

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS, ROOM 429,

May 29, 1934.

The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture met at eleven o'clock, Mr. Senn presiding.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, first of all I want to bring to the attention of the committee, and have it included in the record, a letter which I have received from Mr. W. L. Wieland, representative of the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited. This is in reply to the request made by the committee as to the reasons for this society condemning Garnet wheat in the way it was referred to at our last meeting by Mr. Jackson.

The CHAIRMAN,
Select Standing Committee on Agriculture,
House of Parliament, Ottawa.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your question to our Mr. Jackson, I give you, herewith, cable received from our Mr. Hobley of Liverpool.

Garnet hard brittle impossible condition milling when mixed with Marquis much better chance mill to advantage when dealt with separately.

I sincerely trust that this information is what you desire and proves of use in your deliberations.

For your information, I should like you to know that while in the United Kingdom last October I was asked by our millers when they could expect results from the previous investigation carried on over there by our government. I was given to understand that they had been promised some form of action and were becoming rather impatient of delay.

I do not wish to impose my opinion too heavily upon you, but it appears to me that the vital question to the welfare of our wheat growers is being ignored and that is why our exports of this grain are dropping.

In all other lines which we buy here for the United Kingdom, it is not a question of what the producer or manufacturer wishes to produce or manufacture—it is what the buyer wants that counts.

There is no sense in trying to impose the opinion of quality held by the seller on the buyer. The buyers know what they want and as I understand this situation regarding Garnet wheat they have demonstrated quite fully some two years ago their desires and the sooner this type of wheat is segregated the better for our country as a whole.

Canada has, in the past, firmly established her western grain certificates as being absolutely reliable. Millers have accepted this certificate with the certainty of knowing what results they could obtain in milling and have paid a good premium over all other imported wheats. Now that they are demanding of us that we re-establish this high reputation of our grain certificates, are we not extremely short sighted that we do not comply at once? We, in Canada, are the ones to suffer, not they—they are in a position to do what they want, but where they want, and mix grains as they please.

I do not feel that I can be too emphatic in these remarks and trust that they are received as proffered, solely in the interests of our Canadian