

of this kind in the Dominion. The members of this exchange are perfectly satisfied and ready (as they have all ways proved themselves to be in the past) to submit for settlement all disputes as to inspector's grading, to the legal tribunals created by the Inspection Act.

When disputes as to inspector's grading have arisen in Manitoba in the past they have invariably been settled in this legal manner. And this exchange fails to understand the evasion of this means of settlement by members of the Toronto and Montreal boards of trade, who by the passage of the resolutions under consideration claim to feel aggrieved and injured by the grading of the inspector at Fort William and Port Arthur. The difference between the eastern and western dealers seemingly is that here disputes are settled by the simple and inexpensive machinery provided by the inspection act while many eastern dealers when they feel aggrieved rush to your department with petty cases of complaint.

This year smutted wheat in Manitoba (which by the returns of the grain inspector is shown to include — per cent of the total crop) can with the expensive and improved appliances provided be cleaned up to a good sample, and under prevailing regulations and methods dealers have been enabled to so handle this class of grain as to give the producer practically one or two hard prices, less the actual cost of shrinkage and cleaning. If the desire of the Toronto and Montreal boards is carried into effect, smutted wheat will immediately be depreciated in value at Manitoba receiving points from 3 to 6 cents per bushel. As will be seen on reference to the "Prices Current" issued by leading European grain merchants attached hereto (Exhibit A), the values for No. 1 Manitoba hard and No. 1 Duluth hard in the British markets are identical. This fact is submitted to your notice as a contradiction to the misleading and fallacious reports spread through the medium of the Canadian press by a few interested eastern dealers, apparently desirous of killing off the direct export of Manitoba wheat for purposes of their own.

Local prices in Minnesota and Dakota this year have been greatly affected by the heavy demands of Minnesota, Buffalo, New York, and other prominent American milling centres for hard wheat, and in consequence the domestic demand has raised the price of hard wheat in many cases to above the export basis, as will be seen from the official tabulated statement of the Minnesota State Railway and Warehousing Commission attached hereto, (Exhibit B.)

Of the 1894 crop of Manitoba wheat it is estimated that ten millions of bushels had passed out of farmers hands up to Nov. 1, which affords evidence of the perfect capacity of the grain trade of Manitoba to conduct their own business without the assistance or interference of the trade in Toronto or Montreal, none of whom, except the Ogilvie and Lake of the Woods Milling company, both of which are well represented in this exchange, have a dollar invested in Manitoba in elevators or shipping plants, in rather strong contrast to the Manitoba dealers, who have in this direction invested considerably over \$1,000,000.

The members of this exchange handle fully 95 per cent. of the grain exported from Manitoba and the Territories. And for the greater part have all their money invested, and for every reason are keenly anxious that Manitoba crop should return the maximum of value to the producers in the province and Territories. And as a necessity thureto that the high reputation of Manitoba grain should be maintained in foreign markets. All of which are in strong contrast to the position of the members of the Toronto and Montreal boards of trade, (with the exception in Montreal of the Ogilvie and Lake of the Woods Milling

company,) who have no vested interest in Manitoba or right or title to interfere in the conduct of the grain business of Manitoba. While the trade in Manitoba have in past years been laboring and expending their means to introduce Manitoba wheat into eastern markets, their efforts have been to a very considerable extent paralyzed by the disreputable adulterations of Manitoba wheat in Ontario and Montreal by the admixture with it of low grade soft Ontario grown wheat, this spurious product being exported to British and Foreign markets as Manitoba hard wheat, to the most serious detriment of legitimate trade and great financial loss to the farmers of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. So far has this rage been carried or foisting adulterated Manitoba wheat and flour on the public that certain Ontario millers have been compelled by process of law to refrain from re-filling emptied flour sacks, (branded with the name of Manitoba mills) with a spurious flour of mixed Manitoba and Ontario wheat.

Over 1,000,000 bushels of Manitoba wheat, after passing Manitoba inspections, has been shipped via Duluth, and a large part of this has been submitted to the Duluth inspection officers who have granted for the same wheat Duluth No. 1 hard certificates, which fact effectually disproves the statement that the Canadian inspection and standard requirements are not as thorough and perfect as prevail at Duluth.

Notwithstanding reports to the contrary, the inspection act for Minnesota, which governs Duluth, does not call absolutely for as high a quality of wheat as the Canadian grade of No. 1 hard now demands. The wording of the two acts are as follows: Duluth No. 1 hard wheat must be sound, bright and well cleaned, and must be composed most of hard Scotch sif, and weigh not less than 58 pounds to the measured bushel.

