

ACCORDING to the *Times*, some very fine wheat has been offered in the Brandon market during last week, but as most of the buyers had ceased operations for the season, sellers were obliged to take 55c for it. Choice oats brought 16 to 17c with 15c as the ruling price. A shipment of 5,000 bushels was made to Regina. Cattle have been offered freely, but sales were slow, the market being overstocked.

THE new time table came into force on the C. P. R'y on Sunday last, and trains are now run by the 24 o'clock system. The running time has been materially shortened, a gain of five hours being made between here and Montreal, and a greater proportionate gain westward. The new time system will be used on the western division only at first, and if found satisfactory will be extended to the whole line.

After a long course of agitation it has been arranged to re-adopt the early-closing system in Winnipeg. Consequently, commencing on Monday, July 5th, dry goods, grocery, and boot and shoe stores will be closed at 8 o'clock in the evening, Saturdays excepted. Several small-souled merchants who refused to sign the agreement were forced to come to terms through a hint at the application of the "boycott" to them by the labor societies, who strongly supported the clerks.

THE people about Killarney are very anxious for a roller flour mill. There is talk of raising \$5,000 bonus to assist such an enterprise, but many oppose such action on the ground that so much of the land held by the C. P. R. is exempt from taxation. It is claimed that the company are holding the land at such high prices that settlers are prevented from coming into the district. An appeal has been made to Sir John MacDonaid requesting him "to take steps to lower price of railway lands."

IN view of the early completion of the railway to Birtle, the council of that town have decided to discount the future by going into debt for local improvements. It is not always wise to base calculations upon what the future may bring forth. Especially when there is a disposition to go into debt upon future prospects, the matter should be considered very carefully, by corporations as well as individuals, and the old saying of "many a slip between the cup and the lip" should be taken into account before assuming obligations beyond present ability to meet. However, the amount to be appropriated by Birtle is not very large, namely \$10,000, and if the town have no other indebtedness, it will no doubt be able to carry the load, even though its future should not turn out as bright as is now confidently expected.

British Columbia.

A large number of miners are going into the Big Bend Region.

Coldwell & Kaliper have opened a fish and fruit store in Victoria.

The *Victoria Standard* says. "We are face to face with the facts that our lumber is gradually increasing in demand, that it brings \$1.00 per thousand more than it did two years ago, while 90 per cent. of all the available timber lands within the limits of the province" have been gobbled up by foreign capitalists.

A consignment of sealskins, valued at \$250,000, was shipped from Victoria for London, England, lately. They went via the Northern Pacific railroad and filled three cars.

Grading on the Esquimalt Nanaimo Railway is completed with the exception of about 8,000 yards of dirt to be removed on Bell, Larkin & Patterson's contract. A large force of Chinese are at present engaged on the work.

Coal costs from \$7 to \$8 per ton in Victoria, though there is abundance of it within a short distance of the city by water. The high price is owing to a monopoly of the coal lands of the province being held by one man, through the permission of the Local Government

Order Little and Often.

"The business of wholesale dry goods in Canada is wholly changed within a few years. Retail dealers in town and country no longer stock up garret to cellar twice a year. They buy more from hand to mouth, ordering little and often. Similarly, the importer keeps on ordering little parcels by letter and cable, or from the home mills in addition to his Spring and Fall purchases. The advantage of so doing ought to be evident to both parties. The merchant effects a saving in interest, in insurance, in risk of loss from various causes; and the factory or the European merchant, instead of the importer, has to carry the risk of the large stock."

The above clipping from the *Monetary Times* of Toronto, should be of special value to North-western dealers. Without comment on our part, the thinking reader will draw from it good reason for the encouragement of local wholesale trade.

A Provision Deal.

A Chicago commission merchant writes to *Daily Business*, of that place, as follows: "That there is an immense deal in provisions I have no doubt, and thus believing I have advised my customers to keep out. The outsider who dips into a manipulated market gets burned four times out of five. The manipulators know who they have stuff bought from and are able to form a very correct idea of the financial capacity and sagacity of the customers who are putting up the money. They look over the cards and find they have so much stuff bought or sold through a dozen or twenty houses. They say this is Cincinnati business, that comes from St. Louis, this from New York, and so on through the list. They figure that a certain percentage will stay until they are frozen out or until the play is over, and that as many of these men are as likely to be wrong as right. The one set they must carry and the other they will eventually freeze out. They know, further, that a far larger class will run away from a loss, and that such speculators usually buy on bulges and sell on breaks, habitually losing both ways in the long run. The manipulators work the market to catch such men, and they do it to a queen's tase. An outsider who attempts to trade in a manipulated market is playing another fellow's game, with the chances largely against him."

THE first commercial traveller, now living in Greenfield, Mass., at the age of 90, ceased working only a year or two ago.

THE Montreal authorities intend taking legal measures immediately to rid the city of all glue, tallow, and soap manufactories and other kindred nuisances.

ALL men of business justly insist that their clerks shall be honest, and yet there are many of them who overlook the fact that the treatment often given to their clerks is anything but consistent with thorough honesty in themselves.

THE credit of the United States has lately passed that of England, as it long since passed that of every other civilized country, and now stands at the head of the list. United States 4 per cents now command 137½ in London, the highest point ever reached, putting them far above any bonds in the world, as at this figure they pay only 2½ per cent. if held until maturity.

THE *Montreal Gazette* in a late issue says: "One of the principal events of the week has been the report that prices of Canadian flannels have been subject to an important reduction. It appears that, as the season is wearing through, some manufacturers who had not received as many orders as were desired, have determined to cut prices, and rumor has it that figures have been named which are ten per cent. below what would have been accepted ten days ago. This cut, if carried out fully, will undoubtedly cause the cancellation of a number of orders taken on the basis of old prices."

A process has been discovered by which oil may be extracted from corn at a cost of 4c per pound. The substance is said to be equal to cotton-seed oil for all purposes. The lovers of salads will thereby be able to enjoy a change from the customary "olive" oil which at present renders the rubeund lobster delightfully slippery. The new product is also available for the manufacture of soap. The practical uses to which the staple cereal of the central West States may be put have evidently been but scantily appreciated. Its sphere will now be enlarged beyond the limits of a medium for denuding "lambs" of their fleeces and tippers of the interior surfaces of their digestive systems.

WHEAT growing is on the decline in Australia. In New South Wales the total yield of wheat for 1885 was not likely to be over 3,120,000 bushels, and regret was expressed that wheat-growing was gradually becoming unpopular among the farmers of New South Wales. This was not always so. The averages of the four years preceding 1885 were high, being up to 16 bushels, but the prices were low, and last year's average was perhaps not more than 12 bushels to the acre. But even this low figure is much greater than the yield of South Australia and almost equal to the average of Victoria. With regard to production and consumption, the deliveries of breadstuffs by rail from the country districts during the year 1885 were less than in the previous year, the quantity being 690,000 bushels against 910,000 bushels in 1884, and 930,000 in 1883, so that, instead of the colony more fully supplying its own requirements from year to year, the reverse appears to be the fact.