

The Commercial

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west of Lake Superior, the Provinces
of Manitoba and British Colum-
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WINNIPEG, MAY 9, 1892.

Dominion Millers' Convention.

A special general meeting of the Dominion Millers' Association was held in the Board of Trade buildings, Toronto, Wednesday, March 30. The chair was occupied by President Edward Peplow, who called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. On the right and left, respectively, of the president were C. B. Watts, secretary, and William Galbraith, treasurer. A large representation of members was present from different parts of the country; among these were: F. L. Green, Greenwood; E. S. Edmonson, Oshawa; H. B. Schmidt, Thornhill; A. Wolverton, Wolverton; D. G. Goldie, Ayr; J. H. Dracot, Streetsville; John Brown, Toronto; Charles A. Smart, Montreal; K. Thompson, Lynden; G. S. Baldwin, Aurora; S. R. Stuart, Mitchell; P. R. Hoover, Green River; R. C. Scott, Highgate; James Mills, Plattsville; J. L. Spink, Toronto; George H. Harper, Dundas; J. E. Pearen, Brampton; Alex. Wood, Smith's Falls; A. Plewes, Markdale; J. O. Flavelle, Lindsay; David Elder, Elder's Mills; H. A. Mulhern, Peterboro; F. Rollings, Madoc; J. F. Dafoe, Napanee; S. P. Stuart, Mitchell; J. C. Vanstone, Bowmanville; Robert Shirra, Caledonia; Thomas Bell, Erin; J. A. Breckenridge, Mattawa; T. O. Kemp, Seaforth; A. W. Carveth, Laskard; G. G. Bechtel, Burford; R. Noble, Norval; H. Shaw, Cainsville. Other large firms were represented as follows: Foulds & Co., Onandaga; Shaw & Co., Port Dover; Wright & Son, Owen Sound; Wanzer Bros., Ayton; Dobson & Campbell, Beaverton; Moyer & Co., Listowel; J. Hamilton & Son, Glen Huron; and Plewes & Spence, Creemore.

Secretary Watts read a report of the Executive Committee, setting forth the work accomplished at its recent meetings, more especially the meetings of February 25 and March 9. These were reported in the March number of

the *Miller* and dealt with the question of incorporation and the draft bill that had been prepared by the executive; certain action taken re the Newfoundland troubles, with a report of the visit of delegates to Ottawa; also an account of an interview with Mr. Mial, Commissioner, of the Department of Inland Revenue. The report was received and adopted.

The particular purpose for which the association was called together was to consider a draft bill of incorporation that had been prepared by the solicitor, acting in conjunction with a special committee appointed from the executive. The major portion of both the afternoon and evening sessions was taken up in a discussion of the terms of the bill itself, and afterwards of the by-laws in connection therewith. The bill is modelled to some extent after that of the Toronto board of trade, including important clauses, that were enlarged and improved in convention, touching the scope and uses of arbitration in settling difficulties between the members. The document is simple and yet comprehensive, and when each clause was thoroughly explained and threshed out by the members, the bill as a whole received their unanimous and hearty approval. It will give to the association a locus standi in important trade matters that would always have been unobtainable so long as it remained simply an open, or, paradoxical though it may seem, an unorganized organization. The bill received the necessary signatures before the convention closed, and was forwarded to Ottawa the following morning in order that it may, if possible, be pushed through this session of Parliament.

No inconsiderable discussion arose out of a letter written by J. C. Vanstone, of Bowmanville, Ont., condemning in vigorous terms the growing of Colorado spring wheat. The letter was supplemented by a series of communications from the pen of Mr. Vanstone that had appeared in the local press of the town. T. O. Kemp, of Seaforth, expressed the opinion that there were two kinds of wheat going under the same name. He had seen a Colorado wheat that when placed in the mouth had, in an eminent degree, the gumming qualities of the best milling wheats. This was admitted by others to be the case, and apparently was a peculiarity of Colorado wheat. All, however, who had actually put it to a milling test were unanimous in their condemnation of it. H. A. Mulhern, of Peterboro, said that Colorado was grown in that section; it weighed heavy, but had a weak effect, and he had found it very unsatisfactory. J. O. Flavelle, of Lindsay, would like to see it out of the country altogether. F. S. Edmonson, Oshawa, believed the opinion should go out from this Association that the Colorado was an undesirable spring wheat from every view of the case. J. L. Spink, Toronto, thought that perhaps Colorado was equal to goose wheat. President Peplow remarked that whether Colorado wheat gummed well or not, it was a poor wheat; he did not want any of it in his mill.

