SEVENTEENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Winnipeg

Board of Trade

WITH THE

REPORTS OF COUNCIL, TREASURER, COMMITTEES, ETC.

Adopted at the Annual Meeting Held February 4th, 1896.

ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD.

WINNIPEG: Commercial Printing Co. 1896.

Hon

A. J W. Jos. C. J Ken J. H

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Winnipeg Board of Trade.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL:

PAST PRESIDENTS.

Hon A. G. B. Bannatyne	Geo. F. Galt -				1888
(deceased) 1879	Jas. Redmond				1889
A. F. Eden 1880	R. J. Whitla				1890
W. H. Lyon -, 1881					1891
Jos. Mulholland 1882		-			1892
C. J. Brydges. (deceased) - 1883		+			1893
					1894
J. H. Ashdown 18'57'	R. T. Riley -	+			1895

COUNCIL FOR 1896.

Fr H. Mathewson, President.
T. A. Anderson, Vice-President. | Andrew Strang, Treasurer.
Chas. N. Bell, Secretary.

J. H. Ashdown, R. J. Campbell, S. Nairn, S. A. McGaw, R. J. Whitla, Thos. Ryan, R. T. Riley, A. M. Nanton, Jno. Russell, D. W. Bole, J. Y. Griffin, T. Harry Webb, T. D. Robinson, R. D. Richardson, J. W. Harris, Thos. Gilroy.

BOARD OF ARBITRATORS.

K. Mackenzie, E. L. Drewry, G. F. Galt, G. J. Maulson, S. A. D. Bertrand, J. H. Brock, R. T. Riley, S. Spink, Juo. Galt, Wm. Hespler, J. E. Steen, Stephen Nairn.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

July 2nd, 1895 to July 7th, 1896.

BOARD OF GRAIN EXAMINERS.

S. A. McGaw, Chairman

J. A. Mitchell. S. Nairn. S. Spink. D. G. McBean.

BOARD OF FLOUR AND MEAL EXAMINERS.

S. Nairn, Chairman.

R. Muir. S. Spink.

F. W. Thompson. C. H. Steele.

BOARD OF HIDE AND LEATHER EXAMINERS.

E. F. Hutchings, Chairman.

P. Gallagher. Jas. Redmond. N. Bawlf.

GENERAL GRAIN COMMITTEE,

S. Spink, Chairman.

W. W. Ogilwie, A. Atkinson, N. Bawlf, W. A. Hastings, J. A. Mitchell, D. G. McBean, S. A. McGaw, G. J. Maulson, E. L. Drewry, J. A. Body, S. P. Clark, S. Nairn, D. H. McMillan, A. McBean, G. V. Hastings, F. W. Thompson, Wm. Martin, R. Muir, D. Horn, C. H. Szeele.

1896.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

NAME.	i FIRM.	Business.
Agur, R. H Aikins, J. S A Atkinson, A A Alloway, W. F A Anderson, T. A . M Arbuthnot, Jno.	tkins & Pepler tkinson & Co lloway & Champion	Agricultural Implements Fin. Agts. and Real Estate Grain Dealers Bankers. Co. Stoves and 'Hardware Lumber.
Bell, C. N. Bethune, A. B. J. J. Bertrand, S. A. D. Body, J. A. Bole, W. D. T. Brock, J. H. C. Brydon, Wm. Buchanan, D. W. "	ody & Noakes heMartin,Bole,Wynn arruthers & Brock The Commercial'	ExSecretary Wholesale Cloth'g and Furs Official Assignee Oil Mills Oil Mills. LeCo Wholesale Drugs Insurance, etc.
Chambers, G. F. C Chambers, J. H. P. Champion, H. T. A Chipman, C. C. F. Clark, S. P. S.	arruthers & Brock	Bisc at Manufacturers Bankers, Commissioner Grain and Commission.
Driscoll, J. WN	dedwood Brewery IcClary Mfg. Co I.N.W. Telegraph Co	Store c.
Elliott, D. K Erb, Geo. W V	A. J. Whitla & Co Vaterous Engine Co .	Wholesale Dry Goods. Manager.
Fisher, W. M V. Fraser, Donald I	V. Can Loan & Sav. D. Fraser & Co	Co. Manager. Wholesale Clothing.

Gall Galt Geor Gilre Griff

Harr Harr Hast Hast Hend Hesp Hoar Holid Horn Howa Hutc

Judd, Johns Kirkl

Leslie

Mack McBe McBe McBr McGa McKe McMi Mann Marti Mathe Mauls Miller Mitche Monk, Mott, Muir,

Nairn, Nanto Ogilvie O'Lou

Patton Pettign Porter, Powis,

Gallagher, P. Gallagher & Sons. Cattle & Meats. Galt, G. F. G. F. & J. Galt
Harris, G. F. R. Can. Per. L. & Sav. Co Manager. Harris, J. W. A. Lake of Woods Mill'g Co Millers and Grain Dealers. Hastings, G. V
Judd, W. E Standard Oil Co
Leslie, John Leslie Bros
Mackenzie, K Mckenzie, Powis & Co Wholesale Grocers, McBean, D. G McBean Bros Grain Dealers. McBean, A McBean & Son Grain Dealers. McBean, A McBean & Son
Nairn, Stephen Winnipeg Oatmeal Mills. Proprietor. Nanton, A. M Osler Hammond & Nanton Financial Agents, Etc.
Ogilvie, W. WOgilvie Milling Co Millers and Grain Dealers, O'Loughlin, J. M. Consolidated Sta. Co Wholesale Stationery
Patton, F. L Union Bank of Canada Manager. Pettigrew, W. D

