

Dominion Millers.

The annual meeting of the Dominion Millers' Association was held Aug. 3 and 4 at Toronto, with president Edward Poplow, of Peterboro, in the chair and about 150 delegates present.

The secretary's report referred to the business of the year, and stated that 212 members were now in good standing, this being an increase of 26 over the number in 1891. The chief result of the work of the association for the year, he said, had been the act of incorporation, improvements in the flour inspection act, a better understanding of the grain inspection plan and the sending, by a syndicate of the association, of D. Plowes to Great Britain to represent the millers in the commercial congress. The secretary estimated that the surplus for export from the wheat crop of Canada would be larger than that of last year, though the yield would probably not be as great. The mills of the following parties had been burned during the year, but all but two were rebuilding: John Plowes, Salmonville; McKay & Guest, Renfrew; Geo. Easterbrooke, Tweed; Hay Bros., Cataract. Reference was made to the death of president Thos. Goldie, of Guelph, on Feb. 3 last.

The treasurer's report and that of the executive committee were then read. The latter referred to the speech of Mr. Plowes before the congress of the chamber of commerce held in London, in which he advocated a 5 per cent. preferential duty in favor of the colonies, contending that this would not raise the price of breadstuffs to the English consumer to an appreciable extent, also speaking at length in behalf of a bill of lading which would protect shippers.

The committee on freight rates reported a heavy differential against flour as compared with wheat, and desired that flour should be placed on the same basis as wheat, plus the stop over charge of 2c per 100 lbs, whether by lake or rail. This would allow millers to compete with Montreal millers for the export trade. The report also recommended that millers should be placed on the same basis as exporters of grain, as far as freight rates are concerned, and should receive the same public notice of changes in rates as grain men do.

The report of the central wheat buyer of the association showed that, during the 16 months his office had been opened, 163 millers had patronized it and that it had led to a steady increase in the association's membership. Details of the purchases made were given. The earnings since December, 1891, were \$6,102, and the expenditures \$1,013, while the liabilities were but \$1,261.

At the evening session, the retiring president, Edward Poplow, addressed the meeting, referring to the good work done by the association during its past career. Regarding its future he spoke of the necessity for securing more equitable rates on flour, in order that more wheat might be ground before exportation. The tracing bureau, marine and fire insurance, municipal taxation, the milling system, etc., would, he believed, furnish plenty of work for the future. He thought an experimental mill, to be built by the government, would be a useful institution.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, M. McLaughlin, Toronto (unanimously); first vice-president, A. H. Baird, Paris; second vice-president, E. S. Edmondson, Oshawa; treasurer, Wm. Galbraith, Toronto; executive committee—J. L. Spink, Toronto; Jas. Goldie, Guelph; J. D. Stunby, London; J. D. Flavell, Lindsay; J. Warcup, Oakville; W. Snider, Waterloo; and H. A. Mulhern, Peterboro; arbitration committee—W. H. Meldrum, Peterboro; D. Goldie, Ayr; T. O. Kemp, Seaford; R. Noble, Norval; Jas. Stark, Paisley; J. C. Vanstone, Bowmanville.

J. S. Lyke, Oshawa, spoke with reference to the showing which the Dominion millers would be expected to make at the world's fair. He said that, owing to resentment at the course of the United States respecting canal rates, some millers were inclined to boycott the fair. He

considered that this policy would be injurious to Canadian millers, as American millers would receive the benefit, and advised that a good showing be made. This view of the case was received with approval and applause.

An interesting paper on "How to Arrive at the Milling Qualities of Wheat, and How to Encourage the Production of the Best Varieties and Preserve Their Best Qualities," was read by Mr. Kemp.

At the morning session, on August 4, about 75 were in attendance.

Mr. Kemp offered a resolution to the effect that the association memorialize the government, drawing its attention to the advantages to farmers and millers that would result from some system of testing wheats in sample lots as to their milling and productive qualities, which tests the government might be able to carry out in connection with the agricultural colleges and experimental farms. In the long discussion which followed, the opinion seemed to prevail that it would be wise to request the government to build a mill in connection with one of the experimental farms, for testing the different varieties of wheat, ascertaining the most productive variety and educating young men in the art of milling.

Considerable feeling being shown against exhibiting at the world's fair, H. Barrett offered the following resolution, which, after discussion, was adopted:—

Resolved, That it will be advisable for the Dominion Millers' Association to make an exhibit at the world's fair at Chicago of Canadian grains and their products, and that the executive committee be and is hereby requested to take the matter in charge.

Mr. Meldrum, Peterboro, for the benefit of farmers who propose to establish mills, moved a resolution showing that the average cost of producing a barrel of flour exclusive of the package, is 35 cents; and that the cost of production is much greater now than formerly. Adopted.

