

attention at the meeting was that of the flour standards. To readers who are not millers it may be needful to explain that a standard of quality for flour of a certain grade had been chosen by the examiners for 1892 (not wilfully) which affected unfairly and injuriously many other grades. Hence a change seemed to be universally desired, and a resolution, proposed by Mr. Spink and seconded by Mr. Hamilton of Glenhuron, was adopted, the gist of which is that "whereas the standard grade of straight roller flour as selected by the examiners for the ensuing year, having been found, when wet and dried-out, of a higher color than the standard selected for winter wheat patent; whereas this is an anomaly never contemplated in the Inspection Act, and a mistake that should be corrected at the earliest possible date:" therefore, let the Government be asked to "authorize the Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton and London Boards of Trade to select one delegate each to meet in Montreal, and select a straight roller standard more in harmony with this year's winter wheat product."

What we consider a very remarkable exhibition is the array of samples of different grains grown at the Ontario Experimental Farm, Guelph, and shown in connection with this gathering of millers. Of wheat alone there were ninety-eight different varieties shown in Rotunda of the Board of Trade; many of oats and a few of barley. Every one of the ninety-eight samples was separately grown at the Guelph farm by Professor Shaw and his staff with the object of ascertaining the hardiest, most prolific, strongest—in short, most suitable grain for Canadian farmers and millers. We are glad that a resolution was passed of thanks to the Professor and his staff. It was heartily deserved. The president named a committee, consisting of Sir W. P. Howland, Messrs. John Brown, Bechtel, David Goldie, and Rice, to "further confer with Prof. Shaw with a view to making such recommendations and suggestions to the Government as may make the farm of still more value to the country."

It was recommended by the committee: That they should test varieties for at least two years; that the Government be asked to experiment at several widely diverse points to test the soils for the best seed. As a rider to this report the committee classified the samples as follows: (1) Red Fyfe, (2) Pringle's Champion, (3) Redfern, (4) Rio Grande, (5) Harrison, bearded, (6) Hirben's improved, (7) Odessa Girkha, (8) Colorado, (9) White Russian. The report was adopted.

A proposition which, though received in calm silence at first, presently aroused mild dissent, and eventually rather fierce rejection, was the proposal to incorporate the Association as a limited liability company under the Companies' Act of the Dominion. A graduated scale of stock subscription had been proposed, beginning with \$100 for a mill whose capacity did not exceed 125 barrels per day, and advancing until the subscription necessary for a 1,000-barrel mill was \$600. The purposes of the incorporation were stated by the committee to be "to promote, extend, and improve" flour and meal making in Canada, also the purchase and sale locally or for shipment to foreign markets of grain, flour and meal, and, further, "to assist the members of the association with regard to these matters." The point was taken that \$100 was too much to expect a 50-barrel mill owner to pay for the rather indefinite assistance which incorporation would give him. In fact, several of the owners of smaller mills opened out strongly

against the proposal; they would have none of it, and upon a vote being taken it was rejected.

On the important subject of stopping, if possible, the sale of car lots of wheat on credit, the committee made a report, and the president made a brisk speech. From the fact that this speech elicited the only applause which emanated from the meeting during the whole afternoon session up to that time, we are left to conclude either that the sensible millers saw the force of the committee's suggestion and commended it, or that they were fond of their President—and no wonder, in either case. The recommendation of the committee was, "that in all cases where sales are made in car loads of flour and mill feed, that the members should pledge themselves to attach the bills of lading to the draft, which will only be given up on payment." We refer to the credit subject elsewhere.

The report of the wheat-buyers was referred to the Central Wheat-buying Committee. Some recommendations were made as to the inspection of Manitoba wheat, after a discussion of certain matters in connection therewith. It was determined to ask the C. P.R. and G.T.R. Co.'s that Manitoba wheat stored in Toronto be carried to the mills at the same rate as if billed through on orders at North Bay. Messrs. Watts, Noble and Brown a committee.

On the subject of interpretation of the law as to water courses and streams, Messrs. Flavelle, Wenger and David Goldie were appointed a committee.

Secretary D. Plews tendered his resignation on account of his departure for Europe; where he intends to act as agent for several members of the association. The resignation was accepted, and a vote of thanks accorded Mr. Plews for the services rendered to the association. Mr. C. B. Watts was then unanimously appointed secretary at a salary of \$500, with \$100 additional for office expenses.