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Reaman, W. C., Jas. Robertson & Co	
Scroggie, Jas. R. G. Dinn & Co	
Tess, Jas. A Tees & Persse Commission Agents. Thompson, W. J Thompson. Codville & Co. Wholesale Grocers. Thompson, F. W. Ogilvie Milling C Manager. Turnbull, J. H Turnbull & McManus Sash and Doors. Turner, J. L	
Webb, T. Harry Patterson Bros. Co. Agricultural Implements. Whitla, R. J. R. J. Whitla & Co. Wholesale Dry Goods. Wickson, A. Merchants' Bank. Manager. Woods, Geo. D. G. D. Wood & Co. Wholesale Hardware.	

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 4, 1896

To the Winnipeg Board of Trade.

GENTLEMEN :

"The report of the Council for the past year is now before you, and treats in detail with the various matters that have been under consideration, and it will be my duty merely to comment on such matters as, during the past year, have not been dealt with directly, by the Council.

The state of trade in the North West during 1895, has shown a marked improvement over 1894. In that year, I am justified in saying, that but few balance sheets were brought out that could be considered thoroughly satisfactory to the financial and mercantile institutions of this country, but for 1895 the contrary has been the case. The business done has shown an increase, without any proportionate increase in the expenses of operation; the loss from bad and doubtful accounts has been below the average, and the balance sheets for 1895 as a whole are satisfactory, and most of our establishments can report substantial progress.

In the city of Winnipeg, substantial progress has been made, and whilst there has not been the same amount of money invested in new buildings as in previous years, still the buildings that have been erected are all of a substantial nature, both in the larger wholesale and retail business premises, and also in private residences. I am especially glad to note amongst the new buildings erected this year, the sorting elevator of the Northern Elevator Co., with a capacity of 140,000 bushels. This will prove of great benefit to shippers and others interested in the grain business, and marks a turning point for the city as a grain centre, and I trust this elevator is but the indication of the development along this line that is to follow in the near future.

Considerable interest has been manifested during the year in the question of commercial legislation, both in the Dominion The withdrawal of the Insolvency and Provincial houses. Bill'from the Dominion house was regretted by some, but as a matter of fact, not having any Dominion Insolvency Law does not materially affect our interests here, for we have usually secured a fair distribution of assets, and last October, legislation of the Manitoba provincial government came into force which will prevent any preference being obtained by judgment creditors in the future, for as the law now stands, no creditor can obtain either a "snap" or ordinary judgment that will give any preference over a judgment obtained since October 1st, provided that the prior judgments obtained have not been fully paid, and it has also been enacted that an assignment in trust must take precedence of all judgemnts, and the sheriff is to hand over any goods or monies held for judgment debtors to the assignee, as soon as an assignment is registered. It is too early yet for the business community to have received, or to be able to appreciate, the full value of this legislation, but I believe its operations will be most satisfactory. legislation was strongly advocated by the wholesale trade here, and the Board is to be congratulated upon the result obtained. I would suggest that some action be taken by your Board or Council to induce the North West Legislative

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Assembly, to introduce similar legislation in the Territories this year.

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During the past year, the grain crop has been unusually heavy, and the exports in this line are larger than ever before-

An enormous increase has been shown both in the production of live stock and dairy products, and the Provincial Government is to be congratulated on the very active steps that it has taken in favoring the establishing of creameries in different parts of the province, rendering substantial assistance by way of loans. They have assisted in the construction of suitable buildings, and also furnishing practical instruction to the butter and cheese makers of the province. A permanent school of dairy instruction has been established in the city of Winnipeg this winter, which is being attended by students from various parts of the province, and there is an understanding that the provincial government intends, during the coming year, to devote considerable attention to the matter of our dairy products, and no doubt the work will assume the same practical form as has been adopted in the past.

An important piece of legislation was passed through by the Manitoba legislature during the past year, dealing with the drainage of low lands, by which it is hoped that a large amount of land throughout the province will be benefitted, the object of the Act being the carrying out of the necessary work, on a comprehensive plan, and charging the cost against all lands receiving benefit, and distributing the payment for the work over a number of years. Drainage operations to the extent of nearly \$100,000 have already been started in the eastern part of the province, which if successful, no doubt will be followed by considerable activity in this line in other parts.

As I was not present at my election a year ago, I take this opportunity of thanking the Board for the honor conferred upon me, the Council for the courtesies they have extended to me, and the Secretary for the prompt services that have been rendered by him on every occasion, and in conclusion I would offer a suggestion as to the formation of the Council of the Board for the ensuing year. It is exceedingly desirable that the various interests represented on the Board should also obtain representation on this Council, and in making your nominations for Council-men, I would ask you to make the representation a little more diversified than it has been in the past.

R. T. RILEY, PRESIDENT.

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REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

WINNIPEG, 41H FEBRUARY, 1896.

To the Members of the Winnipeg Board of Trade:

GENTLEMEN,

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Your Council beg to present their Seventeenth Annual Report. The following matters received attention during the past year:

SETTLEMENT OF VACANT LANDS.

