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The Georgian Bay Caual and Nova Scotia Coal

The deep waterway at the Sault has made possible westbound shipments of coal now reaching 10,000,000 tons a year.

The Georgian Bay Canal will open the way for shipments of Nova Scotia Coal which will in a few years aggregate millions of tons annually.

Coal formed 17.1% of the freight traffic of the Sault Canals in 1909.

The growth of the coal traffic on the Lakes is shown by the following figures:

1890	170.501
1885	894,991
1800	3,176,920
1895	2,574,362
1900	4,486,977
1905	6,509,060
. 1909	9,960,026

the shipments in 1909 consisting of

Bituminous	Coal	 8,527,639
Anthracite	Coal	 1,412,387

Large quantities of American hituminous coal are now imported into Ontario via the Great Lakes.

Canada's imports of coal in 1909 were as follows :---

Bituminous Anthracits	•••••••••	Tons 6,855,080 8,017,844
Total		9,873,924

almost all of which came to Ontario.

There is in Ontario, therefore, an existing market for approximately 7,000,000 tons of soft cost per annum, which is now supplied entirely from the United States.

If by construction of the Georgian Bay Canal part of this can be replaced by Canadian coal, the direct benefits will be many and important.

(1). Increased royalties on coal mined.

The coal trade lies at the basis of the prosperity of Nova Scotia. In 1908 there was derived from coal royalties, \$616,000, being more than one-third of the Provincial revenues. If one-third of the present demand of Ontario for soft coal were to be supplied from the mines of Nova Scotia 'here would "esuit to the Province from this source an additional revenue of about \$250,000 per annum.

(2). Distribution of additional wages and payments for supplies.

In 1908 about \$8,000,000 was distributed in wages in the coal mining industry of Nova Scotis, and \$2,000,000 was paid for supplies. The gaining of one-third of the Ontario market would lead to payment of an additional \$8,000,000 in wages and \$600,000 for supplies yearly.

(3). Additional employment for men and vessels.

16,750 men were employed in and about the mines. Their families, and the traders and others relying upon dealings with them for support made a population of 125,000 directly depending for their livelihood upon operation of the coal mines. Adding to this the men engaged in the iron and steel and other industries depending upon the coal supply, it is clear that a large percentage of the population of the Province is materially henefitted by the mines. The gaining of one-third of the Ontario market would give employment for at least 6,000 more men in and about the mines.

D

It would create an additional volume of traffic about equal to the present St. Lewrence coal trade. In this trade the Dominion Coal Company alone empirer a fleet of eight vessels of their own, and between 15 end 20 chartered eteamers. As the average length of haui would he greater, the additional fleet required for this trade would he prohabiy not less then 40 vessels.

Prohabiy not more than 10% of the American coal imported by Ontario on the Lakes is carried in Canadian vessels. If Nova Scotia were to supply one-third of the present Ontario demand, carried in vessels of 5,000 ton freight capacity, it would furnish about 450 full cargoes during the season, asy 3 cargoes daily for 150 days in each year, heing the equivalent of 2,700 train-ioads, each train made up of twenty-eight 30-ton cars.

(4). Greater stability of the coal mining industry.

There is invested in coal mining in Nova Scotia over \$65,000,000. The export trade to the United States depends upon tarial regulations from time to time in force, and has therefore been subject Netional Library
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to violent nucluations in the past. Frior to Confederation the New England States were the best oustomers for Nova Scotia coal. But the trade built up during the existence of reciprocity with

The uncertainty of the export trade hinders investment of capital to provide proper equipment for handling large traffic. And to the extent that the mining in ustry of Nova Scotla is dependent upon the United States market it feels and must continue to feel the effect of this uncertainty in cramping its activities and preventing the investment of capital necessary 'o Its development. The opening up of an enlarged market in Canada would undoubtedly greatly Improve the conditions of production, and tend to render the position of this important industry far more stable than at present, as trade develo, I wholly under our on a flag would be of a more permanent obaracter than trade dependent upon tariff relations subject to fluctuation.

(5). Freeing of Ontario from dependence on the United States for fuel supply.

The railways of Ontario are operated and its factories run with American coal. The position of industries wholly dependent upon a foreign fuel supply must always be precarious. That of Ontario's industries is peculiarly so, for if the supply of coal from the United States were for any reason at any time shut off, under disting transportation conditions its place could not be supplied at reasonable cost and within any ressonable length of time from domestic or other sources. So it may be said that we are practically at the mercy distinguished and forces over which our Government can exercise no control.

