

the consumption daily of meat and other products assumes proportions which have received little attention. In the West there is an inflowing tide of emigration, which last year amounted to 150,000, which this year is estimated at 250,000, and which during the last five years has created a great body of new consumers requiring meats, butter, eggs and poultry for daily consumption. Moreover, it is peculiar to this west an immigration, that those who go on the land follow the line of least resistance, and for the earlier years of their occupation give their attention chiefly to the raising of grain crops, and little or no attention to dairying, to the raising of poultry or the feeding of stock. An important percentage of them therefore, continue to be buyers of meat products, buyers of eggs and butter, not producers. There has been the development of mining and lumber camps and large cities in British Columbia, which have established another body of consumers, demanding the same products as are required by those upon the prairies or in railway camps, or in New Ontario or in the enlarged towns and cities is the East.

A few examples will indicate somewhat the volume of this new demand. In 1904 officers of your department supervised the shipment of 2 cars of mixed tender fruits from the Niagara Peninsula to Winnipeg. The department assumed the commercial hazard of the venture. From these initial shipments the trade has developed until during the year 1909, upwards of 500 carloads of tender fruits were forwarded from the Niagara Peninsula to that city. Last Fall one firm in a town in Ontario took orders in the prairie provinces and in British Columbia for 40 carloads of poultry, in all 1,300,000 lbs. They were sold at a price equivalent to 16c. per lb., on board cars in Ontario. This shipper was only one among many in this province buying supplies for the same market. The demand so exhausted supplies and created such fiercely competitive conditions to secure the available stock, that by Christmas prices were forced to almost a prohibitive point. The lesson which this incident gave to newspaper writers in this province was indicated in their advice to the public to visit their displeasure upon the wicked retailers, who charged such extravagant prices, and who in return said, "Not the retailer but the wicked wholesaler is to blame."

Recently in a visit made to the East, a wholesale dealer from Victoria, B.C., made purchases of 23 carloads of eggs (10,350 cases of 30 dozen each) at a price approximating 24c. per dozen f.o.b. cars in Ontario, shipment during the Fall and Winter months. Winnipeg merchants, during this last week, have been inquiring for 20 carloads of eggs for shipment this Fall. Other wholesale