

Conditions in the West

Grain Standards Board Decide Upon Last Year's Commercial Grades with Three Additional Grades to Cover Rusted Wheat

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Winnipeg, Sept. 29.—The Western Grain Standards Board meet this week to decide on the commercial grades of grain for the year. It was not possible for them to meet earlier because of the necessity of getting representative samples from all over the country, and as threshing was late at many points, the samples could not be secured. In all the years which the board has met in Winnipeg they have never encountered anything like the present situation with regard to variety of grades of wheat, and after surveying the whole situation carefully they decided that the best plan was to maintain the commercial grades of last year and to add to them three grades to cover the rusted wheat, these to be known as No. 4, 5 and 6 special. The weights to be 54 lbs. for No. 4, 51 lbs. for No. 5 and 48 lbs. for No. 6. Some idea of the gigantic task before the Board may be gathered from the fact that some wheat weighing 63 lbs. to the measured bushel could not be graded above No. 5, owing to the way it was frosted.

Death of Members. One of the sad features of the gathering this year was the absence of four familiar faces, S. A. McIlwain, late Vice-Pres. of the Western Canada Flour Mills, who although he had only been a member of the Standard Board for a few years, was a familiar figure in connection with the grain trade. Senator Finlay Young of Killarney, who had been a member of the Board for many years; George McCullough, head of the McCullough Milling Company of Souris, Manitoba, another old and valued member, and Samuel Spink, who from its inception up to the time of his death had been a member of the Western Grain Standards Board. He had been its first chairman, and he had occupied the chair for twenty years, being relieved of it one or two years ago at his own request.

There was present from Eastern Canada, Michael McLaughlin and C. R. Watts, secretary of the Millers' Association. From Alberta, Messrs. Fairfield, Carson and MacFarland. From Saskatchewan, the Hon. W. R. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture and R. J. Phinn. From outside points in Manitoba, K. Campbell, of Brandon, and Chris Johnston of Baldur. Among the Winnipeg members of the Board who were present were, Inspector Serls, and Messrs. W. A. Matheson, A. R. Hargrave and Dr. C. N. Bell. G. R. Crowe, chairman, was unavoidably absent in the East.

A Returned Soldier.

The Winnipeg Grain Exchange has made very heavy contributions, both in men and money to the prosecution of the war, and among the earliest to join was the K. B. Stoddart, head of the K. B. Stoddart Grain Company, local representatives of the great Sandy Co. Mr. Stoddart was in England when war was declared and immediately joined the King's Own of Liverpool as a private. After more than two years of war, in which his regiment suffered heavily, he has returned to Winnipeg on leave, and with the rank of Captain. It is needless to say that he received a very warm welcome from his fellow members in the Exchange.

Lake Shippers' Clearance Association.

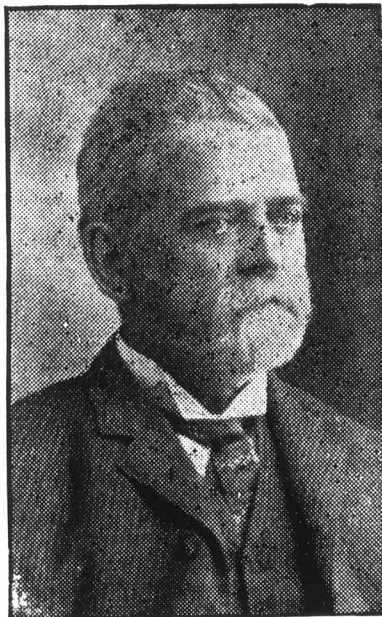
The Lake Shippers' Clearance Association held its postponed annual meeting during the week. This association is the clearing house for grain documents, an unique institution in the world's grain trade, and one that has practically revolutionized the movement of grain from the head of the Canadian Lakes. In the days before its inception, frequently a vessel had to go five or six elevators in order to secure her cargo. The operations of this Association have reduced the movement of vessels more than 75%, that is, more than 75% of the vessels loaded get their cargoes from one or two, or at the most three houses.

During the year, from July 31st, 1915 to August 1st, 1916, this association loaded and shipped by vessel and rail, 396,000,000 bushels of all kinds of grain. Some idea of the enormous increase in the crop of the West, as well as in the operations of this association is gathered from the fact that during their first year of operation, namely from July 31, 1909 to August 1, 1910, they shipped 74,000,000 bus. Of the grain shipped during the past year over 312,000,000 bushels was wheat and 245,000,000 of this went out by boat. In the four months from the beginning of the crop of

1915 to the close of navigation, the amount handled was 174,000,000, of which 146,000,000 was wheat. In the corresponding four months of 1909, the amount handled was 45,000,000. Of the 245,000,000 shipped by vessel, 155,750,000 went to American ports and practically 90,000,000 to Canadian ports.

The election of officers resulted in the return of the old Board. Capel Tilt, Western Manager for the Jas. Carruthers Co., being President, Harry Swart, Manager of the Zenith Grain Co., Vice-President, John Fleming, Mgr of the Young Grain Co., Treasurer, and Major A. C. Ruttan, Secretary. Major Ruttan is overseas with his regiment, but Fred W. Young, Managing Director of the Association volunteered to do the secretarial work in the absence of Major Ruttan on military duty.

The Lake Shippers' Clearance Association, in common with other organizations of the grain trade, has contributed a heavy quota to the war, and on the day of the annual meeting, word was received of the wounding of Lieut. A. E. Spendlove, Manager of the head office of the Association at Winnipeg, while four other members of the staff have appeared in the casualty list, and one has given his life for his country.



