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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE WINNIPEG, MAN.

#### Massey-Harris Replies Continued from Page

in the Province of Alberta, as far north as Edmonton, is \$170.00. The freight cost of delivering a binder from Chicago to Grand Falls, Mont., is about

\$1.00 less than from Hamilton to Calgary or Edmonton.

You will note in Mr. White's statement, quoted above, that answers to telegrams sent to implement agents at St. John, Rocklake, St. Thomas and Sarles, North Dakota, secured replies giving retail prices about \$5.00 higher in each case than the prices given by Mr. Costello. Our own information, secured by one of our men on the spot, would indicate that Mr. Costello was very careful in prices quoted to give the lowest rather than the average prices prevailing, but we are satisfied to have comparisons made on his prices. Summed up, the above figures show that the price of an 8 ft. binder at Fargo, taking account of the different equipment, is \$9.50 less than at Winnipeg, but the difference in freight alone accounts for half the difference in price, and if prices had been given in Minnesota near the Canadian border the difference would have been considerably reduced. As between Valley City and Morden, taking the extra equipment into account, the difference is \$7.00, and the same difference applies between Devil's Lake and Pilot Mound.

Canadian Price Lower

Comparing Minot and Lansford with Virden, Reston, Napinka and Melita, when the difference in equipment is taken into consideration, the farmers near these Canadian towns have an advantage over the farmers in the vicinity of Minot and Lansford of \$3.00 per binder. Therefore, the average cost to the farmers in all Southern and Central Manitoba is but very slightly more than to the farmers of Minnesota and Dakota to the south of them. Certainly the average difference is not equal to the average difference in the freight rates.

The price at Williston, North Dakota, compared with Regina, Weyburn, or any other place within the large radius of Regina, is \$7.00 higher than at the Canadian points, or the full value of

the extra equipment.

The price of an 8ft. binder at Havre and Billings, Mont., is \$22.00 greater than the price of an 8 ft. binder at Maple Creek, directly north; \$29.00 greater taking into account the extra equipment on the Canadian side.

From these figures it will be seen that the Saskatchewan farmer buys his binder cheaper than the farmer south of him in North Dakota or in Montana.

Comparing Grand Falls, Mont., the farthest point West quoted by the government official, with all of Alberta, and taking into account the extra equipment with the Canadian binder, there is a difference in favor of the Canadian farmer of \$27.00.

Will Stand Investigation

From our own knowledge of the situation we have no hesitation in saying that all of the prices quoted on the American side of the border will bear the strictest investigation, and will be found for the most part to be under-stated rather than overstated. We again say that all fair minded men will agree that the points chosen on the south side of the boundary line are well selected to give a proper comparison of prices with the three Canadian Provinces to the north of them. We are exceedingly glad that the debate in the House has made available the report by the government's special officer, whose statements must carry conviction to all who read them. Also it is a greatsatisfaction to know that it will now be impossible for anyone to make such preposterous price comparisons as have been made in the past, and which have entirely misrepresented the situation and done a very great injustice to Canadian manufacturers of agricultural im-

We thank you for your offer to publish our comments upon the article in your issue of April 1, and trust you will give this letter equal prominence with the former article.

> Yours very truly MASSEY HARRIS CO. LTD., Thos. Findley,

Vice-Pres. and Ass't Gen. Mgr.

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July 29

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