

necessary funds made in 1898, but the work was not proceeded with. The Committee instructed the Secretary, who was going to Ottawa, to take this matter up with the Hon. the Postmaster-General and the Hon. the Minister of Public Works, which he did, with a result that he was informed by the Department that funds were available, and instructions were sent to Winnipeg to go on with the work. The alterations were made and have afforded increased facilities.

The Committee, at the request of residents of Mine Centre, urged the Post Office authorities to give a more frequent service to that district, as people there were sending their letters out via Minnesota on account of the inadequate service. During the summer, at least, the service was improved.

Late in December, at the request of some residents of Fort Francis, the Post Office officials were urged to arrange for a mail service to the Rainy River District by sending the mails out via the South Eastern Railway to its present terminus and thence overland.

The Committee have since had a conference with the General Superintendent of the South Eastern Railway and the Superintendent of Railway Mail Service, and both of them are now enquiring into the feasibility of sending mails via the South Eastern Railway and across from the terminus at War-road River to Beaver Mills P.O. on the Rainy River, a distance of thirty-five miles in United States territory.

THE DOUGLAS GRAIN BILL.

A special general meeting of the Board was held on the 6th May to consider the provisions contained in a Bill intro-