

tunity having passed, I believe it better first to demonstrate the possibility of efficient and successful business management in the operation of the 1,700 miles of state railway which Canada now possesses. When that demonstration shall have been successfully made, and when the interests of Canada and especially our great West shall render necessary the construction of another transcontinental railway, I do not doubt that the country will be ready and the Conservative party then in power will be prepared to extend a successful system of government railways to the great provinces of the West.

DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

We do not depart from the best traditions of the past, but the national policy of to-day must take account of conditions which have arisen since 1878. In no part of the world is the question of transportation of more vital concern than in Canada, and nowhere are the opportunities more favorable on the whole for its solution. **The problem begins at the farm or the factory and ends with the market, whether at home or abroad.** Our national advantages include a remarkable series of wonderful inland waterways, undeveloped water power of untold possibilities and great national ports on two oceans. The issues are provincial as well as federal, for the problem must take account not only of great railway systems and inland navigations, but of the tramway and even of the ordinary public highway. The development of our unrivaled natural facilities for transportation and the equipment of our great national ports on both oceans must be vigorously advanced if our producers are to compete on fair terms in the countries where we find our best markets. The substance of our resolution on this great question, offered as another article of our political faith, is as follows:--

The development and improvement of our national waterways, the equipment of national ports, the improvement of transportation facilities and consequent reduction of freight rates between the place of production and the market, whether at home or abroad, and the establishment of a thorough system of cold storage.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

When the present Government, in 1903, introduced the Railway Act providing for the establishment of a Railway Com-