THE Trade Bulletin recently referred to the anomalies existing in the C. P. R. freight on grain shipped from Manitoba, and in doing so stated that grain would be carried from Gretna to Port Arthur at five cents per bushelless than from Bagot to Port Arthur, the two points being about the same distance from the latter place. The Bulletin drew the inference that if the competition of a railway like the St. Paul and Manitoba compelled the C.P.R. to make such a difference in freight rates, what would be the effect upon rates were the C. P. R. to have competition for the traffic of Manitoba from a railway entirely independent of the latter road? Mr. Olds, general traffic manager of the C.P.R., answered the Bulletin to the effect that the difference in favor of Gretna as compared with Bagot, was but 2c per 100 pounds on wheat to Port Arthur, instead of oc per bushel as stated. Mr. Olds gave figures stating that the rate on wheat from Gretna to Port Arthur was 28 cents per 100 pounds, whilst the rate from Bagot to the same place was 30c. per 100 pounds. The fact is that whilst the freight tariff published last fall gives the rates as stated by Mr. Olds, a very material reduction has since been made in the rates from certain Manitoba points. Can it be that Mr. Olds is in ignorance of this change in the rates, which has been in force for some time? The reduction in rates has only been at points in proximity to the St. Paul and Manitoba road as follows: Emerson, reduced from 28c per 100 pounds to 23c per 100 pounds. A similar reduction has been made at Gretna, where the rates were the same as at Emerson. Arnaud, Rosenfeldt and Dominion City have also been given a reduction in rates, the former two places to the extent of le and the latter 4c. Thus the real difference in favor of Emerson and Gretna, in comparison with Bagot, is 7c per 100 pounds. This anomalous condition of the wheat tariff will be made clearer when it is stated that the C.P.R. Co. will carry wheat from Gretna or Emerson to Port Arthur at 5c less per 100 pounds than from Winnipeg though the haul from the former points is about 70 miles farther.

Agriculture in Japan.

Japan has an area about equal to that of California. The natives have reduced agriculture to such scientific principles that 12,000,000 feed and clothe 38,000,000 people, besides yielding 40,000,000 pounds of tea, 25,000 bales of silk, and large quantities of rice, tobacco and hemp for export. Of the whole population 20,000,000 belong to the agricultural class. The soil is black vegetable mould, wonderfully fertile. There are few domestic animals, but th Japanese supply the place of barnyard manure with bran, seaweed, non-edible fish and lime. Rice is the great summer crop, and wheat is grown on the same land in winter. The latter is boiled like rice, or into cake, but bread is unknown. Grains are ground with small handmills, precisely like those used by the ancient Egyptians. Every sort of vegetable is grown and at least 100 food planss, unknown to us except as weeds, have been domesticated in Japan. Male and female laborers can be hired by the year for \$15 or \$20, but the purchasing power of money is far greater than here and the habits of the people are simple.

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