As instructed at the last annual meeting of the Board, the Council promptly took up the much vexed question of devising some means to effect the settlement of the vacant lands adjoining Winnipeg. A committee of the Council secured the valuable assistance of several gentlemen in the city, agents or owners of lands in the Winnipeg District, and after a great amount of correspondence with rural municipalities affected, made the following report on their labors:

WINNIPEG, April 2, 1885.

The President and Council Winnipeg Board of Trade:

GENLLEMEN,

Your Committee appointed to enquire into the whole subject "of the best means to take to secure the settlement of the vacant lands in the vicinity of Winnipeg," beg to report as follows:

1st—The committee and various sub-committees have held numerous meetings and conferences with the Local Government and many individuals.

2nd—They addressed a circular letter (appendix A) to the reeves of municipalities in the Red River Valley, asking for a return of the amount of lands held by the municipalities and the terms on which they would be handed over to settlers, and if any encouragement in the way of exemption from taxes for a term would be offered to actual settlers. Answers from the following municipalities are attached to this report, viz.:

Kildonan, St. Pauls, St. Andrews, St. Clements, Springfield, St. Boniface, Macdonald, St. Laurent, Lufferin, St. Charles, Rosser, St. Francois Xavier.

From these returns it will be seen that plenty of land is held for sale by individuals in these municipalities at prices ranging say from one to ten dollars per acre, but no very large quantity is yet held by municipalities, as the result of tax sales. What there is, except in the case of Macdonald, will not be offered by municipalities free to actual settlers. There does not appear to be any desire on the part of municipalities to offer any inducements to settlers in the way of exemption from taxes for even a year or two.

3rd—The committee waited on the Provincial Government on several occasions regarding various matters in connection with the settlement of the Red River Valley lands, with the following results:

The Government will have a well boring apparatus at work this summer in Eastern Manitoba.

A new Drainage Act has been substituted for the one passed last year, and now, on request, the Government will send out an engineer to examine any lands for which the drainage is patitioned, and if that officer endorses the request, the Government will be a substituted for the one passed last year.

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ment proceeds direct with the necessary work, and after the completion of such, the municipal officers are compelled to levy for taxes according to the benefits accruing to the lands drained. The Government issue drainage debentures, after the cost of the works are ascertained, and their own official decides as to the proportion of benefits received by any lands within the drained area.

The committee asked the Government to establish an Agricultural College near Winnipeg, but received a reply that at present no funds could be set aside for that purpose.

The committee also urged that the Government exercise a more direct and vigorous enforcement of the Act relating to the eradication of Noxious Weeds.

Copies of the statements submitted to the Government, and of the new Drainage Act are attached herewith for the information of the Council.

As a result of their labors the committee at its last meeting reached the conclusion contained in the following resolution:

"That it is the opinion of the committee that the best means to be adopted to secure the settlement of the vacant lands adjacent to Winnipeg is through the formation and operation of a strong joint stock company."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES E. STEEN,

CHAIRMAN

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(APPENDIX A.)

WINNIBEG BOARD OF TRADE,

WINNIPEG, 22nd Feb., 1895.

To

Reeve of the Municipality of

DEAR SIR,—As you are no doubt aware, a movement is now on foot for the settlement of our vacant lands, and a committee of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, aided by other leading business men and citizens generally, is now at work to devise some means for carrying out this very necessary project. Already this committee have numerous applications for lands from intending settlers, and there is every prospect of the movement being a decided success.

Some of the municipalities around Winnipeg have, through their reeves, expressed a desire to place the lands at the disposal of the committee, either to be given as free grants, or at mominal prices to actual settlers. The committee are anxious to place all surrounding municipalities on the same footing, showing no favor, and they wish to know if your municipality has any lands available for such purpose. If you have any, be kind enough to get an expression of opinion from your municipal council on the subject, and let the committee know what you are prepared to do, what lands you have, whether as free grants, or at what figures you will place them at the disposal of the committee to be used for actual settlers.

The committee are busy at work on all the details of this project, and an early reply is necessary so as to enable them to get at the work of locating settlers in time for the opening of spring.

Awaiting your early reply, I have the honor to be, Your obe-

CHAS. N. BELL,

Secretary Board of Trade.

The committee would respectfully ask for a reply on the following points:

What quantity of lands are controlled by your municipality? Would your council be disposed to offer lands owned by the

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municipality as free grants to actual settlers? Would they be disposed to offer any assistance to such settlers by reversion of taxes or otherwise? In the event of your owning lands which you are not disposed to offer as free grants, at about what prices and on what terms would you offer them for actual settlement? The committee will be glad to receive any suggestions bearing on the subject of settlement of these lands.

After full consideration of this most important and difficult subject the Council are convinced that the finding of the Committee is correct, and that only by the formation of a sthong company to take over and dispose of these lands will any solution of the difficulties connected with their settlement in the near future, be reached. A charter for a company to deal with the situation is now in existence, and it is to be hoped that active steps will be taken to organize, and prosecute the work of settlement.

RED RIVER NAVIGATION.

