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THE CITY OF VICTORIA is the leading port in Canada as regards tonnage, and the premier Western Canadian port so far as the Panama Canal is concerned.

It will shortly be the final furthest West Terminal of five transcontinental railway systems—the Canadian Pacific Railway, the Canadian Northern Railway, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, the Great Northern Railway and the Great Eastern Railway.

The Government at Ottawa has recognized the supremacy of Victoria as the Western Port of the Dominion by appropriating close to \$2,500,000.00 for the purpose of completing extensive additions to the Outer Harbor at Victoria, including a Breakwater 2,500 feet long.

It has further recognized the city's Imperial status by an initial appropriation of \$500,000.00 towards the construction of a Government Dry Dock at Esquimalt Harbor, which is practically part of Victoria. This Dock when finally built will cost in the neighborhood of \$4,000,000.00.

The Panama Canal route shortens the distance from Victoria to Great Britain by 6,000 miles, and is destined to work a revolution in the history of shipping from the Pacific to the Atlantic. As a seaport, Victoria is supreme in the prime essentials—nearness to the ocean, freedom from fog, security in port for vessels and safe and easy sailing to the Pacific waters.

There is only one thing more necessary to make Victoria a great commercial centre. That is the bridging of the Seymour Narrows. This will mean straight rail connection from Victoria to all the cities of North America. That this will be done can admit of no doubt.

Victoria is the only port which can, and will, in years to come, handle the bulk of Middle Canadian wheat for shipment through the Panama Canal.

Elevators will be established at Victoria along with the completion of the Outer Harbor, and every car unloading wheat into British bottoms will return to the Mid-Canadian Provinces loaded with lumber, the one imperatively needed staple those Provinces must have, and do not produce.

Victoria means Victory! The city has already striven for and obtained the certainty of a magnificent Outer Harbor. It has already planned for and brought about the guaranty of a superb Dry Dock, one of the three greatest in the world. It has now entered upon what will be the crowning triumph of its career as a metropolis, one which will make it a great seaport city, as well as a metropolis bound by links of steel to every city in North America.

That triumph, still in the future, but not long to be deferred, is the bridging of the Seymour Narrows.