

**Conference of Representatives of the Cities and Towns Located
On the Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence River Held In
the City Hall, Windsor, Ontario, January 30th, 1914.**

The conference was called to order at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, with Mayor Henry Clay of Windsor in the chair and Mr. C. L. Barker, secretary.

Mayor Clay, in his opening remarks, stated that the object of the meeting was to consider the best means of securing action that would result in the construction of a deep waterway from the lakes to the Atlantic ocean and emphasized the fact that such a channel of navigation would to a large extent relieve the congestion of traffic which was an annual occurrence. He said that the building of the Georgian Bay canal, even if that were a feasible plan, would sidetrack the lake ports and the territory tributary thereto and that the interests of the Province of Ontario could only be conserved by the adoption of the St. Lawrence route. The question was then placed before the meeting for discussion.

Mayor Allan, of Hamilton, Ontario, strongly urged that the meeting unanimously endorse the St. Lawrence route, stating that the building of the Georgian Bay canal would be of no service to any of the ports on Lake Ontario or Lake Erie, as well as being unsatisfactory to the cities and towns on the Detroit river. He stated that so far as the city of Hamilton was concerned they would use every endeavor to secure the adoption of the St. Lawrence route.

Mayor Dagan, of Sarnia, stated that the St. Lawrence route was necessary for the welfare of the territory tributary to Sarnia, and that the Georgian Bay canal, if constructed, would be of little value to them.

Mayor McCrea, of Prescott, also urged the adoption of the St. Lawrence route as being in the interests of the people of Canada and was of the opinion that the Georgian Bay canal, if constructed, would not prove serviceable as a channel of navigation.

Mr. Jno. P. Dunne, of Prescott, drew attention to the necessity for improving the channel from Clayton, N. Y., to the St. Lawrence river and gave it as his opinion that this work could be better done by utilizing the water route in United States territory.

Mr. Wm. Livingstone, President of the Lake Carriers' Association, called attention to the immense saving in transportation tolls that would be effected by the construction of a deep waterway and gave figures to prove that rail transportation was much more costly than water carriage. He stated that whatever was done in the direction of improving the waterways would be of great benefit both to Canada and the United States and thought that both countries should work together in matters of this kind for their mutual good.

Mayor Oscar B. Marx, of the city of Detroit, Mich., said that it gave him great pleasure to be present in order that he might show his sympathy with the movement inaugurated by the city of Windsor to secure the construction of a deep waterway to the sea, and hoped that the project would be carried through to a successful conclusion. Anything that was good for the city of Windsor would necessarily be good for the city of Detroit and he was pleased to say that there was not the slightest feeling of jealousy between the two cities and that as the citizens of Windsor were sharing the benefits of the growth of the city of Detroit they, in Detroit, were also being benefitted by the rapid growth of the city of Windsor. He was heartily in sympathy with the Windsor people and the people of Ontario in their efforts to secure the adoption of the St. Lawrence route from the lakes to the sea.