Not only will the deep waterway romove this danger by allowing coal vessels to ascend from the Atlantic to all our upper Lake ports, but tha



greater development of the Canadian Industry will increase the ability of Canadian mines to meet any emergency calling for an extre supply. Ontario's monthly consumption is over 500,000 tons. There is probably never above 800,000 tons of Canadian coal in stock, and e vitable for advance supply at any time. In three or four woeks, therefore, from the shutting off of the American supply we would face a disastrous coal famine in Ontarlo, which would close many of our factories and cripplo transportation.

The gain in safety and stability of the industries of Ontario which would result from the development of a domestic fuel supply, which would at all times he subject to control by our own Government in the national interest is sione a matter of so great importance as to deserve the most eareful consideration of both tha Federal and Provincial Governmonts.

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Western Terminus of the

(6). Increase of Inter-Provincial commerco.

The natural line of development of Canada's commerce is between East and West. One of the most important elements in its prosperity is the creation of west-bound traffic, to furnish return cargoes for vessels hringing the products of the Northwest and other inland Provinces to the Atlantic sea-board.

"The coal industry of Nova Scotia, with the iron and steel industries which directly depend on it, furnish the chief exports from the province to other parts of Canada and are the foundation in turn of the large purchases made by Nova Scotia from the Western provinces. The volume of this traffic is unquestionahiy very great. The increase of Westbound shipments of coal to domestic markets opened up hy the Georgian Bay Canal would in turn largely increase the purchases of the farm products and manufactures of Western Canada hy Nova Scotia.

RETURN CARGOES.

861% of the westbound traffic of the Sault Canals is American coal.

American coal forms four-fifths of the return cargoes of Canadiau grain vessels from Fort William.

This fact in itself gives a great advantage on the Lakes to American vessels in securing an undue proportion of the carrying trade, and to American ports and routes in competing for the earriage of grain from the Canadian Northwest.

The greatest weakness of the present Welland

and St. Lawrences waterway is the lack of westbound traffic from Canadian ports on Lake Ontario and Lake Eris.

In 1908 only 83,554 tons of freight from Canadian ports on Lake Eris passed west through the Sault Canals, while American ports shipped 10,719,482 tons. In 1907 the respective figures were 4,428 tons and 12,044,556 tons.

The total west-bound freight through the Sault. Canals in 1909 from Canadian ports on Lake Ontsrio was only 278,573 tons, including all shipments from Montrsal and eastward.

Of the 57,895,149 tons of freight passed through the Sault Canals in 1909, 97% was grain, orés, coal and lumher. The country about Laks Ontario has little or no grain, ores or lumher to ship. And it huys its coal from the United States.

In 1909 the total westbound shipments through the Welland Canal were 641,017 tons. Deducting from this the United States coasting trads (248,581 tons), the shipments through from Montreal (191,510 tons), and shipments to Detroit, Chicago, and other lake ports, the aggregate freight having its origin or point of shipment on Lake Ontario for Canadian ports westward was under 150,000 tons. Even assuming all this to have passed through the Sault Canals, it shews that our Laks Ontario ports furnished less than one and one-half per cent of the westbound traffic of the Sault Canals, and about ene-quarter of one per cent of their total traffio.

If hy opening the deep waterway from the coast to the Lakes via the Georgian Bay Canal, Nova Scotia can gain one-third of Ontario's cosl trade, the volume of vestbound traffic thus created would alone he about fourteen times that of the entire westward movement of freight from Lake Ontarie ports.

Westbound freight at the Sault is about 25% of the eastbound. Regarding this as a ratio giving profitable returns to vessels the transportation of 2,000,000 tons of Nova Scotia coal to Ontario points would render economically possible shipments of from 6,000,000 to 8,000,000 tons sestward to the Atlantic coast, squivalent to 200,000,000 to 850,000,000 hushels of wheat.

This opens up the prospect not only of cheap supply of breadstuffs to the Maritime Provinces, but of creation of an incortant business in handling export grain 1. the winter ports of Canada. The advantage of storing grain in elevators on the coast during the fall months for distribution in winter, and of cheap delivery of export freight to Maritime Province harbours is manifestly important.

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The harbours of Sydney, Halifax, and St. John are the front doors of Canada. While 2,200 miles nearer to Liverpool than is New Orleans, Sydney is at the same time 600 miles nearer to Rio Janeiro and Buenos Ayres, and nearly 900 miles nearer to Cape Town.

