

in such a way as can be reasonably occupied and cultivated by the settler. (7) That the franchise under which the members of the House of Commons are elected should be the several provincial franchises, and not the special Franchise Act passed by the House of Commons. (8) That, in the formation of electoral divisions for the House of Commons, county boundaries should be preserved. (9) That the present constitution of the Senate is inconsistent with the federal principle, and should be amended so as to bring it into harmony with the principles of popular government. (10) That the question of prohibition should be submitted to the people, and their views ascertained by means of a Dominion plebiscite. (11) That the Liberal party has confidence in the leadership of the Hon. Wilfred Laurier.

MANCHESTER CANAL.

352. Among the events of the year of interest to Canada was the opening of the Manchester Canal. On the 1st of January, 1894, this canal was opened for traffic throughout, free of ship dues to 1st September, 1894, Manchester having been constituted a port for customs purposes by Treasury Warrant, issued 29th December, 1893. Manchester is the centre of the largest and most populous industrial area in the world, numbering upwards of 7,000,000 people. This great working community, which will be served and materially assisted by the canal, includes 151 towns, each of which is engaged in skilled labour. Eleven of these towns have a population exceeding 100,000; one hundred of them have more than 10,000 inhabitants, and Manchester will be the nearest port both for the productions and the requirements of this great constituency. The distinct purpose of the canal is to bring the producer, the manufacturer and the consumer into direct and unfettered communication, getting rid of all intermediate hindrances. The eggs, the bacon and hams, the tinned meats, the grain, the dairy produce and the timber of Canada can now be placed in the centre of the area containing this large population of seven millions, at much cheaper rates for transport than those heretofore charged, while the fact of this area being opened by a canal directly favourable to the Western Hemisphere trade, will enable Canada to compete on much more advantageous terms with her chief rivals, Denmark for dairy produce, Norway and Sweden for timber, and other European countries for eggs and other articles. As instances of the cheapening of freight rates effected, it is stated that bacon and hams,