



MANITOBA SECTION

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by R. McKenzie, Secretary, Winnipeg, Man.

MANITOBA GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

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OUR WHEAT DOCKAGE

During my stay in the Old Country, I had several interviews with some of the leading millers, and think it would be interesting to the farmer to know how our wheat is handled and how the producer is practically robbed of his hard earnings. I had a whole day's interview with Mr. W. Podger, buyer for the Isleworth Flour Mills, I should say one of the largest mills for some miles round, turning out from 1,000 to 1,500 bags of flour, of 140 lbs. to the bag, per week. Our first conversation was over samples of all wheat bought by them, in all 9 different kinds, and I asked what wheat he used most of and looks to for producing the best qualities. His reply was, "Canadian."

He then told me the percentages of the different wheats that they were mixing for flour the day of interview, which I saw myself, viz:

- 40% Manitoba or Canadian.
- 30% Russian.
- 15% Indian.
- 10% English.
- 5% Durum.
- Total, 100%.

Although the Russian wheat has a mark of 50%, I must say the quality is nowhere in comparison to ours, far smaller and extremely dirty with barley, wild oats (black and white), buckwheat, etc., etc., but they buy the Russian wheat on sample, whereas they buy our wheat on certificate of grade.

Then we compared samples that I had procured before my departure, samples which we had to come up to when selling to the elevator and the first thing that struck me was the great question of dockage which we are being robbed of fair and square. I picked up a sample of his No. 2 Northern and I was really ashamed of it; extremely dirty, a fair good wheat, but had some frozen kernels in it. I asked Mr. Podger, "Do you get any allowance in any way, shape or form?" He replied, "No." They have to buy just as it arrives; then who is the loser? The poor farmer of course. Yes, in two ways, both in freight and dockage. I also showed him a sample of No. 3 Northern as given to me and without telling him what grade it was. He remarked what a nice wheat it was, and when I did tell him, he said, "If I could buy wheat like that for No. 3 Northern I would buy it in preference to our No. 1 Northern, because there is far more flour in your No. 3 Northern sample than in the No. 1 Northern which I am using in the flour today."

Now before I go any further I must tell you of what becomes of that which we are docked and pay for freight to Fort William, an item of vast proportion and vital importance to the farmer.

Going through the mill, I think on the second floor, the whole of which was taken up in bagging and shipping this, as I thought, waste, and I wondered whatever they did with it, and when I asked I was greatly surprised to hear that every pound was sold to linseed and cotton cake manufacturers at £4 per ton or about twenty dollars, rubbish and stuff with every noxious weed imaginable. They have a wonderful system of grading the cleanings, wild oats, barley and all larger seeds grade together, and the smaller seed as another grade. I call them grades as they work so systematically, so think it the best term to use, although it seems ridiculous to me to grade cleanings, however, I saw every kind of weeds I knew of, some old friends of mine, unfortunately.

I asked if they feed any of their horses with the oats and barley and he told me they did sometimes, but found the barley rather heating, so could not feed so much as they would like. However, nothing is wasted, not a seed. The horses are a fine lot, mostly Shire bred, but all in as perfect a condition as possible and would be sold on the generosity of the farmer, who is today giving this all away free and besides that even paying the freight to have it taken away and disposed of.

Taking all mills the same which undoubtedly they are, fancy the enormous loss to us, taking it both ways. It's a matter that ought to be gone into at once, although I admit it will take time, but

not so long if the farmers combine and let everybody see we are determined to have our rights, which every man is entitled to and cannot be blamed for fighting for, and I think I am right in saying there is not a trade, profession, or any business put on and treated more like school children than the farmer today. We have no say in selling our wheat. The prices are made for us and the grading is done for us, and we are simply obliged to take it or leave it, after a year's hard labor.

I deliver to you some of the samples which I procured and may be of interest to the members of your association, to inspect and form their own opinion, but as I only managed to get a few handfuls, it does not give justice to the amount of dirt in it, seeing and testing it as I did in bulk, but assure you it looks worse than the samples really give it to be.

Now, there is one great point which may not seem so important as it is, that is the reports sent home; they naturally govern the market, and undoubtedly these reports come from wrong sources, people who never grow grain, but simply go out on an inspection tour and see the crops and of course crack things up to such an extent of the bumper crop, etc.

elevators should relieve the grain producers from a great deal of their present grain trade difficulties. The trouble in the past and in fact still is, that the farmers are so poorly organized compared with the political parties, that little or no attention is given to their demands for legislation more favorable to the laboring class.

