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Dear Sir,--

I have carefully examined and checked the reports made by Messrs. George A. Kyle and C. E. Cartwright under date of November 13th, 1912, in relation to the proposed line of Railroad from Bella Coola to the Peace River country, approximately 800 miles.

I have gone over a large portion of the territory personally, have also given thought and study to the project for several months, with a view to determining its prospects and earning capacity after it has been fully constructed and properly equipped to economically handle the business.

In a technical sense the topography of the country allows of a line being located particularly through the Cascade Range and the Rocky Mountains, that will result in the construction of a road combining a low interest charge with a minimum cost of maintenance and operation and will compare in an extremely favorable manner with any of the other transcontinental lines. The mountain sections will be particularly remarkable for their entire freedom from snow sheds and snowslides, expensive bridges, long viaducts, high embankments, or objectionable excavations which will undoubtedly tend to give economical operating results.

The general location of the entire line from a commercial and traffic standpoint is unique and highly favorable as it passes through a distance of about 700 miles capable of the highest agricultural development, and I believe in time a great deal of the doubtful lands will be brought into use by dry-farming and the raising of alfalfa for the feeding of cattle, sheep and hogs.

The shortening of the distance from the Peace River country to tidewater as compared with other transcontinental lines is an important point and one that will be a leading feature in the control of export and import business from this district to the Orient and to European ports via the Panama Canal.

In the opinion of the writer, one of the most important features is the location of the western terminus of the line at the port of Bella Coola which is one of the best harbors on the Pacific Coast between San Francisco to the south, approximately 1,000 miles, and Prince Rupert to the north, approximately 200 miles.

The vast wheat area of the Peace River country alone will, in my judg-