Advantage was taken of the presence in the North-West of Sir Mackenzie Bowell and the Hon. T. M. Daly to interview them on the subject of the improvement of St. Andrews rapids. As arranged by wire the interview took place in the City Council chamber, his worship Mayor Gilroy in the chair, and an attendance of fully two hundred citizens showed the great interest manifested in this important matter. Mayor Gilroy and Messers J. H. Ashdown and J. H. Brock addressed the ministers at length, reiterating the substance of the many petitions from the City Council, municipalities along the Red River and this Board. presented to the Dominion Government in years past and urged the Premier to take some practical steps to improve the navigation of the Red River. In reply to the claims advanced by these gentlemen the Premier stated that at present the government had not the means to undertake all the public works asked for, and that he could not give any encouragement that this work would at present be undertaken, but he would

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again bring the matter to the attention of his colleagues, and have a report on the surveys already made and the plans prepared by the Department of Public Works, brought before the members of his government.

EFFICIENCY OF THE FIRE BRIGADE.

In April the Board of Fire Underwriters asked the co-operaation of this Board in urging on the City Council an investigation into the water supply for fire purposes, and the general efficiency of the Fire Brigade. The Underwriters made some grave statements in connection with the matter. This Board, while not passing upon the merits of the matter, which gave rise to considerable public discussion, expressed the opinion "that the City Council should hold an investigation, either to substantiate the charges made, or exonerate their officials upon whom suspicion was thrown." An investigation was held, and, as a consequence, several changes were made in the Fire Brigade and many of the city fire tanks have been connected with the water mains in such a manner that it is believed the water supply for fire purposes has been greatly improved.

INSURANCE TAX.

Early in last year the Council opened communication with the Manitoba Board of Fire Underwriters and the subject of a tax of 5 cents per \$100 of insurance imposed by the companies represented in the Manitoba association, which tax was imposed for the purpose of recouping the companies for a business tax levied on them by the Manitoba Legislature. The Council protested against this action of the Fire Underwriters Board and they replied that the head offices of their various companies had instructed them to pursue this course. Strong representations, it is learned, were made to the general offices of the companies and it is satisfactory to know that the tax is no longer levied.

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It may be noticed that a Local Fire Insurance Company, organized about a year ago, did not at any time seek to impose this most unfair tax.

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FREIGHT RATES COMMITTEE.

A report of the evidence presented by the Board to the Freight Rates Commission in Winnipeg was printed in the last Annual Report. Shortly after its issue the Commission held its sittings in Montreal, where the whole of the evidence of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was submitted. The committee of this Board, after perusing published reports of such evidence, communicated with the Commission requesting to be allowed to fyle answers to statements submitted to the Commission by officials of the railway company, but this request was refused. The report of the Commission, as printed, is devoid of any clear statement of the evidence presented by this Board. The Council have to acknowledge the kind assistance of the Hon. Jos. Martin, M. P in securing for them type written extracts from the above report on its first presentation to the House at Ottawa.

BOARD OF CUSTOMS EXPERTS.

A request from the Montreal Board of Trade was received in April, that this Board should join in a petition to the Senate and House of Commons at Ottawa for the establishment of a Board of Customs Experts, on the grounds that importers suffer from a want of uniformity in the application of the Tariff, that there is no satisfactory recourse or remedy in matters of dispute as to classification for duty, value for duty, or in cases when Customs Officials inflict injustice upon imposers by erroneous and arbitrary ralings. A large number of signatures to the petition were secured and forwarded. The matter came up in the Senate and House of Commons, but was strongly apposed by the government. The Council have to thank Senator Bernier and the Hon. Jos. Martin, M. P. for presenting the petitions.

QUARANTINE ON SETTLERS' CATTLE.

The Committee on the Settlement of Vacant Lands brought to the attention of the Council the hardship entailed on immigrants who brought their farm cattle with them from the United States, by a quarantine of ninety days at the International Boundary Line and the heavy expense connected therewith. After consultation with the most extensive Manitoba exporters of cattle, who assured the Board that the export trade would not be adversely affected thereby, the following petition was prepared under direction of the Council and forwarded to Ottawa.

To the Honorable

T. Mayne Daly, M. P.,

Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, Ont.

Whereas there now exists in connection with the importation of cattle and other live stock from the United States into Canada certain quarantine provisiors. which in a general sense are no doubt productive of much good in the way of acting as a protection against the introduction and spread of disease from hat country amon g stock in Canada, nevertheless your petitioners cannot refrain from expressing their conviction, that some of the provisions of this quarantine are at present insurmountable barriers to a tide of immigration, which would otherwise sweep, during the present season, across the international boundary into Manitoba and the Territories westward.

Your petitioners desire to call attention to the quarantine provision, which compells the cattle of the settler to be quarantined at the boundary for ninety days. Such a provision is simply a prohibitory one, to many of the settlers who are at present ready to leave Minnesota and Dakota and other States, and settle in Canadian territory, bringing their stock with them, and affects detrimentaly the valuable effort, which has been put

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forth during the past few years, to bring settlers, who are experienced prairie farmers, from the States into the prairie districts of the Canadian Northwest.

The majority of these incoming faruers are desirous of engaging in dairy farming, more or less, and it is now a settled fact, that prairie farming in this country cannot be made profitable without a dairy attached to the farm. These people would have to depend, during the first season of their location in Canada, largely on the products of their milking cows, and this scource of dependence would be taken away, as all cows are dried up during the ninety days quarantine detention. From the first of October to the first of April settlers stock is practically shut out from entering the country, as, during that period, the cost of keeping the animals in quarantine must be borne by the settlers, a charge few of such settlers are able to bear.