If an amount equal to that necessary to send such a delegation to Ottawa was applied towards better organization of our association then we might be able at the next or some future election, to make our strength so felt so as to secure that class of legislation which we feel is so necessary for the welfare of our fair Dominion. Then the traffic as it stands today is another great imposition on our Western people. At Cartwright, Man., wheat is worth 91 cents per bushel. At Hansboro, N. D., 11 miles south of Cartwright and immediately south of the international boundary line, wheat is worth \$1.02 and one grade easier, making a difference of from 12 to 13 cents per bushel against the Canadian farmer. Then again, take agricultural implements coming into Canada, 17½ cents on every dollar, making a loss to the Canadian farmer of thirty dollars on every hundred passing through his hands in

THE NEW FEUDALISM

Edward Porritt, author of "Sixty Years of Protection in Canada" is greatly interested in the tariff movement in Western Canada and in a recent letter to THE GUIDE he says in speaking of this movement:

"It should lead to the people of Canada wresting their parliamentary institutions from the absolute dominance and control of the 'New Feudalism.' To my mind you are in a movement more pregnant with great consequences for Canada than the rebellion of 1837 in Quebec and Ontario. After all, the control of the old provinces in the days before representative government and confederation, by the 'Family Compact' was a small matter as compared with the control of every governmental institution in sight by the 'New Feudalism.' Offices and land grabs were all that the Family Compact crowd monopolized, while the 'New Feudalism' taxes the people of Canada without stint or hindrance; debauches the whole governmental system; and after reading the account of the trial of the terminal elevators thieves (in THE GUIDE) I would feel like saying that the 'New Feudalism' also does pretty much what it likes with the government. All this too, with the Union Jack flying at the masthead of every government building in the country."

But let the reports come from farmers who grow the grain, who have had a life long experience. You would find the reports vastly different and more to the truth, and would alter the market, giving us the value of our produce and hard labor, which undoubtedly we ought to have. England cannot do without our wheat, therefore let's fight hand in hand for our rights.

HOWARD CROSS.

Killarney, Man.

OTTAWA DELEGATION

Editor GUIDE—Through THE GUIDE you are asking the opinion of our local associations on the advisability of sending a delegation to Ottawa to interview the government at their next session on matters of interest to agriculturists of the Western provinces. To send such a delegation would mean considerable expense, especially to some of the smaller associations, and some difficulty might be met with in financing such a scheme.

If our western provinces could be divided into divisions or constituencies such as that adopted at present for provincial election purposes and have each of such divisions send one delegate it would answer the purpose and be easier to finance. Yet I believe such a delegation from the people who represent the first industry of the present day would have a good and effective result.

If a delegation of Western farmers could induce the government to retain the management of the Hudson's Bay Railway and not turn this great Western enterprise over to the interests of private parties, then I would say by all means send the delegation. This, if nothing more could be accomplished, would repay the West for their outlay. The Hudson's Bay Railway is a very important question with the agriculturists of our Western country, as such a line of railway operated by the government, with a line of government owned interior elevators, all leading to a system of government owned terminal

trade with the United States. Can any government advocating such a tariff policy claim to be loyal to the Canadian people? They do claim to be loyal to Canada.

The terminal elevator manipulations have been so exposed that no government interested in the welfare of its people can overlook our demands in asking the government to take over and operate them in the interests of the Western grain producers.

S. M. HAYDEN.

Sec. G. G. A., Killarney, Man.

SPRINGFIELD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Springfield branch was held October 7, a goodly number being present. We now have a membership of thirty-two. We appointed a deputation to interview the C. P. R., in an effort to get a siding on the Bird's Hill Sand company's line. A committee was also appointed to meet the Prairie Grove and Dugald branches re a delegate for the Western Grain Growers to Ottawa. A program committee was appointed and "Protection as it Affects the Farmer" will be the topic for discussion at our next meeting which will be held the first Thursday in November. We are inviting the ladies to be present at this meeting. I am enclosing six dollars, balance of dues for the Central Association. Where could we procure literature for use in our meetings; something of benefit to all present?

C. E. MCKENZIE, Sec.-Treas.
Springfield, Man.

It is the branches that depend upon some outsider for their inspiration and support who usually make a failure of their work. There is no force which comes from above or below which will take the place of the force which ought to come from within. It is the man who relies upon himself who makes a success of life.

THE
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Coats
are
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for
Winter Wear
Your Dealer Sells Them

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HODE ISLAND REDS.
ROSE (OPB) OR SINGLE (OPB)
THE BEST FOR THE WEST
"THE FARMER'S FRIEND"
"THE FARMER'S DELIGHT"
-EGGS & STOCK IN SEASON-
SEE THE DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULAR
ON REQUEST, ADDRESS THE
SARASOTA, FLA.

Synopsis of Canadian Northwest Land Regulations

ANY person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years old, may homestead a quarter-section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-Agency for the district. Entry by proxy may be made at any agency, on certain conditions, by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

Duties.—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister. In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price \$20.00 per acre. Duties.—Must reside six months in each of six years from date of homestead entry (including the time required to earn homestead patent) and cultivate fifty acres.

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain a pre-emption may take a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price \$20.00 per acre. Duties.—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$200.00.

W. W. CORRY.

Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.
N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.