Manitoba. — No. 1 Manitoba hard wheat shall be sound and well cleaned, weighing not less than 60 pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of at least two-thirds of hard red sif wheat grown in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories of Canada.

This Exchange most strongly protests against any increase being made in the percentage of Red Fife wheat required in the grade of Manitoba No. 1 hard wheat, the present percentage being settled on after full consideration of all interests affected by the Inland Revenue Department and Dominion Government. As will be seen by the statement of the actual percentage which the crops of the years 1893 and 1894 have graded (which is herewith attached) the present percentage is the proper one to be maintained, and any change will prove most detrimental to the interests of the producers while the dealers will be but slightly affected.

The Exchange concludes that it is scarcely necessary to draw your attention to the great care that would be necessary in making any changes or alterations in the methods of dealing with a grain crop in the midst of its season, when contracts have been entered into for purchase and sale of large consignments en route from the receiving stations to destinations in foreign markets. In view of all these facts the Exchange does most emphatically protest against the especially claimed rights of Eastern Canadian grain dealers to interpret and meddle with the conduct of the grain business of Manitoba by Manitoba dealers and millers.

And this Exchange takes this opportunity of again respectfully but most strenuously protesting against the appointment by your department, of Toronto and Montreal millers and grain dealers to the Western Grain Standard Board for the selection of Manitoba standards. This Exchange denies the right of Ontario and Quebec grain dealers, members of the Dominion Millers Association, not a member of which so-called Dominion Millers'

Association is, within the knowledge of the members of this Exchange present at this meeting, a resident of Manitoba or the Northwest Territories, to fix standards of grain for Manitoba farmers, millers and dealers. The Exchange desires to state as their distinct and positive belief that the expenditure of public money this year to the extent of \$625,000 to pay the expenses of five Eastern representatives was useless and unnecessary in the interests of producer and dealer.

In conclusion the Exchange will simply draw your attention to the proviso attached to the resolutions passed in Toronto and Montreal that the changes from the prevailing method of shipping out cargoes of grain asked for by these boards of trade should apply only to Fort William and Port Arthur. The animus contained in this provision is the key to the whole solution raised by a few eastern dealers, from whom, by the force of natural circumstances, an extensive trade has passed into other hands.

Attached to the resolutions are trade circulars from English houses, Mark Lane Express and other price lists showing quotations of Manitoba wheat in English markets same as Duluth.

Cranberries and the Tariff.

If the culture of cranberries in Canada cannot be made a success it will be from either, or both, of these reasons: The people have not brains enough to cultivate them or they are not indigenous to the country. As this latter reason could not be advanced, it is obvious that the fault will lie in case of failure with either the producers or those who have the preparation of the native berry for market. One thing is certain, the Federal Government has not been unsolicitous for the welfare of the industry. The only question that may arise with some in this respect is whether the Government has not been too careful for its development. But that is a question for politicians to debate.

Under the new tariff the duty on cranberries is 25 per cent., or at the price cranberries are selling to-day, \$2.50 per barrel. The duty was 30c per bushel under the old tariff. The effect of this higher duty has been to lessen materially the importation of Cape Cod and Jersey cranberries and to turn the attention of Canadian consumers more towards the domestic article.

The price of the imported berries is, according to our last week's market report, \$10 to \$11 per barrel against \$6.50 to \$7 per barrel a year ago. The gain, it will be observed, is thus nearly equal to the advance in the duty. The domestic cranberries we are now getting on the Toronto market are received from Ontario and Nova Scotia. The quality of the fruit grown in the latter province is excellent and takes the place of imported kinds; but the quality of the Ontario sort is unsatisfactory. No attempt appears to have been made to prepare them for market. White berries, small berries, and all kinds of berries are jumbled in together.

True the Nova Scotia cranberries are cultivated and the Ontario sort are wild, or largely so, but obviously the quality of latter could be improved by their being sorted before being shipped to market. The Government has imposed a high duty on cranberries for the benefit of those engaged in the cultivation and the marketing of them, and common decency should induce those especially benefited to do all they can to supply the best possible article. It is scarcely necessary to say that these latter remarks are especially directed to the attention of the Ontario growers and shippers. If they do not supply a better article they may wake up some morning and find that the feeding bottle has been taken from them.—Canadian Grocer.