

understand why, if they were any good, Canadian holders should be so anxious to get rid of them. We might reply that the reason Canadians are undertaking these tropical investments is simply "Many minds, many preferences," though the very men, it may be remarked, who have launched these Southern enterprises are also the men most largely interested in Canadian investments as well. Perhaps the real reason, however, is found in the fact that Canadians are growing in their ideas, are becoming more cosmopolitan in this, as in other matters. Britishers can scarcely be in a position to blame them for this.

The existence of the many bucket shops now established in Canadian as well as United States cities is imperilled by the efforts now being made by the leading stock exchanges of the continent. The legitimate brokers have long been desirous of putting the bucket shops out of business, their principal motive being to do away with the competition of these places. The New York Stock Exchange is taking the lead in the movement to prevent the bucket shops securing their daily service of quotations. The Western Union, which has an exclusive contract for furnishing this service, supplies all applicants with a ticker and the stock reports at a charge of \$45 a month. The New York and other exchanges will endeavor to have the line drawn so that only legitimate traders will receive this service, thus placing the bucket shops on the same footing as that occupied a year ago by the pool-rooms, which were refused the racing reports by the Western Union. For over two years the Chicago Board of Trade has been trying to shut off the furnishing of market quotations to the bucket shops, and at the present time this service has to be obtained in a roundabout way.



DRY GOODS ITEMS.

A Bradford correspondent says, in reference to all classes of coarse crossbred colonial or English wools, the position is now an exceedingly difficult one, since the continuous drain on them which has been going on for exportation to the United States for many months, added to a large consumption in the worsted and woolen trades, has already reduced stocks to an unusually low point, although a much larger proportion than usual of the Australian clip is already on this side. Although we are on the eve of the sales of home-grown wools, the prices asked in the country are quite beyond the reach of buyers, and, if given, would mean a still further advance in coarse-fibred prices. But, in spite of the great strength of the wool market here, spinners of all kinds of worsted yarns are finding it quite impossible to sell, either to the Continent or in the home trade, at prices within 5 to 10 per cent. of cost, and, consequently, quite a considerable part of the spinning machinery of Bradford is gradually being allowed to stand idle rather than that spinners should continue to run on at an absolute loss. At present there are no signs of the general tension of the situation being reduced, and, although in the most fashionable circles there are indications that fine coating serges and mohairs may to some extent supplant tweeds in the near future, there is, on the other hand, every probability of tweeds being largely worn as long as the price of worsteds continues so high.



FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

We hear that the Thomson Line of steamships, trading between Canada and London, is putting in improved facilities for the unloading and distribution of Canadian produce, by which a fruitful source of trouble and complaint will be removed. Hitherto the vessels have docked at Tilbury, and the cargo having been unloaded there has been brought, after more or less unavoidable delay, by train to the warehouses on the Middlesex side of the river. Now, however, the vessels will come some twenty miles further up the river to the Surrey Commercial Docks, where facilities have been provided for the rapid and economical handling and storage of produce. From the vessel butter,

cheese and bacon will be taken direct to the warehouses, where storage will be provided at the same temperatures as those in which the produce has been stored on the vessel, viz., from 15 deg. to 55 deg. Fahr., according to the requirements of the trade.

According to the report of the Canadian Commercial Agent in Leeds, Australian and Tasmanian apples are arriving in large quantities. These apples are shipped in nice-sized boxes, holding about 40 lbs. of fruit, and are bringing wholesale to-day from \$3 to \$4.15 per box. The packing and grading is excellent, each apple is rolled in tissue paper, and all interstices in the box filled therewith. He says he has seen no apples imported into England that can in any way approach these apples, either as to packing or appearance; they come out of the box without the least sign of bruise or discoloration, and in as perfect condition as when picked from the tree. The best varieties sent are very fine in flavor, but do not excel the best Canadians as we find them in the orchards in Canada. The boxes are well stencilled "Australian" or "Tasmanian," together with the initials of the grower, and the place where grown. Within the box quite a neat, showy card, the full size of the box, is found, printed in colors, stating where grown, the variety and a guarantee that they have been packed and graded according to Government regulations, together with the address of the grower and shipper. In every respect well packed, neat and attractive packages. These apples sell readily retail from 8 to 12 cents per pound. For the finest "Canadian dessert apples" packed in boxes in this attractive form there should be a ready sale at prices almost double what the same apples would bring in barrels.



CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

The touring manufacturers arrived in London after a somewhat tedious voyage on the 18th inst., the only untoward incident, so far as has come to our ears, having been the slipping on the deck of Mr. Hendry, of Vancouver, who will have to keep to his room for some days. On Monday the visitors had the honor of an invitation to Windsor by His Majesty the King. Altogether they appear to be having "no end of a good time."

On Wednesday they were entertained at the annual banquet of the London Chamber of Commerce, the speech of the evening being made by Mr. W. K. George. He said while the visit of the manufacturers had no political significance whatever, everyone wished to get into closer touch with the Motherland. He endeavored to impress upon the audience that Canada must provide employment at a remunerative wage, otherwise, as before, the sons of the Old Land would go to the United States. The large immigration to the United States had been chiefly on account of the States' industrial development. Canada was now achieving the same remarkable development. In a country such as Canada a protective tariff was necessary, he thought. One result of it had been that hundreds of millions of capital of the United States had been invested in industrial establishments in Canada. Compared with this, he regretted to say that British capital thus invested amounted to only about a million.



—A correspondent of ours residing in Regina takes an exceedingly hopeful view respecting prospects for the crops in the Great North-West. He says: "We are having phenomenally fine weather for the farmers. We had a beautiful spring from the middle of February, and the seed was gotten in much earlier than usual, and within the past four weeks or so we have had copious rains, which have brought on the crop by leaps and bounds. Old farmers say that the wheat crop is to-day ten days in advance of what it ever was before in the history of the Territories. If the favorable weather continues we will have the banner crop of the country, and the talk of a 90,000,000 bushel wheat crop will be a low estimate. Time and the weather will show."