

advance by nearly every implement and carriage concern, and their circular letters notifying a withdrawal of old quotations, are in the hands of their customers. Fortunately for the dealers, most of them are supplied, or have orders placed to cover the bulk of their spring trade, and they are not "crossing any bridges" yet. But after present stock and goods in transit are exhausted, what follows? It is a popular delusion with some that advantage is being taken of the occasion to "force prices" and "bribe" the dealer. Others hold to the belief that advancing quotations cannot be long maintained, because the price, being in a sense prohibitive, manufacturers' stock will accumulate until they will be only too willing to reduce it by making prices to cash buyers. The majority, however, take a sensible and business like view of the situation, recognizing the fact that it is less difficult to sell goods on an advancing than on a declining market. They welcome the change, and see in it the forerunner of better profits in the agricultural implement business.

New Station at Moosejaw.

This issue of The Commercial contains an engraving of the new Canadian Pacific Railway depot and hotel at Moose Jaw, Assiniboia, which was

were very small. Advices from Antigua by cable report stocks almost exhausted and notes an advance of 5 1-2c per gallon since the opening of the market this season with very little to be had even at present prices. Latest advices from Porto Rico report a firm and advancing market, with offerings light.

GROCERY TRADE NOTES.

Toronto wholesale grocers are reported to be discussing a proposal to operate a vinegar factory of their own, to oppose the vinegar trust.

The Cuban sugar crop is placed according to the latest estimate at 500,000 tons, 250,000 of which is available for export. The total production last year was 214,000 tons.

Stocks of sugar in Canada are said to be light and the market for the refined article is decidedly firm, although raw sugar weakened considerably towards the end of last week, for which no special reason could be given.

The market for canned goods in the east is steady and the demand fair. At Montreal the prevailing price for corn is 85c for large lots, but as high as 90c has been paid for some small quantities.

The tea market at Montreal continues active. There is a good demand for gunpowders and low grade China

this a more nourishing food than the best butter made from cream. When the raw peanuts are ground, they produce a meal, but after they have been roasted and then ground they come from the mill an oily, tough, yellow, delicious butter, ready to spread on bread.

Two more parties residing in southern Manitoba have been fined for smuggling in tobacco from the United States. Now that fine Canadian leaf tobacco is being put on the market at such a low price, the temptation to smuggle in this article should be greatly reduced. A customs officer says the Menominites of southern Manitoba are adepts in the art of smuggling. Their plan is to buy fifty tins or so of American tobacco, take it from the tins and put it in a common meal bag, which they put on the seat of the wagon. Then they pay duty very religiously on one tin of tobacco, get the Canadian customs stamp put on it and sell from this tin for months. That is, they keep refilling it from the sack of tobacco.

The American Grocer, speaking of the present situation in the United States sugar market, says: "The fierce competition which marks the sugar refining interest never was stronger than at present. It looks now as if the outcome of the trouble would be a complete revolution in



NEW CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY STATION AT MOOSEJAW, ASSINIBOIA

recently opened for business. The station is by all odds the best railway building between Winnipeg and the coast and as will be seen from the engraving is a handsome one architecturally. It is designed to handle the traffic of the main line, the Soo line which branches off here to St. Paul, and to provide first-class accommodation for travellers stopping over. The foundations are of Calgary stone, the superstructure of Moose Jaw red brick and the finishing inside is mainly of British Columbia fir. The hotel has accommodation for 100 guests.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

MOLASSES.

Considerable business transpired last week at Montreal according to the Gazette, in both spot and new crop Barbadoes stock, due to the fact that prospects are that the crop will be much shorter owing to the damage done by the recent hurricanes being greater than was at first expected; in consequence, the general impression is that prices at the island will not go much below what they are at present. A private cable reports the market strong at 12 1-4c first cost, which means 25 1-2c to 29c laid down here. It also stated that supplies

blacks. The latter kind is getting scarce. Ceylons at 17 to 20c have also been in demand and prices higher. Japans are quiet and firm.

24,913 packages of tea were sold at an auction sale in New York last week. The sale is said to have represented a valuation of \$100,000. Good prices were obtained throughout, but low grades were in special favor.

The Brazilian Review of March 14th says of coffee: A well informed correspondent writes from San Paulo that "the coming crop of 1899-1900 is estimated to yield 20 to 30 per cent. more than the current one." Taking this at 5,500,000, the San Paulo 1899-1900 crop will be between 6,600,000 and 7,100,000 bags.

A dispatch from Havana dated April 22, says: The sugar crop for 1899 is officially estimated at 307,903 English tons, against a total for 1898 of 232,032 tons. The tobacco crop is said to be of good quality and more abundant than for two years past. A large stock of Remedios filler was sold in the field for \$23 per quintal. The planters in the province of Pinar del Rio are very cheerful as to the outlook.

At Philadelphia, Pa., there is one factory grinding 2,000 pounds of peanuts per day, and converting it into peanut butter. Chemists pronounce

methods of distribution. We would not be surprised if eventually refiners were forced to sell sugar direct to consumers, just as milk, soap, and other articles are now sold. The introduction of package sugar was an innovation that is still in its infancy. The 2-lb. paper package has been followed by the 2-lb. and 5-lb. cotton packages, and in time the packages will be made to conform to the wants of consumers in various sections. And then we shall have the dollar package, and soft sugars, as well as hards, in packages of varying weight. And then?"

The senate of Minnesota has passed a bill requiring peddlers to pay a license that is considered practically prohibitive. These fellows might be regulated in Manitoba to advantage to the community at large. Merchants should take up the matter.

A company known as The Alaska Navigation Mining and Trading company, of Chicago, which is exploiting the country north of Edmonton for gold and also engaging in the business of carrying passengers and freight to and from Great Slave Lake, has a representative at Edmonton this spring making preparations for the season's operations.