Your petitioners view this provision as an unnecessary barrier to immigration, seeing that the cattle of an incoming settler can in no way affect the health of the cattle being exported to Europe, as by the provision of our custom law, which admits settlers effects duty free, the settler cannot dispose of such effects for six months after his arrival and location in Canadian territory.

Your petitioners therefore request, that so far as the stock of settlers moving from unaffected districts are concerned, this provision of a ninety days detention at the boundary be raised, and admission be granted to such stock after inspection by a qualified government official. This your petitioners firmly believe would be ample protection against the introduction or spread of any contagious diseases of cattle from the source above named, while it would greatly stimulate a tide of much to be desired immigration from the south."

The Hon. T. M. Daly answered that he would bring the matter to the attention of the government, but that it had been

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considered before and the conclusion was adverse, in view of the efforts being made to secure the introduction of Canadian live cattle into Great Britain.

Late reports from Ottawa would indicate that the government intend to allow the passage of cattle from the United States through Canada for export via a Canadian seaport. The Council advise that the matter be again taken up with the Government.

LIVE STOCK MARKET FOR WINNIPEG.

The matter of a Live Stock Market for Winnipeg was brought to the attention of the Council early last summer, and a committee was appointed to look into the situation. The committee made the following report:

WINNIPEG, 28TH JUNE, 1895.

The President and Members, Winnipeg Board of Trade:

GENTLEMEN,

Your Committee appointed by the Council to enquire into and report on the advisability of taking steps to secure for the City of Winnipeg a regular Live Stock Market, where dealers from the Province of Manitoba and the N.W. Territories could consign live stock for competitive sales, beg to report.

The Committee prepared and distributed to newspapers and persons interested (whose addresses could be had) in the Province and Territories, and in Eastern Canada, a circular letter calling a general open meeting in the Board Room for this date for a discussion of the proposed scheme. Many letters were received from at home and Eastern Canada, giving views of experienced live stock men and producers, which are very favorable to the project.

At the meeting held to-day the following resolution was unanimously passed: sto

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este B "That it is the opinion of this meeting that live stock yards should be established in the City of Winnipeg as soon as possible, and the necessary steps taken to form a responsible joint stock company to carry the project into effect."

Your Committee are advised that the C. P. R. Co., would be willing to improve their Winnipeg yards and lease them to a responsible company on moderate terms.

F. H. MATHEWSON, CHAIRMAN.

(CIRCULAR LEITER.)

WINNIPEG BOARD OF TRADE.

WINNIPEG, 1ST JUNE, 1895.

DEAR SIR.

The matter of the extreme importance to producers and live stock dealers in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, of having a regular recognized central market for stock, where competition would ensure the best values for various grades of animals, has been discussed at a meeting of the Council of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, and a committee appointed to secure information and ascertain the views of producers and dealers on the subject. With this end in view. and after consideration, the committee, Messrs. F. H. Mathewson (Manager Canadian Bank of Commerce), R. T. Riley (Sanford & Co.), J. H. Ashdown and J. Y. Griffin, cordially invite you to be present at an open meeting, to be held in the Board of Trade rooms here, on Tuesday, the 18th June, at 4 o'clock, p.m. If you find it impossible to attend this meeting, the committee will be greatly favored if you will write them your views, and any suggestions regarding the project will be appreciated.

Please, also, extend to any person you may know to be interested in this matter an invitation to be present at the meeting.

By direction of the committee,

Yours faithfully, CHAS. N. BELL, SECRETARY.

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The information made public by the action of Board was widely published, and the provincial press commented very favorably on the probable success of a Central Stock Market. While no company has yet been formed to carry out this project, the exports of cattle from Maritoba and the Northwest Territories are increasing at such a rapid rate that live stock yards here will shortly be an absolute necessity, and (men of capital and energy will be found to meet the situation.

TANNING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The matter of advertising the advantages offered in Winnipeg for the establishment of one or more tanneries for converting the raw hides, now exported, into leather, was taken up by a committee of the Council.

The committee's report was as follows :

WINNIPEG, May 21st, 1895.

To the President and Council Winnipeg Board of Trade:

GENTLEMEN:

Your Committee appointed for the purpose of inquiring into the advisability of recommending the establishment of a Tannery in Winnipeg beg to report as follows.

Circular letters were addressed to several parties of experience and knowledge of the subject, with the result that much useful information has been obtained.

The question, "Is tanning in every way as successful with extracts, as with bark?" has been answered in the affirmative by two practical tanners. They also say extracts are now being used where tan bark is easy of access. Others in the leather trade say good leather can be made, but not as good as by bark.

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Questions as to the consumption of leather in this country, the probability of a tannery paying in Winnipeg, and others referring to the boot and shoe and harness trade, were variously answered; but your committee is able to gather that while the expense of labor and other conditions might not favor the manufacture of leather goods on a large scale at the prcsent time, they are of the opinion that a well appointed tannery under good management would be a profitable enterprise in Winnipeg. If good leather can be made from extracts, there should be no reason why it cannot be made for shipment to the Eistern provinces in view of the fact that abundance of hides can be obtained, and the process of tanning reduces the weight from half to two-thirds, thereby reducing the cost of transportation of the manufactured article below that now paid for the green hides. Apart from this, the local consumption appears to be such as would warrant the establishment of a tannery of moderate capacity.