THE LATE SAMUEL SPINK.

Western Markets.

The markets of the week have been very topsy-turvy, and presented some rather abnormal features. There has been a most unprecedented demand for No. 1 Northern wheat, and so great was the demand that for three days the premium on No. 1 spot was 7 cents over the option. It fell today to 4 cents. There has been no corresponding demand for any other grade of wheat and the spread between the premiums on No. 1 and No. 2 is steady at practically 4 cents all week. This condition has prevailed in face of the steady increase of the percentage of No. 1 Northern wheat in the inspections. The inspections now are running something over 600 cars a day, with more than 50 p.c. of contract grade. The option market throughout the week has been extremely erratic, and while there has been export business every day, there has been no great volume during the entire week.

Flour has advanced another 30 cents a barrel during the week, and the prices is now \$8.60 a barrel, or \$3.30 higher than it was at the beginning of the war, and 60 cents higher than the previous high record since the war opened, which was \$7.70 during February in 1915.

Flax has furnished some sensational moments to the market, and one of them came this morning when October flax jumped 3 cents on one bid and closed at 10% cents over the price of the previous day. This is attributed to bad conditions in the Argentine and the fact that it is now being more generally realized that the Canadian Western crop has suffered very severely from frost, all the later flax being more or less injured, principally more.

SMART WOODS
LIMITED CANADA

Manufacturers of

**Jute and Cotton
Bags, Tents,
Clothing, Etc.**

FACTORIES IN

**MONTREAL, TORONTO,
OTTAWA, WINNIPEG**

THE NOTE REDEMPTION IN NEW YORK.

In connection with the chartered bank figures published yesterday it is realized in financial circles that the small decrease in total assets during the month of August resulted from the payment in New York of the Dominion's one-year notes amounting to \$25,000,000 comments the financial editor of the Toronto Globe. As the funds required for this payment were lying in the Bank of Montreal and had been largely employed by that institution in the form of bank balances and call loans in the American centre, the effect of the payment would be to decrease the assets of the banks as carried in these forms, and at the same time to make a corresponding reduction in the liabilities in the form of deposits elsewhere than in Canada. The final extinction of the funds would scarcely be a money market factor, as they had been held expressly for this purpose since the \$75,000,000 loan was placed in New York last April.

Banks' Temporary Loans.

On the other hand the reduction of assets caused by the above mentioned large transaction was to a considerable extent offset by the expansion in connection with the temporary loan made by the banks to the Dominion Government on August 1st. This amounted to \$21,000,000 and was followed by another loan of \$9,000,000 on September 1st. Proceeds, of course, would go to credit of the Finance Minister, and the increase of the Government balances, together with increases of current accounts and notice deposits of individuals arising out of transfers from the Government's accounts, would be a material factor in swelling the home deposits to the point at which they balanced the decrease shown in deposits elsewhere. The corresponding increase of assets in connection with this transaction appears in the form of increased holdings of Government obligations. Evidently the temporary loans to the Government in August and September had no disagreeable effects on the home money markets. The banks placed the funds at credit of the Minister, and his subsequent disbursements in numerous cases merely represented transfers to accounts of their individual customers.

NEW TRANSCONA ELEVATOR.

The contract for the construction of the new one million bushel transfer grain elevator at Transcona, Man., has been let by the railway department to Figles Bellows and company, of Fort William. The firm, under the terms of the contract, is to install at once under temporary shelter, a plant capable of loading 40 cars per day.

The permanent elevator will then be built and the plant transferred to it. The amount of the contract has not been announced.

LIVE STOCK IN FRANCE.

The Journal Officiel of July 21st published the results of a census of live stock taken on July 1, 1916. According to this census the numbers of each description were as follows, as compared with the numbers on December 31, 1915, which are placed within brackets: Horses, 2,317,205 (2,156,424); mules, 102,969 (143,561); asses, 316,559 (324,250); cattle, 12,723,946 (12,514,414); sheep, 12,079,211 (12,379,124); swine, 4,448,366 (4,915,780); goats, 1,230,238.

Week

The success closed last week, has general. Most of the channels are very much values are so profits for the

According very firm a hides, tanner large sales of 43c, with 44c, ately higher. In general city sales a Manufacture withstanding

Seven dist with liability

Bradstreet houses reported both house s crease. The Spring trade cases they a There is cons in quantity a

"Butter wa year ago at 3 have been ma 37c, being an to 7c per po will go still 15c in round to 21c per po pound.

The large country for p try storekee show a slight very fair.

THE

St. Paschal Campbellfo 20 9-16c and 3 Stirling, Ont Woodstock, ed, no sales. Madoc, Ont Brockville, 410 boxes sol Kingston, S ed at 20c.

Cornwall, C Alexandria, colored at 21c Picton, Ont Napanee, O white at 20% Mont-Joli, St. Hyacinth London, O 20c to 20 13-1 Belleville, C

At the Qu sale, held at ember 25, the creamery but at 36 1/2c, 513 pasteurized at

On Sept. 27 of cheese, of 11-16c, 456 bo white at 20c,

On Sept. 28 ed, of which 1 boxes No. 2 w 20% c and 18c

On Sept. 25 ages of cream sold at 37 1/2c packages past of which 908 boxes No. 2 w colored at 21 1/2