Thirteen harbours in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are open the year round, viz.:—St. John and St. Andrew in New Brunswick, and Halifax, Louisburg, Yarmouth, Annapolis, Barrington, Liverpool, Lockport, Lunenburg, Parrsboro and Shelburne in Nova Scotia.

COAL RESOURCES OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The coal lands now under lease cover an area of 1,015 square miles, of which 147 square miles are reported as being operated. A well-informed authority estimates the coal in the various known areas as follows:---

	Tons	Workable
Cape Breton and Victoria.	2,867,200,000	60%
Inverness	8,897,600,000	60%
Richmond	215,400,000	40%
Pictou	2,366,000,000	50%
Cumberland	346,000,000	1.%

Total 12,392,600,000

The workable deposits are estimated at 6,461,480,000 tons. This may be largely increased by further discoveries. Practically no new coal beds have been located since Confederation. The extent of the sub-marine field is unknown, but the reappearance of the coal measures at Cape Dauphin, 85 miles away, may indicate that the Sydney coal field is only a lip of the saucer, only a fragment of the circumference of a vast sub-marine coal deposit that may for all practical purposes extend indefinitely.

The present output could be readily increased at the rate of 2,000,000 tons additional per year for a number of years to come. So that there exist in Nova Scotia both ample supplies of coal, and the ability to meet demands as they arise, and Nova Scotia can easily supply the demands of Eastern Canada for bituminous coal for centuries to come.

TRANSPORTATION,

In 1909 over 1,800,000 tons of American soft coal was carried to Fort William and Port Arthur

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to supply the railways and the Winnlpeg market. Prices were exceptionally low, running at times below cost of production. The export prices of 1907 and 1908 may, however, he taken as a fair sample of average conditions.

Average	export	price,	July-Dec.,	1907\$2.57
	46	4.6	JanJune,	1908\$2.58
46	66	64	July-Dec.,	1908\$2.61

This would make the average cost of American coal laid down at Port Arthur approximately:

and down as rore mond, approat	
Export price, say	\$2.58
Lake freight	.81
Unloading, etc	.25
Degradation due to handling, etc	.15
Import duty	.58
LO[8]	53.82

In 1909 the following figures were furnished hy a reliable Pittshurg firm:

Average cost f.o.b. mine per 2,000	0 ibs \$1.10
Transfer	
Lake freight to Fort William Unloading, degradation and duty	
20	

Totai...... \$3.10 to \$3.28

FACILITIES FOR COAL TRAFFIC.

The coal for the St. Lawrence trade is shipped into vessels at Sydney, Louishurg, Pictou and Port Hastings. There are two shipping piers at Sydney, 1120 and 1150 feet long. No. 2 pier has shipped 1800 tons of coal from one side in one hour and 15,000 tons in 24 hours. Four steamers can he loaded with cargo simultaneously. At Louishurg is a pier 1300 feet long. Both Pictou and Port Hastings have shippping piers with modern equipment and facilities. At Montreal, the Hochelaga discharging plant handled nearly 600,000 tons in 1908, and the Windmill Point plant 620,000 tons. The latter can discharge the cargoes of two 7000-ton vessels in 24 hours.

The coal discharging plants at the head of the lakes handle nearly 2,000,000 tons in the season of navigation. At other points discharging plants would need to he erected according to tho demand.

Most of the St. Lawrence trade is done hy steamers huilt for the purpose. The Kron Prinz Olav may he taken as typical of these vessels. The Olav is 860 feet long and 52 feet wide, dead weight 7000 tons on 22 feet 7 inches draft. Speed loaded, 111 knots, in water ballast, 12 to 15 knots. Her holds present an absolutely clear space without obstruction. These vessels have been loaded in 42 hours, and discharged in 7 hours. On canal draught this type of eteamer would carry 5500 tons of coal.

FREIGHT RATES AND DISTANCES.

Coal le cerried from Lake Erie ports to Port Arthur, 860 milee, for 80 cents a ton.

From Sydney to Port Arthur via the Georgian Bey Canal ie 1768 milee. At 12 miles an hour for open lake and g.¹f travel, and allowing 70 hours (the estimate given in the Government Report of Surveye) for passage through the Georgian Bay Canal, the freight rate from Sydney to Port Arthur should not exceed 75 cente to \$1.00 per ton.

This rate might he reduced owing to the fact that coal veceele could eccure a profitable return cargo of grain.