Your committee would, therefore, recommend that printed circulars be secured containing all the information in possession of the Board, and small advertisements be inserted in some of the leading Eastern papers, directing attention of interested parties to the matter. All enquiries could be answered by the circulars referred to.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. W. BOLE, CHAIRMAN.

Advertisements were inserted in several of the leading journals of Canada and the United States, devoted to the interests of the leather and leather manufacturers trades. The following circular was also widely distributed:

"The Winnipeg Board of Trade, through a committee appointed for the purpose, beg to call your attention to an opening presented in the City of Winnipeg for a Tannery.

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The city has a population of 38,000 people, and supplies, largely, the goods consumed between the Red River and the Rocky Mountains; and in this vast area there is not any tannery which attempts to meet, beyond a very small fraction of the demand for leather. The hide Inspector at Winnipeg estimates that about 50,000 cattle hides were exported last year and sold in the United States, Eastern Canada and Great Britain. Practically all the leather, boots and shoes, harness and saddlery, and other leather goods distributed from Winnipeg, are first imported from Eastern Canadian and foreign markets, indicating the extent of a market for the products of an extensive tanning establishment, if located in Winnipeg. Investigation will show that any surplus leather produced could be exported at a profit. While tanning would have to be done by extracts of bark or other concentrates, there are no climatic causes to adversely affect tanning operations, as is demonstrated by the operation of one or two small tanneries now existing.

The Committee will be glad to answer, in detail the inquiries of persons interested."

A number of answers were received to the advertisements, but they were unsatisfactory, and in most cases it would appear that the writers expected the city of Winnipeg would grant a bonus to any one establishing tanning works, whereas the committee were of the opinion that any such undertaking should stand alone on the favorable business merits of the project.

POSTING LETTERS ON TRAINS.

It having been rumored that it was the intention of the Postoffice authorities to prohibit the mailing of letters on trains
leaving Winnipeg, the Council sent a deputation to interview
the Postoffice Inspector, who gave full assurance that such a
step was not contemplated by him, but that, as it had become a
custom for many business houses to post a large number of letties at the train just prior to its departure, the Department
found that the train work was seriously impeded. He was
addressing business houses by letter, representing to them the
situation, and asking their assistance in remedying the trouble.

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It is understood that since the facts became known the cause of the trouble has greatly disappeared. The Council found that Postoffice Inspector McLeod was anxious to facilitate business to the full extent of his power.

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CAR SUPPLY FOR FIREWOOD ...

Some firewood dealers having represented to the Board that they could not secure a supply of cars from the Canadian Pacific Ry. Co., to bring in firewood for the city, the President enquired into the cause of the complaint, and learned that owing to the great volume of the grain traffic the supply of cars for firewood was limited to a number that would prevent any scarcity of fuel, and that dealers had been informed, earlier in the season, to get in sufficient stocks to meet this very emergency, piling room being offered them in the railway company's yards. Assurances were given that sufficient cars would alwave be supplied to meet any fair demand and prevent any hardship.

REVELSTOKE BRIDGE.

The Council received a communication from the Board of Trade at Revelstoke, B. C., asking their co-operation in securing for that town the free navigation of the Columbia River, as it was in contemplation by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., to either erect a new bridge, or make important alterations in the existing one, which presents a bar to the free passage of the river steamers. The Council acceeded to the request and addressed the Department of Railways and Canals on the subject. The Council is not aware of the result of the representations made.

REMOVAL OF CUSTOMS OFFICES.

Last year your Council reported having received certain promises from the Hon Clarke Wallace, Comptroller of Customs, in connection with customs matters at this port. It is to be regretted that notwithstanding the many requests made to have the customs postal package office removed from the pre-

sent inconvenient situation, and the repeated promises of the Customs Department that the change would be effected, nothing has been done, and the unsatisfactory and entirely unnecessary situation remains unchanged. On two occasions by letter during the past year the Hon. Comptroller of Customs promised to have the postal package office removed to the postoffice building, and the Council has now opened up correspondence with the Hon. Comptroller Wood, his successor, and it is to be hoped with greater prospects of success. The removal of the general customs offices to a central part of the city, where the convenience of the business community would be met, has also been pressed on the Hon. Mr. Wood.

HIDE INSPECTION.

The Council, for the information of members of the Board, give herewith an extract from the report of the Hide Inspector for the six months ending 31st December, 1895. The total number of hides inspected for the half year was 6,690, and the Inspector makes the following statement: "The above report shows a decrease of about 3,000 hides inspected, as compared with the same period of 1894. This is owing to the dealers buying 'flat,' that is, without inspection, and paying for hides so bought a price equal to the value of No. 2 hides. About onethird of these hides, if inspected, would have graded as No. 1, and would have brought their owners a higher price, as a reward for the care exercised in the take off." It would appear that although the export of hides is greatly increasing, the number presented for inspection is decreasing. Some cause must be at the bottom of this state of things and the Council recommend that their successors fully investigate the situation.

WOOD PULP MANUFACTURE.

Information has been asked from the Board as to the material existing about Lake Winnipeg suitable for the manufacture into wood pulp, from a district in Wisconsin, where the supply

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is becoming exhausted, and where \$6,000,000 is invested in the paper business. Information of a most favorable character has been forwarded. The Council recommend that attention be given by their successors to this matter.

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INSOLVENCY LEGISLATION.

