COMMISSION ON OATS

Manitoba Association Complains of Unjust Charge Before Grain Commission

Representatives of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association appeared before the Board of Grain Commissions at Winnipeg. on Monday, December 14, to support the request that a clause be inserted in the Canada Grain Act, providing that the maximum charge for selling grain on commission in any grain exchange West of Port Arthur shall be one per cent. per bushel for wheat and flax, one-half cent per bushel for oats, and three-quarter cents per bushel for barley. The subject was introduced by R. C. Henders, and spoken to by F. Simpson and P. Wright. was pointed out that at the present charges of one cent per bushel on all grains the amount paid on a 60,000 lb. car is \$10 for wheat, \$17.65 for oats and \$12.50

As proposed by the Manitoba Association, the commission charges would, sociation, the commission charges wound, for similar amount, be \$10 00 for wheat, \$8.83 for oats and \$9:38 for barley. J. B. Musselman, Secretary of the Saskatchewan Association, proposed that the commission charge be one per cent. on the value with one cent per bushel as

A. G. Hawkes, Vice-President of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association, said that when the cars contained only 600 bushels the charge was one cent a bushel, and now when the cars ran 1,400 and 1,500 bushels, the charge was still one cent per bushel, tho the service performed was the same. It was especially a grievance in the matter of oats.

W. A. Milner, manager of the Maple Leaf Flour Mills, on behalf of the Grain

Exchange, pointed out/that while the amount in a car had increased, the cost of doing business had enormously increased also. He went at some length into the services rendered the farmers and the country generally by the Exchange, which was very costly to main-

Sidney Smith, President of the Exchange, also spoke on behalf of that body.

Turned Down Twice

The Manitoba delegates stated that they had twice approached the Grain Exchange on the matter and nothing had been done. In reply to a question from Dr. Magill, Mr. McKenzie said that if the Grain Exchange had reduced the commission to half a cent on oats they would have been satisfied. Mr. Milner's statement as to the comparatively small amount of oats and barley handled was met by the counter statement that while oats and barley had been a small item in the past, they must be more extensively grown for the future to maintain rotation of crops and in any case the districts of the West where oats were the main crop are being

T. A. Crerar, President of The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited, was specially called for and his statement in brief was that one cent a bushel was not too much on wheat if the best service was to be rendered; that an unprofitable commission would cut out the smaller commission men and tend to concentrate trade to a few big firms, which would be bad for the country. He, however, strongly favored a reduction on oats.

It was evident by the statements of members of the Grain Exchange that a body they were not unanimous on the one cent commission for oats.

A Tip to the Exchange

After hearing both sides, Dr. Magill, chairman of the Grain Commission, said that if it could be avoided the Grain Commission was averse to asking for legislation which would mean increased state regulation of grain exchanges, but that if the matter was not adjusted between the Grain Growers and the Exchange and the former continued to press

for this legislation, there would be no alternative

After this statement the meeting adjourned.

The committee for the Grain Exchange will report back to that body and it is quite probable some action will be taken very shortly.

Among those present were: Dr. Robert Magill and W. D. Staples, of the Grain Commission; R. C. Henders, R. Mc-Kenzie, J. S. Wood, Peter Wright and Frank Simpson, for the Manitoba Grain Growers; A. G. Hawkes, Dr. Flatt and J. B. Musselman for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers; President Smith and Secretary Bell, Geo. Fisher and W. A. Milner on behalf of the Grain Exchange; and Messrs. Crerar, Murray, McWilliams, Thompson, Kneeland, Leach, Bawlf and Botterell, also members of the Exchange.

CHEAPER FISH
Cheaper fish is promised the people of Winnipeg and Selkirk as the result of a bargain made between G. H. Bradbury, M.P. for Selkirk, and the leading fishing companies operating on Lake Winnipeg and other Northern Manitoba waters. In an average season approximately 6,000,000 lbs. of fish are caught in the lakes, and the Dominion Government, at considerable expense, keep up the supply by maintaining hatcheries from which millions of fish are turned into the lakes every spring. In the past, however, the great bulk of the fish have been exported to the United States, white fish being sold in carload lots at Selkirk and Winning for 7 or 8 cents a pound a Winnipeg for 7 or 8 cents a pound, a small quantity only, and those not usually the best, being offered in the local markets at about 11 cents a pound in winter and 15 cents in summer.

The Dominion Government, in regulating the fisheries requires that the nets-used shall have a mesh of not less than a certain size, in order to prevent young fish being taken. Last year the requirement was a five and a half inch mesh, and next year the standard would, according to the regulations, be increased to five and three-quarter inches. The fish companies have been endeavoring to secure concessions on this point, and Mr. Brad-bury, with the authority, presumably of the government, has made a bargain

that the five and half inch mesh may be retained provided hish are sold at Selkirk by retail at the same price as for export, and at Winnipeg for one cent a pound more. Sales at these prices will be made at the warehouses of the fishing companies and delivery will not

COURSE OF STUDY BOOKLET

The uniform course of study for the organized farmers of all three provinces, which has been prepared by the Canadian Council of Agriculture, may be procured

R. McKenzie, Secretary Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, 404 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg, Man. J. B. Musselman, Secretary Saskatche-wan Grain Growers' Association, Moose

Jaw, Sask.
P. P. Woodbridge, Secretary United Farmers of Alberta, Calgary, Alta.

Local associations and unions will be able to procure their supplies from their Central Secretary. In case there may be others who want the booklet, it may be procured from the Book Department of the Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, at 25 cents per copy, 5 copies for \$1.00, and 20 copies for \$3.00.

Walter Runciman, president of the British Board of Trade, has appointed a committee to deal with the cargoes in German and Austrian ships seized during the war.

All Mr. Runciman's early life was spent at sea, and he is very fond of telling the story of a British skipper who was beating up a channel of the Thames behind a Dutch boat. To the skipper's disgust, the Dutch boat got a puff of wind that carried her far ahead, leaving the Britisher beating

hopelessly to leeward.
"Well, if this doesn't beat cockfighting?" exclaimed the Britisher.
"Here's God Almighty helping a bloomin' Dutchman in preference to His own countryman.''—Baltimore American.

German output for the war would build one Woolworth Building a day, but what is that with cathedrals to destroy?-Wall Street Journal.

SERVICE!

The Aim of The Farmer's Company



The call of our Empire in the present crisis is for SERVICE-SERVICE not only in the field of battle but SERVICE in the field of business and production as well.

The Grain Growers' Grain Company, as the agency through which the Western farmers market their grain and purchase their supplies, realize this responsibility and are endeavoring to meet it in the fullest degree. Whether in the handling of your Grain, or the supplying of your Coal, Lumber, Flour, Machinery, Fence Wire, or other necessities, our aim is to give you all the SERVICE it is possible to give. We want wherever we can to help "the man behind the plow" who feeds "the man behind the gun."

ONE EXAMPLE: Our Lumber Department is working overtime at present preparing plans and specifications of farm houses, barns, machine sheds, and other buildings suitable for our customers during the coming year. These plans, along with the advice and assistance of our experienced architects, will be offered FREE OF CHARGE to all our customers, and we will still be able to supply you with Lumber and all other Building Material at the lowest prices. If you intend building let us know and we will mail you our catalogue when printed. If your neighbor is building tell him what we are doing. Give him a chance to save money also.

The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited WINNIPEG FORT WILLIAM **CALGARY NEW WESTMINSTER**

December

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