

keeping out aliens. There is a strong feeling against the Chinese.

The Beef Market

There is a general scarcity of marketable beef throughout Canada, and the high prices which have been ruling this spring form an interesting illustration of the extent to which conditions in one country sympathize with those in another. The droughts in the American West last summer so impoverished the grazing fields that the number of stock animals was very materially diminished, and the beef market suffered in consequence. At the same time United States shippers are under contract to supply large quantities of live stock for use in England. Thus to supply the deficiency at home, and also to make up the regular shipments to England, recourse was necessary to Canada, and as a result nearly all the marketable surplus of Canadian stock has been purchased for export. But to a lesser extent the same conditions have prevailed in Canada; local droughts and the high price of feed-stuffs operated in much the same way in the case of our own farmers and grazers, and fewer animals than usual were kept through the winter. Prices of beef accordingly went up in common with the general advance in the United States, where the situation, however, was aggravated by the oppressions of a beef trust operating from Chicago. The admission into England of Argentine stock, and the new grass crop at home in July, will relieve the situation. Meanwhile the unusual advance of price in meats has seriously affected the resources of the working people, and has been one of the reasons justly urged for increase of wages.

ONTARIO

The provincial elections are down for May 29. In the platform of both parties the development of New Ontario plays an important part.

The prohibition referendum will be voted on next December.

St. Joseph Lake and Lake Huron will be connected by a canal.

A new drill hall was opened in Brockville on May 5.

The buildings and development of the water power of the new pulp works at Sturgeon Falls will represent an outlay of \$100,000,000. The contract has been let to a Montreal firm.

A charter has been given to Boston capitalists to build an electric line between Toronto and Ottawa, with branch to Brockville, to cost about \$8,000,000.

Windsor will probably have new ship-yards.

Business telephones at \$15 and house telephones at \$10 is the proposition made to the Ottawa authorities by a local promoter who contemplates a rival system to the Bell monopoly.

Galt and Thorold will have Carnegie libraries.

The local Government will investigate the causes of inferiority in the cheese product. Two model districts, comprising twenty factories in Leeds and Lanark and an equal number in Lambton, have been selected, where careful tests will be made and a system of expert inspection maintained.

The tax rate in Toronto goes down a quarter of a mill.

A comprehensive system of city improvement will be adopted in Ottawa, the Civic Parks Committee uniting with the federal commissioners. The Ottawa Improvement Act provides for an annual outlay of \$60,000.

The Clergue industries at Sault Ste. Marie will be added to by immense locomotive and engine works.

QUEBEC

Sir William McDonald has offered to build a sanitarium in the neighborhood of Montreal.

The Canadian Pacific Railway acquires the Ottawa and Western Railway at a price of \$4,000,000.

An elevator to hold 900,000 bushels is to be built in Montreal.

It is proposed to construct a tunnel under the St. Lawrence River at Montreal, connecting the city with the south shore. Plans have been submitted to the Railway