In May last copies of a Bill for "An Act respecting Insolvency," forwarded by the Hon. Mackenzte Bowell, was carefully considered by the Council, and while, on the whole, many features of the Bill were approved of, there were some clauses that in the opinion of the Council would not be workable in the sparcely settled provinces and territories. A committee was appointed to prepare a report on the objectionable clauses, but the Premier withdrew the Bill after some discussion thereon had taken place in the Senate, where it had first been introduced, and the Council was relieved of further action.

BEST FORM OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT FOR WINNIPEG.

At a general meeting of the Board on the 25th June, a committee was appointed "to enquire into and report upon the best form of Municipal Government for the City of Winnipeg," the committee being authorized to add to the committee a number of citizens "with a view of securing representation from all classes of citizens not members of this Board." This Committee, after holding one or two meetings, reported that, in their opinion, it would be well to hand over the consideration of the whole matter to a large citizens' committee composed of representatives of professional, mercantile and labor organizations of the city. The Council readily acquiesced in this view of the matter, and the Committee was re-organized on that basis.

REGULATIONS FOR OFFICIAL WEIGHERS.

Under the provisions of the Dominion Public Weigher's Act, the Council was called on in October to frame regulations to govern an Official Weigher for Winnipeg. This duty was performed, after consultation with the Grain Inspector and members engaged in the grain trades, and a copy of the order-incouncil approving the same is herewith attached.

DEPARTMENT OF INLAND REVENUE.

OTTAWA, December 13, 1895.

The following Regulations have been adopted by Order in-Council of the 2nd December, 1895, for the governance of Official Weighers, appointed under the Act 54-55 Vic., Cap. 47:

REGULATIONS.

1. Every person appointed as official weigher under the provisions of the sail Act, shall have sole control of the scales and weights at any elevator for which he is authorized to act, and may require the scales and weights to be tested and inspected whenever he may have reason to doubt their accuracy.

He may appoint such assistant weighers, subject to confirmation by the Department of Inland Revenue, as may be required, for whose official acts he shall be responsible as if done by himself.

3. On every car load he is required to weigh he may collect a fee of twenty-five cents.

4. He shall, be subject to the same penalties in respect of incorrect weighing as are imposed upon inspectors of grain under the Inspection Act.

5. Before entering upon his duties as official weigher he shall give such bonds for the proper performance of his duties and those of his assistants as may be required by the Department of Inland Revenue.

6. He shall before entering upon his duties take before a Notary or Justice of the Peace, the following oath, viz.:

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For each weighing he shall issue a certificate in the following form, or such other form as may from time to time be prescribed by the Department of Inland Revenue.

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Mr. David Horn, Inspector for the Winnipeg Grain Inspection Division, has since been appointed official weigher, and negotiations are now pending between the grain dealers and the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. as to arrangements, on a fair basis, as to stop-over fees, so that cars from the interior may be held over at Winnipeg for weighing.

DEEP WATERWAYS CONVENTION.

The Board received an invitation to send delegates to a Deep Waterways Convention to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, in Sept. last, but could not see its way clear to secure the presence of any of the members. The City Council was represented by Mr. Jas. Fisher, Q. C. as a special delegate. While not perhaps arriving at any definite conclusion, the Convention at least drew attention to the necessity for improved and extended water routes from the head of the Great Lakes to the seaboard, and much interest in this subject, of such importance to the producers of the province, is still manifested.

GRAIN STANDARDS.

The Western Grain Standards Board met in September and selected standard samples to govern the grain crop of 1895, and a very great deal of newspaper discussion has taken place in connection therewith. Your Council are of opinion that the Board has become unwieldy in point of numbers, and a great deal of dissatisfaction is expressed that representatives of the Eastern milling and grain associations are given a place upon it. The opinion seems to prevail that the standards should be of a more permanent character, and that if any standard samples are required to be selected, the Department of Inland Revenue should appoint the grain inspectors at Fort William and west thereof, and perhaps one or two others, as a standing Board to

attend to that duty. The whole matter of Manitoba grain standards is now under consideration at Ottawa. In October last, several important changes were made in the schedule of grades, and in the regulations governing inspectors in grading, which the Council recomend be published herewith.

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ELECTION OF BOARDS OF EXAMINERS.

At the midsummer meeting of the Board the following standing committees required by the General Inspection Act, were elected:

BOARD OF GRAIN EXAMINERS.

Messrs. S. A. McGaw, J. A. Mitchell, S. Spink, S. Nairn, and D. G. McBean.

BOARD OF FLOUR AND MEAL EXAMINERS.

Messrs. S. Nairn, R. Muir, F. W. Thompson, S. Spink, and C. H. Steele.

BOARD OF HIDE AND LEATHER EXAMINERS.

Messrs. E. F. Hutchings, P. Gallagher, Jas. Redmond, N. Bawlf, and F. Ossenbrugge.

FOSTAGE RATES FOR LETTERS.

Your Council has been in correspondence with several of the leading Boards of Trade in Canada on the subject of acting in concert in urging for the adoption of a general postage rate of two cents per oz. for Canada and the United States. amoly is now presented of a letter being carried from say New York to Winnipeg for two cents, while the answer will cost the Winnipeg writer three cents. The proposition of the Council has been well received, and the matter will be pressed on the attention of the Dominion Government at a favorable opportunity. The answer of the Government heretofore, to applications for a two cent rate, has been that a loss of revenue would follow a change, but the opinion prevails amongst business men that a corresponding increase of business done under the lower rate would equalize the revenue. Such has proved to have been the result in Great Britain and the United States.

