

vice, based upon the speed of the fastest steamers carrying the mails to New York.

"The old contract system, having failed to meet the requirements of the country, the Council is opposed to its continuance; and that pending the required improved service, the arrangement for the trans-Atlantic mail be on the poundage basis upon which the Canadian mails via New York are now carried. It would also beg to further suggest that the postal subvention be paid on the rate of speed; and that the Council strongly favors such liberal subsidy inducement as may be necessary for more speedy and frequent mail communication between Canada and Great Britain."

IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION.

There are scarcely any subjects receiving more attention than that of Transportation. The modern advance in industrial expansion is largely ascribed to improved uniform rates of transit. The present importance of transportation as a factor in national growth is owing to the phenomenal improvement in steam propulsion.

It is well understood that the position of Great Britain as the heart of the world's industry, finance and commerce, is largely attributable to her excellent system of merchant steam services, which has cost her in subsidies \$250,000,000 in fifty years. On the other hand the industrial progress of Russia would have been impossible had not the government provided railway transportation, and promoted industries such as iron works, whenever individuals could not act advantageously. The completion of her railway extension to the Yellow Sea, and the establishment of steamship lines connecting it with American, Australasian, Indian and European ports will make Russia's position in Asia second only to that of Great Britain.

France with a large merchant marine, which is costing the nation over \$6,000,000 annually in subsidies and bounties, has had a Parliamentary committee studying the subject of improved Transportation, for more than a year. In its report the Committee says: