

plished not only a great political gain for the Empire, but a remarkable financial success as well.

#### PEOPLE SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN PROFITS OF FRANCHISES.

The tendency of the present day is to criticise and rail at corporations, especially those controlling or operating public utilities. Would it not be better both for the corporations and for the people that franchises of a public character should be granted under such conditions that while the capitalist will receive not only a fair but a generous reward for his enterprise, the people will also participate in the profit which arises through national development and progress. This can be accomplished by participation in the stock issue, or by applying a principle frequently acted upon in street railway franchises. Montreal and Toronto receive from their street railways what is virtually a rental based upon a percentage of earnings. Those earnings and the consequent percentage increase with the growth and development of the city. The Conservative party thus presents as another article of its political faith,

The management and development of the public domain (in which are to be included great national franchises) for the public benefit, and under such conditions that a reasonable proportion of the increment of value arising therefrom shall inure to the people.

#### MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS BY COMMISSION.

Whether or not state ownership and operation of railways can be made a success in Canada remains to be determined. State ownership, or at least State operation, is repeatedly challenged because of incompetent or corrupt administration, apart from which there does not seem to be much argument against it. Let us not forget that all private enterprises afford instances of failure or incapacity. The denial of our capacity to operate successfully a great public railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific **seems no less than the denial of our capacity for self-government.** Shall all private enterprises be condemned because of business failure or corrupt methods? Are we to renounce our right of self-government because of repeated acts of maladministration, because of political graft, because of Saskatchewan Valley land deals and grazing lease scandals? And last, but not least, because government operation and management of the