

more directly than it does the millers. This is the carrying of grain and flour by our Canadian railways to the seaboard from places in the United States at lower freight than they carry to the same points from places in Canada.

Canadian railways have recently been carrying flour from Detroit to the sea at rates so much below their rates from Windsor, that the miller at the latter place could pay for sending his flour to Detroit, have it shipped from Detroit through Windsor, and make money by the route. The ultimate result of this is that the Canadian farmer gets less for his wheat than the Michigan farmer does, and the tendency of our farmers is towards the country with lower freights though farther from the market.

Our Canadian railways are carrying United States grain to the seaboard from Georgian Bay ports at half the rates they charge for carrying Ontario grown grain from the same districts.

The variety of spring wheat known as "goose" wheat, is peculiarly suitable for Ontario farms. The demand for it from Southern Europe has become important, but to retain this trade the farmer must use greatest care in selecting pure seed, allowing no admixture of any other grain, not even a mixture of any other variety of wheat. The export trade in "goose" wheat will become very valuable and profitable to the Ontario farmer if they keep the sample pure.

The manufacture of malt, which at one time was a very large industry in Canada, is now limited to the requirements of the brewers of Eastern Canada. Although Canadian malt is first favorite with United States brewers, the tariff of 45c which their Government impose, keeps Canadian malt entirely out of their market, while on the other hand the relatively low duty of 15c (the Canadian duty) allows the maltster of the Pacific States to supply British Columbia and our North-West Territories with malt. Malting in Canada, therefore, cannot be looked upon as being prosperous under present conditions.

Hops are grown to considerable extent in Eastern Canada, but from British Columbia comes the best quality produced in the country. There is still large importations of hops to this country from Europe.

Owing to the long continued open weather during the past Autumn, the acreage prepared for Spring seeding is greater in Canada than it has ever been before, and the prospect is favorable for the greatest grain crop the coming year that the country has ever had.

Inspection of Manitoba Wheat. This question was brought before the Board last May by the Dominion Millers' Association who requested that the Toronto Board of Trade should send a delegate to Ottawa, with their representatives and delegates from other Ontario Boards of Trade, to oppose the amendments proposed by the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, and to support instead, the proposals of the millers to the Inspection Act.

The inspection of Manitoba wheat is becoming a matter of more vital importance to the Ontario millers year by year on account of the increased quantity of Manitoba wheat used by them.

The importance of this question to the export trade of Canada was brought forcibly to my attention when in Bristol, Eng., by the complaints from the Bristol Chamber of Commerce, of the unsatisfactory inspection of Canadian grain, and I was convinced that the best interests of Canada would be served by making an inspection so strict that the certificate of grade issued by the Dominion Government would be accepted without hesitation by the buyer whether in Ontario, Great Britain or on the Continent where there is already a large demand for Manitoba wheat on account of its high milling qualities.

The two principal points asked for by the Western grain dealers were: 1st—That there should be no inspection of Manitoba wheat east of