Remarks were made by members against the practice of cutting wheat too green, and it was proposed that bulletins should be issued to the farmers showing the evil results. Reports of delegates from the various sections showed that the wheat of the country, as a whole, was exceptionally good and of a better milling quality than that of last year, the crop of Quebec especially being extremely large.

Resolutions were passed thanking Joseph Stevenson, member for West Peterboro, for his efforts in securing the act of incorporation, and providing that, in case the executive committee failed to secure freight rates on flour on same basis as wheat, a general meeting of the association should be called to consider question and to take such action as might be thought necessary.

The convention adjourned at noon subject to the president's call.

Manitoba Fisheries.

The annual blue book relating to fisheries during 1891 has been published, in which Inspector McQueen gives some interesting information regarding the year's work in Manitoba. Following are some summarized paragraphs from the report relating to Manitoba:—

"It gives me pleasure to report that fish of all kinds, including whitefish, were abundant this year. In the southern part of Lake Winnipeg, where fears of depletion were entertained, large quantities of whitefish were caught, both by Indians and Icelanders. The commercial traders, too, were exceedingly fortunate this year in catching, in less time and under restricted regulations, as large a quantity as in any previous year.

"It is satisfactory to find, notwithstanding the fears entertained as to depletion, that fish were exceedingly plentiful during the past year in the waters of Manitoba. Near the mouth of the Red River, a party of St. Peters Indians caught in two weeks last autumn 40,000 pounds of whitefish, a catch said to have been unprecedented in that section for at least thirty years.

The total catch for the year, including that for home consumption, amounted to 6,612,391 lbs., valued at \$246,184. It must be born in mind that this amount does not include, as formerly, the catch in the Northwest Territories.

"The fishing trade in Manitoba is growing steadily in importance and if not hampered too much by unnecessary restrictions, promises to develop into one of the leading industries of the province. Our water area is large and abounds with fish of various kinds, and with a strict enforcement of the close season and the assistance of the proposed hatchery, the apprehended danger of depletion will be entirely removed. Lake Winnipegosis has only been partially tested as yet, but promises to be one of the most prolific sources of supply for Whitefish. It is safe to predict that there will be ample fish, to not only supply the home market, but have a large margin for commercial purposes with the adjoining States to the south, where our fish are in great demand. The trade is now affording employment to a large number of people in winter, who otherwise would probably be idle, and Indians as well as settlers in the vicinity of our great lakes find fish enough for food, and some to spare, to trade in exchange for other provisions. There are five steam tugs and some twenty-six regular fishing boats used in fishing in Lake Winnipeg in connection with commercial fishing. This does not include 478 small boats and canoes used in all our waters by Indians and settlers fishing for home use. The fishing industry too has led to the establishment of a transport service for carrying fish to market that necessitates the use of steamers and the employment of a good number of men. Taking it altogether it is safe to say that fishing will in a few years be second only to farming in Manitoba and the Territories."

RECAPITULATION.

	Lbs.	Value.
Whitefish	3,501,235	\$193,587 92
Pickeral	597,755	14,943 87
Pike	706,529	11,130 63
Sturgeon	49,020	2,451 00
Tullibee	151,210	3,024 50
Mixed fish	1,516,012	15,166 12
Totals	6,612,391	\$246,184 29

F. C. Gilchrist, inspector for the Territories, summarizes the catch in his jurisdiction as follows:—

	Lbs.	Value.
Whitefish	1,531,000	\$79,655 00
Tullibee	65,000	1,050 00
Pike	215,000	4,300 00
Pickeral	23,000	600 00
Suckers	23,000	233 00
Total	1,930,000	\$86,735 00

The total catch for Manitoba and the Territories combined was 8,542,391 pounds and the value thereof \$332,969.29. The catch during the previous year (1890) was 5,967,271 pounds, valued at \$232,104.

Immigration Statistics for 1891-92.

There was a large increase in the volume of immigration into the United States during the fiscal year ending on June 30 last. The greatest increase was from Russia, Germany, Hungary, Sweden, and Norway. There was a decrease in the immigration from Italy. The following table shows the nationalities of the immigrants in the fiscal years 1891 and 1892, except from British possessions and Mexico.

	1891	1892.
Bohemia	11,758	8,496
Hungary	28,366	37,301
Other Austria (except Poland)	30,915	31,368
Denmark	10,637	10,478
France	6,703	6,519
Germany	113,531	130,022
Italy	75,143	67,914
Netherlands	5,206	7,259
Poland	27,491	33,160
Russia (except Poland)	47,401	84,259
Sweden and Norway	49,392	57,153
Switzerland	6,811	7,402
England and Wales	53,787	50,182
Scotland	12,554	11,505
Ireland	55,034	55,381
All other countries	20,107	24,291
Totals	555,490	619,320