A memorial having reached the association from the Quebec Board of Trade referring to short weight in flour, the association expressed its "strong disapprobation that any miller should take the dishonest course of shipping short weight in flour to order to meet competition or make dishonest gain." It will memorialize the Government to instruct officers of Inland Revenue to look carefully after the question of short weight in bag and barrel flour and the under tare of flour barrels.

BOOKS AND PAPERS RECEIVED.

For forty-four past years people all over Canada have been accustomed to look in the Canadian Almanac for information about governmental and municipal officers, the trade of Canada, the Customs tariff, the Masonic body, and the like. It has still all these features. And more, it has a list of all the post-offices in Canada, and now the clergy list has been extended to include the whole Dominion. Another feature which makes the issue for 1892 more valuable is that there is a complete report of the 1891 Census, as far as made public. The publishers, Messrs. Copp, Clark & Co., announce that this 45th annual issue of the almanac "is enlarged to 224 pages, and contains over 16,000 facts and 17,000 addresses, covering almost every department of information required by the Canadian citizen." The ornamental headings improve the appearance of the book, and the comic illustrations among the advertisements are an attraction. The price is 20 or 30 cents, according to cover.

The publisher, Mr. C. H. Mortimer, has sent us volume 1 of the "Canadian Electrical News

and Steam Engineering Journal," a 24-page monthly of quarto size devoted to the interests which its name indicates. It is a carefully edited and very readable journal, published simultaneously in Montreal and Toronto by Mr. C. H. Mortimer. The December issue contains a description of the Windsor & Sandwich Electric Railway, with two photo-lithographic illustrations; also a report of the organization meeting of the Canadian Electrical Association, of which body Mr. J. J. Wright of Toronto was chosen president, Mr. Dunstan first vice-president, Mr. John Carroll of Montreal second vice-president, Mr. Mortimer, secretary-treasurer.

THE VARSITY, a Weekly Journal of Literature, University thoughts and events. Vol. XI., No. 9. Toronto. It was Charles Dickens who said, "No one who can read ever looks at books, even though they lie unopened on a shelf, like one who can not." So, we venture to state, no old boy who has graduated from the beloved pile in University Park, can ever understand, as he gazes at its noble doorway, the hungering, longing feeling of the middle-aged man who has not. The student has his grateful recollections; the other has regrets, mingled with a thirst of curiosity hard to describe. But though, like the disconsolate Peri at the gate of Eden, the crystal bar of the class room move not for him, he can still learn, for two dollars a year, from the pages of *The Varsity* (in part) what goes on inside. The December number tells us of the doings of the Glee Club, the Economic Seminary, the Modern Language Club, the Political Science Club, the Literary Society, the Saturday public lecture, and the Y.M.C.A. And it has a story of a certain 'Arry, B.A., who describes how he took his degree:

As 'istory didn't count much
I let the hold subject go; 'ang;
Modern languages I couldn't touch.
But I did a good paper on slang.
In racing I passed like a bird, —

ANNALS OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE; bi-monthly, vol. ii., No. 3, November, 1891. Another issue of the Annals will be welcomed by many besides the members of the Academy, who are now numerous. It may be worth while to note here for the information of those who read a letter signed "Methodist Minister" published in a Toronto daily a few days ago, that the American Academy of Political and Social Science is a highly respectable body, and is by no means to be confounded, as the letter in question indiscreetly suggests, with certain colleges in the United States which issue degrees for money irrespective of qualification. The present issue of the Annals contains criticisms upon several books on Canada—Mr. Howland's *New Empire*; Mr. Houston's *Constitutional Documents of Canada*; Dr. Goldwin Smith's *Canada and the Canadian Question*—by Mr. J. M. McEvoy. Of the critique upon this last we quote a sentence with which many will agree: "For his [the author's] profound and varied attainments, for his acknowledged literary ability, there is the utmost respect and admiration throughout the Dominion; but that constant dissatisfaction which his writings exhibit, that continued tendency to belittle, to put the worst face on everything Canadian, is extremely irritating to the greater part of the reading public of Canada."

ANNUAL REPORT, NEW WESTMINSTER BOARD OF TRADE. Lewis & Greig, printers. 1891. Noticed elsewhere in this issue.

Any one who has frequently to compute interest, and has used "Cook's Rate-Inland Interest Tables, knows what an invaluable