

Canada has long waited patiently and hopefully for this work. Her Statesmen, Sir John Macdonald, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and Sir Robert Borden, have promised it.

In no other way can Canada hope to retain within her own territory, for shipment from Canadian Ports, and transportation through the Dominion, the vast crops of the West. The widening of the Welland Canal is already leading the State of New York and the cities on the South side of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence to take vigorous steps to divert the grain traffic from Canadian to American routes.

The position taken by the Company is that under the circumstances described, and having regard to the terms of its charter, the Company has done all and indeed more than all which could have been expected of it or could have been accomplished. The Company has laboured unceasingly and at great expense to forward this great project, and if the actual work of construction has not yet been commenced the responsibility for this long delay does not rest with the Company.

They urgently suggest that even now, notwithstanding the burdens and anxieties imposed by the War, the Government should take some steps so as to insure the starting of the Eastern or the Western section of the Canal, or both.