

favourable than those secured by the Customs' official who naturally, on such a mission, was inclined to quote rather the lowest than the average prices. However, we are quite content to rest our case upon the official figures given in his report and set out in the above mentioned issue of Hansard.

"Grain Growers' Guide" makes Misleading Comparisons.

On April 1st, 1914, the "Grain Growers' Guide" of Winnipeg, published an article on comparative prices in Winnipeg and Minneapolis, the article, as usual, being highly misleading. On June 3rd, 1914, we wrote a letter (attached as Exhibit "E") to the Editor of the "Grain Growers' Guide," pointing out the fallacy of their price comparisons, quoting at length the information secured, both as to prices by the Government official and also as to comparative freight rates and analyzing very carefully the difference in retail prices as disclosed by the Customs' Officer in Fargo, Grand Forks, Valley City, Devil's Lake, Lansford, Minot, Gardiena, Williston, Havre, Great Falls, Billings and corresponding points across the Canadian border.

Summed up, the analysis will show the price of an 8-ft. Binder at Fargo, taking account of the different equipment, was \$9.50 less than at Winnipeg, but the difference in freight alone accounts for half the difference in price and, if prices had been given in Minnesota, near the Canadian border, the difference would have been considerably reduced. As between Valley City and Morden, taking the extra equipment into account, the difference was \$7.00 and the same difference applies as between Devil's Lake and Pilot Mound.

Comparing Minot and Lansford with Virden, Reston, Napinka, and Melita, when the difference in equipment is taken into consideration, the farmers near these Canadian towns have an advantage over the farmers in the vicinity of Minot and Lansford, of \$3.00 per Binder. Therefore, the average cost to the farmer in all Southern and Central Manitoba is but very slightly more than to the farmers of Minnesota and Dakota to the South of them. Certainly the average difference is not equal to the average difference in the freight rates.

The price at Williston, North Dakota, compared with Regina, Weyburn or any other place within the large radius of Regina, was \$7.00 higher than at Canadian points, or the amount of the full value of the extra equipment.

The price of an 8-ft. Binder at Havre and Billings, Montana, was \$22.00 greater than the price of an 8-ft. Binder at Maple Creek, directly north; \$29.00 greater taking into account the extra equipment on the Canadian side.

From these figures it will be seen that the Saskatchewan farmer