The outcome of the discussion was the following resolution unanimously adopted by the Association: "Whereas the variety of beard-spring wheat largely grown in the eastern, northern and midland districts of Ontario during the past two years, known as Colorado spring wheat, has been thoroughly tested as a milling wheat and found very deficient in all the properties that go to make up a good milling wheat, being deficient in strength and very yellow in color, and a poor flour yielder; and whereas its value as a milling wheat is not greater than the price of goose wheat, if equal thereto; therefore, this Association would strongly recommend the farmers to discard this variety of spring wheat and cultivate some one of the other varieties that are known as good milling wheats."

T. O. Kemp asked if it was not possible that the different seed wheats being introduced into the country could each be known under some one distinct and particular name. At present there are many different names given to the same wheat, in this way causing considerable confusion. E. S. Edmonson thought some step

of the kind was necessary. J. Hamilton, of Glen Huron, observed that one cannot tell whether a wheat is good or bad until one goes to grind it. John Brown, in answer to a remark that some protection should be given the farmer against the many so-called new, yet worthless, wheats placed on the market, said it was difficult to know sometimes what was old and what new in wheats. He could produce a sample of what is to-day known as goose wheat, that was grown in this country forty-seven years ago. With a view of remedying the trouble suggested by the discussion the following resolution, moved by T. O. Kemp, and seconded by John Wright, was unanimously carried: "That whereas one and the same variety of wheat is frequently introduced in the Dominion for seed purposes under various names, making it difficult for any person or persons appointed for the purpose of pronouncing upon any one variety without reflecting on others; and whereas farmers are frequently misled into purchasing and seeding with very inferior varieties greatly to the injury of the country in general, and themselves and the millers in particular; therefore, be it resolved that legislation be sought making it compulsory that the various kinds of wheat in the Dominion, or that may hereafter be introduced in the Dominion for seed purposes, shall be examined and tested by a board appointed for that purpose, whose duty it shall be to determine the names by which such varieties shall be known throughout the Dominion, and to describe as fully as possible, both as regards the grain and its natural growth, in order that it may be readily distinguished from any other variety so far as possible; that such penalty for selling it under any other name be fixed as may be thought wise by the Government; such board of examiners shall consist of one or more professors of agriculture as may be appointed by the Government, and two or more members of the Dominion Millers' Association, as may be appointed by the said association."

The Newfoundland matter was by resolution referred to the Executive Committee with instructions to act as conditions and circumstances might make necessary.

At 11.30 p.m. the convention was brought to a close, to meet in annual session, as provided in the bill of incorporation, in July.—*Miller*.

Manitoba Experimental Farm.

Mr. Bedford, superintendent of the Dominion experimental farm at Brandon, Man., in a private letter written on April 29 says:—

"We have all our wheat seeding completed. The ground has been in excellent condition for sowing this season. We have a large increase in the number of varieties sown this year. We are also making a number of additional tests, different modes of cultivation, etc., and trying a number of varieties of grain imported from the east and also from Great Britain. The areas devoted to these imported varieties will be small this year, but if they are found valuable, an increased acreage will be sown next year and we will then have a surplus of any promising varieties for distribution.

You will be pleased to learn that *Bromus Inermis*, a grass newly introduced by us into the country has survived the winter in excellent order and is now considerably above the ground. This kind of grass seeds very rapidly in this country and I propose sowing more of it for that purpose this season.

A member of a prominent house in Toronto writes the *Cincinnati Price Current*: "I believe that in the province of Ontario fall wheat has passed safely through all vicissitudes to which it is subject, up to date. The period of danger from winter killing, or rather spring killing, is now past. We have no official report yet of Ontario's crop condition. I observe closely the weather as it passes, and can therefore guess fairly well, and think that it may safely be assumed that our crop is out of danger of freezing nights and thawing days."