Following are extracts from a letter on Reciprocity in Coal by J. H. Pinmmer, President of the Dominion Coal Company Limited, appearing in the Montreal Gazette of Octover 27, 1910.

"The coal trade in Boeton and New England has in recent years been revolutionized by important development in the mining and traneportation of coal. The conditions which formerly existed there have entirely ohanged, and the ability of the Nova Scotia collieries to find a market there has eteadily decreased."

"Notwithetanding our efforts to cell coal in New England, our chipments have been etcadily decreasing, and even with concessions in price equal to the amount of the duty, we have recently found that we could not eccure contracte."

"There are obvious disadvantages inherent in a terminable arrangement, and a long term agreement would only defer them. During the period of reciprocity new and cheaper lines of oarriage would be developed; new husinees connections and alliances huilt up; concumers w uld become ueed to and provide appliances for a different class of coal, etc. All these conditions would be the more developed as the period is lengthened; they would make the recovery of our loet markete very difficult, and tend to proper petuate the control of our markets hy America. coal mines."

"The leck of permanency would also affect the stallation of facilities for handling coal, without which the Nova Scotis collieries could not hope to enter the New England market. Wharvee, discharging plents, railroad connections, etc., would involve a heavy investment of capital, which would be imprudent under a terminable arrangement, even if the other conditions would justify it."

"It must be expected that our American competitors will join with the railways and others to hold the home market. Such an alliance would he more effective now than at any time in the history of the trade."

"It may be doubted whether the removal of the duty would decrease the price in Ontario; it had not that effect in the case of anthracite. . .

. the mine owners would try to hold the market at current prices, it would be entirely within their control, and the Canadian consumer world be helpless against any combination that migui be formed."

"In 1907 the coal mining companies of Nova Scotia paid out for labor and supplies a sum slightly exceeding \$10,000,000. The amounts paid out hy the iron and steel manufacturers, whose ultimate prosperity is bound np with that of the coal companies would not fall much short of the same amount."

Extracts from an open letter to Hon. W. S. Fielding, by Robert E. Harris, President of the Nova Scotla Steel and Coal Company, dated October 19th, 1910.

"There are today approximately 6000 men employed in the iron and steel industries of Nova Scotia. This represents a p-pulation of say 30,000 who are also dependent upon the operation of the coal mines—hecause oheap fuel is necessary for the operation of the steel and iron Companies i.e., slack coal for the production of coke. With a total production of approximately 4,000,000 tons of coal in Cape Breton County (where two of the three steel plants are situate), there is only about sufficient slack to keep these steel plants in operation."

"In other words if these coel mines annually produce less than about 4,000,000 tons of coal, the steel plants cannot obtain the necessary slack coal to keep them in operation. It must be conoeded that the Coal Companies cannot produce the slack coal at a cheap rate unless they have a market for large coal. If therefore the market for large coal is lost, it means not only the closing of the coal mines, but the ruin of the steel industry."

"The principal market today for the coal of Nova Scotia, apart from the slack coal, is on the St. Lawrence river. The Coal Companies havespent upwards of \$2,000,000 in discharging plants at Montreal, Quebeo and Three Rivers, and the St. Lawrence trade is absolutely necessary to the existence of the industry."

Extracts from Debates on Confederation of the B. N. A. Previnces; etc.

Clause 69 of Report of the Quebeo Conference, October 10, 1864:

The communication with the Northwestern territory and the improvements required for the development of the trade of the Great West with the seaboard are regarded by this conference as subjects of the highest importance to the Feder-ated Provinces, and shall be prosecuted at the earliest possible period that the state of the

Addrese of Hon. George Brown, Precident of the Executive Council of Canada, at Halifax Banquet, September 12, 1865:

Far in advance of all other advantages would be this, that union of all the Provinces would throw down all trade harriers hetween ue, and throw open at once to all a combined market of 4,000,000 people-you in the east would send us your fieh and your ccale, and your West India produce, while we woud eend you in return the flour aud the grain and the meats you now huy in Boston and New York."

Address of Hon. Geo. E. Cartier at St. John Banquet, September 14, 1865:

"He sseured every one who lietened to him that Canada's minieters did not come there to urge them by undue means into the adoption of any echeme of union, hut fairly to point out to them the enormous advantages which in a commercial point of view their merchants, traders, and manufacturere would derive from having a market of 4,000,000 people for the exchange of their eeveral commodities instead of being restricted to the email and scattered populations which compose the Lower Provinces.

