

that places an insuperable barrier before it. Narrow minded protection has built between the mill which needs the wheat and the farmer who needs the market a wall consisting of an absurd tariff of 25 cents on every bushel of wheat that crosses the boundary.

The disposition of Canada's surplus is a question upon the answer to which depends the future, not only of the milling interests of the Northwest, but indeed of the United States. Canadian mills do not have capacity enough to grind this wheat.

Well, why should not their capacity be increased?

If they had the capacity, they would not possess a market for their flour sufficiently large to take it.

Listen to where the Americans expect to find a market.

American mills have both the capacity to grind, and the market to supply.

Should this surplus be shipped abroad, the foreign miller will become possessed of a supply of raw material practically unlimited as to quantity and actually unrivalled as to quality. Therewith he can secure a mixture from which he can produce a flour to rival in strength anything his American competitor can offer. The result must, in the end, inevitably mean the destruction of the American export trade, the shifting of the American milling centre, the gradual decline of the American milling interest to a purely domestic basis, and its ultimate retrogression to a comparatively unimportant place in the list of large American industries.

Well, where will they shift to? They will come to Canada, of course,

Canada cannot grind the surplus crop of her northwestern territories. If America may not do so, because of her own shortsightedness, it follows that the work will fall to the more fortunate miller in Great Britain or on the continent, whose laws are not framed to forbid the free importation of the raw material. The miller who is able to grind this enormous crop will be the miller of the future; and, where he is, there will be the great mills of the world.

Are we going to allow the great mills of the world all to be south of the line when we have the raw materials to keep them going?

To obviate the danger which threatens American milling interests from the north, there is but one course. The free admission of the raw material is the sole remedy. Milling in bond under present regulations is impracticable, and almost impossible. Millers who undertake it will find it too cumbersome and expensive to be profitable, the margin in flour at best being but slight.

Going further on:

Should foreign millers—

That is Canadian of course.

—secure this wheat, they would be enabled thereby to cut off the American export trade, both in wheat and flour.

A terrible thing, would it not be if we in Canada supplied the raw material by which the Americans could cut off our export trade in wheat and flour.

One bushel mixed with three bushels of the less virile wheat grown in the United States and ground into flour, is sufficient to raise the whole high value.

Then, going on, there is a significant passage which I would like to read before I lay this down.

Turning from the pessimistic to the opposite point of view, the contemplation of the future of American milling with the protective tariff removed and free Canadian wheat secured, the prospect is a grand one. With this enormous and steadily increasing crop free to pursue its natural geographical and commercial channel, flowing into the mills and elevators of the States, a splendid tide of activity and prosperity would follow in its wake. Assured of their future supply of raw material, the mills of America would go forward on their developing course, continuing the march of progress which has brought them to the front. New mills would be built, and capacities enlarged. New markets abroad would be sought and conquered. The returns from this renewed and extended activity would be felt in increased commercial prosperity. New railways would be extended into the wheat-growing territory. American railroads carrying the flour from the mills would secure additional freight. American banks would obtain increased deposits, and greatly enlarged exchange accounts; American mill operatives would be in demand, and pay-rolls would be increased; mill machinery, bags, barrels and other mill supplies would be required in larger quantities; more money would be in circulation; and the benefit would be felt in every artery of industrial life touched by milling. There would be an increase in grain firms, in elevators, and in every branch of the grain-handling and flour-making interests. This would be felt in the added value of real estate and in the solid and substantial development of every undertaking and enterprise that makes a community prosperous. Farmers would find a better market for their products; and, in the end, should this crop be assimilated at home rather than abroad, they will secure an average higher price for their wheat because of the ability of the progressive and successful miller to pay more for his raw material.

There is an article which goes all the way through to show that the milling interests of the American northwest are stationary if not declining, but that if they can only grind Canadian wheat they will not only hold their own market, but the export markets of the world. Is it not better that Canadian wheat should be ground by Canada and that we should have the markets of the world instead of the Americans? Were there time I might apply this same argument to a great many other subjects. The same could be applied to cattle, hogs and a large number of other articles which the farmer produces and which are really