

MR. MILLER AND DAKOTA PRICES

To the Editor Grain Growers' Guide:

Dear Sir,—I read with interest in the Nor'-West Farmer of 20th March, a letter from Mr. John Miller attempting to explain the higher prices for wheat in Dakota as compared with Manitoba. Mr. Miller's anxiety to have the Manitoba farmer believe that he is getting the full value for his grain is very amusing indeed.

Mr. Miller claims that the reason the American farmer gets more for his grain is the American requires all the good wheat for home consumption and that the lower grades of wheat are exported, but he does not say anything of the flour that is exported.

What difference does it make to us whether the Americans export their surplus in the manufactured article, flour, or in the raw material, wheat? Statistics show that the American exports in flour are now double or treble that of our Canadian flour. It must therefore be apparent to all that the American miller is able to compete in the flour market of the world with Canadian millers, and it would not be at all fair to say that our mills are second to any in the world. If so we should at once find why our mills are not equal to those of other countries. It is admitted that we have as good wheat as there is in the world, yet the American miller is grinding wheat that costs him at least 10 cents per bushel more than it costs the Canadian miller, and is still able to compete and deliver flour in competition with our Canadian miller in the foreign markets.

The following quoted from the "Weekly North-Western Miller" of March 24th, will substantiate the above facts, though I notice all through Mr. Miller's controversy, in his defence of the combines, he is very loath to accept the opinion of any person, and yet he seems to take for granted that we should accept his opinion in all cases.

"The following table shows entries of foreign flour, into London for two weeks with respective countries of origin, in sacks of 280 lbs.

	March 5th.	Feb. 26th.
United States (Atlantic Ports)	12,092	19,168
Canada	6,520	
France	820	375
Holland	585	130
Austria-Hungary	444	
Germany	262	250
Italy	206	
Russia	14	
India	5	
Total	20,948	19,923

Another report in the same paper says: "One Minneapolis mill reported good sales of patent to regular customers in the United Kingdom."

And again, "The trade in foreign flour is now confined

largely to American spring clears, in which grade considerable business has been transacted within the past few weeks. Second patents, both of American spring Manitoba, have also proved a good standby. Some of the second spring patents come very near to what are also called fancy clears."

Now surely the above facts show clearly that the United States people are shipping high grade as well as low grade flour. No doubt Mr. Miller will still maintain that the American farmer is not getting as much as those who are in a position to know say he does.

Sworn statements of many Manitoba farmers who delivered grain to the bonded elevators in North Dakota last November show beyond any question of doubt that while on November 10th, 1908, the quotation for Fort William No. 3 Northern was 98 cents less the freight and commission amounting to 10 cents, leaving 88 cents to the farmer net track price at Southern Manitoba points, the price paid on street at Hansboro, North Dakota, just across the line, on the same date for the same grade was 93½ cents; track price 97 cents, or 9 cents in favor of the Dakota farmer.

I have also before me a copy of the "Winnipeg Post," January 16th, giving statement taken from Bradstreet, showing the price netted by the American farmer for the 1908 crop up to that date to be 92 cents per bushel net to the farmer, as against a net price to the Manitoba and North-West Farmer of 81 cents per bushel upon the basis of the C.P.R. figures of the wheat crop of Western Canada. The report goes on to say, "it is inconceivable that the U.S. wheat crop should have sold for 11 cents per bushel more than the Western Canadian product. If this is indeed true, it is up to the grain men of this country to look into the matter."

In a card of instructions to an American local elevator operator, dated December 9th, 1908, he was authorized to pay \$1.00 for No. 1 Northern wheat at North Dakota points adjacent to the boundary, and on the same date Fort William and Port Arthur No. 1 Northern quotation is 98½, which with the deduction of 10 cents leaves to the Manitoba farmer 88½ cents. This is the track price of Manitoba quotations and the American quotation given above is street price.

If Mr. Miller would like further information and further proof as to the fact that the Dakota farmer is getting 10 cents per bushel more than the Manitoba farmer on the same date for the same article of grain, it will be forthcoming, but I think I have trespassed sufficiently upon your space for this time.

Yours truly,

Rosser.

W. H. BEWELL.

SYNOPSIS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS

Any even numbered section of Dominion Lands in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, excepting 8 and 26, not reserved, may be homesteaded by any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years of age, to the extent of one-quarter section of 160 acres, more or less.

Application for entry must be made in person by the applicant at a Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-Agency for the district in which the land is situated. Entry by proxy may, however, be made at any Agency on certain conditions by the father, mother son, daughter, brother or sister of an intending homesteader.

DUTIES—(1) At least six months residence upon and cultivation of the land in each year for three years.

(2) A homesteader may, if he so desires, perform the required residence duties by living on farming land owned solely by him, not less than eighty (80) acres in extent, in the vicinity of his homestead. He may also do so by living with father or mother, on certain conditions. Joint ownership in land will meet this requirement.

(3) A homesteader intending to perform his residence duties in accordance with the above, while living with parents or on farming land owned by himself, must notify the Agent for the district of such intention.

W. W. CORY,

Deputy Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

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