

THE New York crusade against bucket shops seems to be more effective than in any other city, although in Chicago and other western cities it has been carried on with vigor. Todd, the New York bucket shopkeeper, whose trial on a criminal charge of gambling, has been watched with interest, has been committed under the gambling laws of that state. It is considered by legal men, that the conviction has not been secured on any flimsy or narrow interpretation of the law, but on a broad liberal view of it. However an appeal will be carried to the Supreme Court, and when Todd's case is disposed of there, we shall have a clear and decided opinion as to the scope of the New York statutes to overtake the bucket shop evil. There is a strong belief in the minds of many that the efforts of western boards of trade to suppress bucket shops have not been put forth with the honesty and determination the undertaking required. If the criminal law of New York can be called in to do the work, it will be a simple matter to suppress them there.

A MONTREAL exchange says: It is estimated that there are 38,000 boxes of cheese north of Stratford, which includes the Listowel district, yet unsold, about 35,000 in the London district, and 25,000 in the smaller districts, such as Tilsonburg, Ingersoll and Woodstock, etc., making in all about 100,000 boxes yet unsold west of Toronto. If the factories west of Toronto hold 100,000 boxes of cheese, what must be the quantity held in Canada be, and now at a season of the year when the bulk of the factories should be clear of their stocks, and the same in the hands of the export and other dealers. Unless the export demand shows more life than it has during the past two months, some people will find themselves overloaded beyond their power to carry through. It has taken a well managed combination of Montreal dealers and factories together to prevent a demoralizing crash this fall, and all danger may not be over yet. Our Northwestern factories have we understand all sold out their year's products, and it is perhaps well that they have done so.

OUR local poultry dealers should learn to take advantage of our home market better than they have heretofore done. About or after Christmas time you can hear our local granger growl at having to raise chickens and sell at from six to seven cents a pound dressed, or perhaps even lower. Mr. Granger never takes into consideration, that about that time our market is glutted with the surplus product of Ontario and Quebec sent up in a frozen condition. The Manitoba market is a mighty convenient one into which to dump fowl, that would spoil by keeping in a warmer or more changeable climate, and we may expect year after year to have a glut caused by eastern shipments to what they consider a market with an omniferous maw. Some of our city folks are probably not aware that the turkey from which they dined less than three months ago was imported in a frozen condition last winter. But it is a fact all the same that hundreds of last winter's turkey imports were kept frozen all summer, and sold and eaten here during

July, August and even September. If our local poultry raisers are to have the advantages our market offers let them get their fowl into the same before the depth of winter is reached. From the beginning of October to the latter part of November there is always a good price to be had. For instance last week chickens sold from 10 to 12c a pound, geese at 12½c or higher, and turkeys and ducks at 15c, while earlier in the season even higher prices were obtained. There is no trouble in keeping fresh dressed fowl in good condition in this country during October and the beginning of November, but the eastern dealer dare not ship in car lots before the latter part of November, and even in the eastern market fowl are not so plentiful until late in November as to allow of the heavy shipments sent here later, nor can they be had at a price to ship before that month. It is evident that our farmers have a clear month to six weeks of a start on the eastern man, during which they can rush in the bulk of their poultry, and get remunerative prices for them. It is the duty of our country merchants to impress this fact upon the farmers from whom they buy produce, as by so doing they can make business profitable all round.

In an article headed "A change of policy" the *Montreal Journal of Commerce* asserts that the Dominion Government have decided upon a radical change in their immigration policy. After picturing the rush of immigrants to the American territories, and comparing it with the small share going to the Canadian Northwest, the *Journal* announces the new policy as follows. "They propose to send out successful farmers from the Northwest to Great Britain, not to lecture or to write magazine articles, but to talk privately to their old neighbors and other farmers and to lay before them an unvarnished account of the advantages of living in the Canadian territories."

Of course the *Journal* assumes that a successful farmer is prepared to leave his successful farming operations at any moment, and start out as an immigration agent. We fear the new policy will create excursions for worn out political bummers, and the army of agents will include more unsuccessful politicians than successful farmers. With rare exceptions immigration agents have heretofore been selected from the political bummer class, and the new policy would only give wider scope for continuing this nuisance.

The article in the *Journal* contains some valuable points and candid admissions, especially in its comparisons of Canadian and United States immigration, one of which is the following. "While they pour continuously into the territories south of the line they appear only in unpretending hundreds in the Canadian Northwest, and consequently it is felt that some change in the policy at present pursued in order to attract the emigrant is necessary if we are to compete with the inducements held out to them by the unscrupulous emigration agents of the United States territories."

It does not require an American agent to be very unscrupulous or very sharp to divert immigration from this county. He has one argument "railway monopoly," with which he can

effectually carry out his mission. Even Canadians are blinded when they cannot see prospects for a settler in a country, where the national voice enforces a law like the Interstate Commerce Act, which compels railway corporations to deal out even handed justice to all alike, which he never can have in any portion of a Dominion the government of which prostitutes its power to bolster up railway monopoly, against which the settler makes his loud but unheeded cry. The new policy may furnish some patronage with which to buy strength for the government in power, but until the argument of railway monopoly is removed, our whole immigration arrangements are only a waste of money and effort.

Up to our going to press we have not heard of any arrangements being completed by the custom's authorities in Ottawa, by which settlers near the Southern boundary line of Manitoba could cross the line to ship grain in bond via the Northern Pacific, Grand Trunk and other lines to the east. At last accounts the matter was under consideration, and while this consideration is going on elevators are being steadily filled up; cars and other shipping facilities are not available on the C. P. R. and a block is inevitable, and to some extent has existed for a week or more. All know what "under consideration" in an Ottawa Government Department means, and particularly the Custom's Department. That Department promised a report to the Winnipeg Board of Trade a year and a half ago on the investigation made into the conduct of the late Collector and Surveyor at this port, but the report has never been supplied, and we suppose never will be. It is folly to expect anything like attention to public interests from a Government Department so long as the civil service of the country is made a refuge for the impecunious friends and imbecile relations of Cabinet Ministers and Members of Parliament.

THE Red River Valley road is once more before the public. Mr. Holt, it is said, offers a new contract, embracing most of the modifications of the first one asked by the citizens' delegates, and the Local Government asks for the \$300,000 from Winnipeg. Whether or not the new contract is all it is stated to be can be safely left to the delegates to judge. The *Morning Call*, doubtless with the desire, father to the thought, stated on Saturday that the present tightness in the money market may prevent the citizens from putting up the money they were formerly prepared to put up; but the recent revelations regarding the Hudson's Bay railway debentures, still uncontradicted by the Local Government, are more likely to tighten the purse strings of intending investors. However, the whole matter is in the hands of a delegation representing the citizens, who are thoroughly competent to look after the interests of their constituents, and it is to be hoped, that their decision will be abided by. The return of Mayor Jones to the city to-day will bring the matter to a head.

MARKS, RUTLEDGE & Co., general storekeepers, Nicola, B.C.—stock and real estate offered for sale on November 21st.