Address by Hon. Thomas D'Arcy MoGee, February 9, 1865:

There is one special source of wealth to he. found in the Maritime Provincee-I allude to the important article of ocal." "These exhaustless coal fielde will under this plan become the great resource of our towns for fuel. I see the cry is raised helow by the anti-unionlets that to proceed with Confederation would be to entail the loes of the New England market for their coal. I do not quite see how they make that out, hut even an anti-unionist might see that the population of Canada is within a fraction of that of all New England put together, and therefore we offer them a market under the union equal to that which these theorizers want to persuade their followers they would lose."

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EXCLANATION

The upper shared line through the Great Lakes represents the volume of the rean trade from Fort William castward, and schows its destroation.

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"" Ibe lower shaded had thinkh the Great Lakes represents the volume of wast bound phynemic of American coal from Lake brie ports to the Sault and Fort William.

The shaded has through the St. Lawrence between Sydney word Hearroal, represents westhound shound nts of Nova Scoula coult for the St. Lawrence mathets.

All trips are net, time of 2,000 ba.



EXPLANATION

The upper shaded line through the Great Lakes represents the volume of the grain trade from Fort William eastward, and shows its destinations.

The lower shaded line through the Great Lakes represents the volume of west bound shipments of American coal from Lake Erie ports to the Sault and Fort William.

The shaded line through the St. Law ace between Sydney and Montreal, represents westbound shi, ments of Nova Scotia coal to the St. Lawrence markets.

A ST THE WALL AND THE

10 1 1. 1.

- All tons are not tons of 2,000 lbs.

Canada's transportation problem is exchange of products between -Nearly \$100,000,000 have been expended on waterways, and we have -On the Great Lakes we have heavy EAST BOUND shipments of gra -On the Gulf we have large WEST BOUND shipments of coal, and vo -On the Great Lakes, Canada must depend npon the United States are dependent for their fuel supply.

-For lack of adequate transportation facilities Canadian coal is is thereby shnt out of valuable home markets which are enjo --Owing to the fact that we must look to United States sources

at a great disadvantage in competing for the carriage of No

THE ONLY PRACTICAL SOLUTION lies in the opening o THE GULF, which will allow grain vessels to pass from the head opermit coal vessels from the Atlantic Coast to go west to Fort Will. THE GEORGIAN BAY CANAL will hring together into the sa

the Lakes, and our westbound coal traffic from the Coast, where each of the other.

The matter resolves itself into the question:—fhall Ganada Ontario and Manitoba markets, leaving the monopoly thereof to the Erie there to become a bone of contention among competing route diverted to United States channels? Or, shall she open the SHOR without possibility of diversion *on route*, to a Canadian seaport, a domestic markets?



incta between West and Rast. ivs, and we have not reached a solution. Why? pments of grain, and almost no return cargoes of Canadian products. of coal, and vessels going back nearly goo miles light. United States for return cargoes of coal, upon which Ontarlo and Manitoba

dian coal is barred from proceeding farther westward than Montreal, and which are enjoyed as a monopoly by the Amer's an miners. tes sources for return cargoes on the Great Lakes, Canadian vessels are arriage of Northwest grain.

the opening of a THROUGH DEEP WATERWAY BETWEEN THE LAKES AND om the head of the Lakes to an ocean port without trans-shipment, and will to Fort William. er into the same channel our rapidly growing eastbound grain traffic from st, where each will nourish and support and become the natural complement

Shall Canada continue to bar further progress of Eastern Canadian coal into thereof to the United States, and bring the grain of the Northwest into Lake mpeting routes with the certainty that a large share of it will always be see the SHORT CUT, via The Georgian Bay Canal, bringing all the grain, lian seaport, and opening the way for Canadian coal to more extensive

The Georgian Bay Caual not only saves nearly 300 miles in distance, but is a river and lake route ensuring both speed and safety of passage. Nearly 420 miles of the route, out of a total distance of 440 miles, follow the course of some lake or river, and 346 miles require no improvement whatever, other than raising of the water surface, to be pavigable by the largest vessels on the Great Lakes. Of actual GANAL there are only 28 miles on the route, being one mile more than the length of the Weiland Canal alone, and forty-four miles less than the aggregate length of canalaon the Wellat d-St. Lawrence route.

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Searchart. Arthur J. Parvnerd, B.A., Barrister & Central Chambers. Bierres

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