

des resulted in a large increase of the Dominion grant. That grant will go on increasing with our population. The money spent has in reality been invested. What better investment than education could be found for the \$820,440 so spent? Than the roads, bridges, ferries and public buildings of the Province for the \$3,339,192 which they have accounted for? And so with the rest.

The Railway Policy, which I have seen through its first stages in the Session just closed, was the result of serious thought and conviction. It had become apparent that unless the Government intervened it might be many years before railways would feel themselves sufficiently strong to essay unassisted the work of development. In the meantime the settlers who were already turning the prairies to fruitful fields, would be hampered in their work, and it would be impossible to attract new inhabitants for lands further from the main line. The Government is pledged to see that wherever lines are required for the development of the vast resources of the Province, there they shall go. It is not only pledged to that policy but it has made it practicable and secured its commencement by the promise of a guarantee of the bonds of companies building lines which will enable those companies to finance them. Already almost you can hear the construction gangs at work. But that work can only be proceeded with if the policy which the Government has elaborated is secured.

It is now three and a half years since you accepted my promise to do all that in me lay for the welfare of the Province of Alberta. I appeal to your justice whether I have or have not fulfilled that promise. If you now renew your acceptance of myself and my colleagues as the custodians of your public affairs, you may rest assured that those affairs will be my sole consideration and care in a further term of office.

A. C. RUTHERFORD.