's commerce. The prophecy of William H. Seward is being fulfilled. In addressing the United States Senate on the political and commercial activities of Europe, he said: "They would ultimately sink in importance, while the Pacific Ocean and its shores, its islands and the vast region beyond, would become the chief theatre of events in the world's great hereafter." Germany, France and Russia are occupying ports in the Celestial Kingdom as bases for commercial purposes. To secure the full benefit of its commerce, they are improving their communication with the Orient. The Reichstag has just voted to the North German Lloyds an extra 1,500,000 marks' subsidy for higher speed service and for new boats (four) of improved type, for immediate use on the Chinese route. France is improving her Eastern service.

The Oriental and Peninsula S. S. Co., British, are building boats with wider speed radius, to meet the new element of competition in the East. Russia is pushing her trans-Siberian railway to an early completion. The line with its connection will cost the Empire 175 million dollars. Eight steamship lines will connect its eastern terminus with Pacific Asiatic ports. Already the Russians are talking of trans-Pacific lines with termini at American ports for a line of travel around the world without touching on Canadian-British soil. Canada, with her western seaboard fronting on the Pacific a near neighbor to China, is more interested in her trade than either France or Germany; and through England's long standing treaty and trading rights, have stronger claims there than even Russia. The possibilities of the Orient for commercial development, having an area of five million square