

July 16, 1913

The Mail Bag

Continued from Page 8

of the Lakes, and with C.N.R. cars, it is immaterial to us into which terminal they go. No matter where cars are unloaded, they are sold on the open market on the exchange here to the highest bidder.

In conclusion, we would draw three points to your attention. If, when sending in bill of lading, Mr. Mansell had given us instructions to have the car re-inspected if it did not go a certain grade, this could very easily have been done. A small act of co-operation, such as this, with the agents handling his grain, would materially assist in getting more satisfactory results for him. Secondly, the delay of twenty-four hours in our receiving his wire calling for re-inspection should, in all fairness, hardly be charged to us. Thirdly, we, as well as every other firm in the grain trade, operate under a license received from the board of grain commissioners at Fort William, Ontario. This board is appointed by the Dominion government of Canada and one of its functions is to take up any complaint any shipper in the country may have. If we have in any way failed to give Mr. Mansell the proper service in the handling of his grain and if he has, through such failure, been at any loss, the board of grain commissioners will at his request take the matter up with us and see that we make the necessary restitution.

We shall be glad at any time to place all our records in connection with the handling of this shipment at the disposal of yourself or the board of grain commissioners for the purpose of investigation.

The Grain Growers' Grain Co. Ltd.,
J. R. MURRAY,
Sales Manager.

Note.—The company's letter shows that blame is not attachable to them for the delays of which Mr. Mansell complains. Farmers should realize that their own company, the Grain Growers' Grain Co., is endeavoring in every way to help them and should co-operate as much as possible. In this case the company has plainly endeavored to serve Mr. Mansell as efficiently as possible and could easily have received re-inspection if it had been asked for in his first letter. Several complaints we have received against the Grain Growers' Grain Co. have turned out in the same way. The company exists to serve the farmers, but it cannot do so unless the farmers will do their share.—Ed.

A FAIR PROFIT

Editor, Guide:—In your issue of May 7, I doubtless, as well as thousands of your readers, noticed the paragraph "Firm's big Profits." In a district court case the Massey-Harris agent admitted that his company bought wagons for \$30 or \$40 and sold them out for \$108. This ought to be an eye opener to the farmers as to the grasping nature of manufacturing firms which declare that they must have Protection or go out of business. No wonder this implement Co. is able to build factory after factory and buy out plant after plant both in the United States and Canada. In my opinion we want a Canadian Navy at once but I would suggest that the guns be tested inside the Dominion and trained on our modern Shylocks.

JOHN FERGUSON.

Marquis, Sask.

MIXED FARMING HIS SALVATION

Editor, Guide:—I have been in this country farming for the past ten years, and at present own considerable land in the Battleford district. I have been grain farming all this time and until the past two years have had average crops. The past two years however have been considerably below the average, a condition general in the West those seasons, and this, with the present financial stringency, threatened to put me to the wall.

This spring I was strictly "up against it," and had no visible means of sustaining my family. In spite of ample security the banks threatened to close me out, and I had to face the most serious situation I have ever been confronted with.

I was, however, at this time, persuaded to purchase some good cows from the Laurentia Milk Company on easy terms

of purchase, viz.: Giving my note for the stock, and turning into the company 50 per cent. of my milk checks to apply on the purchase price of the cows; and I soon began to feel on my feet again. Without any hesitation I say now that I am glad my financial condition forced me to take this step.

I have ten cows and they are bringing me in a monthly pay check of \$130, and this with no expense to me whatever. Every morning I take into the factory 250 lbs of milk, and I take away with me 300 lbs of refuse butter-milk to feed my hogs. This is waste that the Company have no use for and are, therefore, glad to give away. If I only had the means I would lose no time in purchasing another twenty cows. They will pay for themselves in twelve months.

Grain farming is to me now only a

side issue, and although I have 350 acres in crop this year, only 150 acres is in wheat, and the balance is for green feed for the cows in winter. There are no off years with cows. One year is as good as the next and with proper attention the yield of milk can be greatly increased.

The company have been paying \$1.75 per 100 lbs. for milk and 32c per pound for butter-fat (cream), and this price will be considerably increased in winter.

The farmers of the district are beginning to learn that there is money in something else besides wheat, and I have yet to hear the first word uttered that would tend to discourage a man from going into dairying. I am confident that there is no medium in the West that will lift the mortgage off the farm as quickly as my friend "the humble cow."

D. K. WEBBER.

CONDITIONS IN THE OKANAGAN

Editor, Guide:—The district of Penticton, in the Okanagan Valley, B.C., has been experiencing some very remarkable weather during the past few weeks. Normally this tract of country, being in what is known as the dry belt of British Columbia, produces crops only by the use of irrigation. This year, however, rains have been frequent and copious, so much so that irrigation has been rendered unnecessary for the time being. While the farmers and fruit growers are saved the labor and expense of irrigating their crops and orchards, several farmers, who have undertaken to supply their brethren on the prairie with small fruits, are having the misfortune to see a magnificent crop of luscious strawberries spoiling on the vines with unlooked for rains.

J. BROOKS.

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ROOFING

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On the farm as in the city, human labor is the most expensive, horse labor next, and machine labor cheapest of all. Just as city men have done, so the farmers are substituting machinery for men and horses wherever possible. By doing away with a lot of expensive hands and many of the teams required at threshing time, the Stewart Sheaf Loader has enabled Western farmers to pull out with bigger profits at the end of the season.

Cutting down the number of men required at threshing time is not a new problem. The development of extensive wheat lands has brought the help question to an acute stage. So much labor was required to get sheaves to the threshing machine that it was only a question of time before a machine would be invented to do the work. That machine is the

Stewart Sheaf Loader

It picks up sheaves from the ground and elevates them up a carrier, placing them in the wagon to the right of the driver. It does this work so nicely that it will handle not only stooks but loose grain, shelling less than the most careful pitchers, and leaving a cleaner field behind. All the field pitchers formerly required are done away with, and several of the teams. We make it extra strong to stand rough usage. It requires no troublesome adjustments, no expert attention, and is built to be thoroughly dependable, as any machine should be that is used in the most critical stage of farming.

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