

with the result that much attention has been drawn to Manitoba as a grain producing province. Wherever commented upon, the figures given have been accepted as trustworthy, and your Council suggest that steps be taken each year to obtain the necessary information required to issue an estimate of the amount of grain produced in the Province.

GRAIN STANDARDS.

In December a report was received from the Board of Grain Examiners concerning changes that were required in the Inspection Act of 1886, covering the legal standards for Manitoba hard wheats. Much discussion on the subject of our grain standards had taken place in the columns of the city and country newspapers, the consensus of opinion being, that they were too high, and placed the grain producers of Manitoba at a disadvantage, as the standards of Minnesota and Dakota do not necessitate the fixing of grades at the same altitude as in Canada. The Board of Grain Examiners recommended that your Council should memorialize the Minister of Inland Revenue to endeavor to secure a reduction of the percentages of Red Fife Wheat called for in the Extra Manitoba Hard, and Nos. 1 and 2 Manitoba Hard grades, and also to establish a new grade to be known as "Manitoba Hard White Fife" wheat, which was not provided for in the Inspection Act of 1886. After fully considering the question, the Council adopted the report and recommendations and forwarded to Ottawa a memorial embodying the proposed changes, as asked for. The memorial was, in all its essential points, at once acted upon by the Minister of Inland Revenue, and by an Order-in-Council, dated 22nd December, 1887, the following grades were gazetted:—

SPRING WHEAT.

Extra Manitoba Hard Wheat shall be sound and well cleaned, weighing not less than 62 pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of not less than 85 per cent. of Red Fife Wheat grown in Manitoba or the North-West Territories of Canada.

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 ($\frac{2}{3}$) of Red Fife Wheat grown in Manitoba or the North-West Territories of Canada.