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BANQUET.

As members of the Board are aware, arrangements for a banquet have been completed, and the Council trust that members generally will attend what promises to be a most successful and important gathering.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. J. Y. Griffin and T. H. Webb were appointed as Auditors of the Board under the by-law calling for such officials.

R. T. RILEY, President. CHAS. N. BELL, Secretary.



Treasurer's Statement

FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

RECEIPTS.

To	balance from last year	5 547	13	
"	entrance fees and subscriptions	1155	00	
"	interest	12	90	
			\$1715	03

DISBURSEMENTS.

By	Secretary's salary\$	900	00	
	rent (share)	100		
"	printing and advertising	95	20	
"	postages	23	00	
"	telephone (share)	15	00	
"	petty accounts	15	66	
			\$1148	86
	Balance		\$566	17

No Liabilities.

ANDREW STRANG, Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,

T. HARRY WEBB, J. Y. GRIFFIN, Auditors. at

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GRAIN STATISTICS.

Returns to the Winnipeg Board of Trade of wheat inspected at Winnipeg for crops of years named.

WHEAT.	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
Class. Grade.	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	dars	Cars	Cars
Hard No. 1	583	668	1401	1576	424	984	4254	6404
"No. 2	657	778	9905	1010	2683	4337	1701	206
" No. 8		485		2625	2249	1731	290	8
Northern No. 1	2352		59)	1425	146	819	307	589
" No. 2	1030		387		531	432	51	20
" No. 8	76		85	338	48	106		
1 Regular					2495			
2 "/			1		2098			
3 ")		548			
White Fife			29	•		167	86	86
Spring No. 1	240						16	98
" No. 2	104	2						
No Grade	441	56		680	701	900	164	75
Rejected	484	346	162	320	1169	1265	502	789
Commercial Grades		1112	338	3276	285	980	20	
Total Cars	5967	8487	8896	10200	18372	11121	7891	8270

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 $\begin{array}{l} W_{\rm HEAT-Equal\ to\ (bus.)\ 3,878,550\ ;\ 2,284,050\ ;\ 2,207,400\ ;\ 6,630,000\ ;\\ 8,691,800\ ;\ 7,928,500\ ;\ 4,811,300\ ;\ 5,875,500. \end{array}$

Note.—Returns for six months ending 31st December 1895, show 5,283,850 bushels, already inspected of the crop of 1895.

The crop of 1894 amounted to 18,000,000 bushels. Of this total 3,000,000 bus were retained for seed and food; 5,375,500 exported after inspection at Winnipeg, and the balance exported as flour, or for inspection at Fort William.

MANITOBA'S WHEAT EXPORTS.

(INCLUDING FLOUR.)

Crop	(1886)	4,000,000	bushel
			11.7
	(1888)	4,000,000	- 11
	(1889)	4,500,000	- 6
	(4004)		`"
	(1892)		n ·
ц	(1893)		
11	(1894)		
.,,	(1895) Estimated		7,1

GRAIN STORAGE CAPACITY.

Including Port Arthur, Fort William, Keewatin and points in Manitoba and the Territories.

1891										7,628,000	bushels.
1892										10,366,800	
1893				*						11,467,100	
1894										11,817,100	.,
1895				,	٠			,		12,000,000	10
1896										13.873.000	

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MANITOBA.

Direct imports and exports from and to foreign countries for years ending 30th June, as shown by the customs returns

	Imports.	Exports.	Duty Paid
1886	\$1,959,337	\$ 859,615	\$467.213
1887	2,011,183	885,041	508,848
1888	1,750,048	1,304,800	457,354
1889	2,207,314	682,605	549,458
1890	2,555,235	988,384	649 027
1891	2,796,805	1,612,124	920,395
1892	3,038,443	2,078,339	775,924
1893	2,652,488	1,211,078	693,293
1894	2,353,768	1,864,964	602,465
1895	2.190.570	1.611.003	484.252

On account of the most of the produce, etc., imported into or exported from this province, being carried from and to the seaboard mainly through Canadian territory, the eastern seaboard ports get credit for the shipments, and consequently the above returns do not cover anything like Manitoba's trade with foreign countries.

BANK CLEARINGS IN CANADA.

The following are the totals of the clearing houses in Canada for the year ending 31st December, 1894 and 1895.

	1894.	1895.
Montreal	\$546,600,000	\$583,160,000
Toronto	279,270,739	308,636,054
Halifax	58,778,698	60,978,524
Winnipeg	50,540,648	55,873,630
Hamilton	34,307,856	34,361,139

\$969,497,941 \$1,043,009,347

The aggregate clearings at the cities in Canada showed an increase in 1895, of 7.58 per cent. The increase for Winnipeg is \$5,332,983, or 9.50 per cent.

points

GRAIN CLASSIFICATION.

Extracts from the classification of wheat and other grain established by an Order of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, dated the 14th October, 1895:

SPRING WEEAT.

No. 1 Manitoba hard wheat shall consist wholly of wheat grown in Manitoba and the North-West Territories of Canada, and shall be sound and well cleaned, weighing not less than sixty pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of at least two-thirds of hard red Fyfe wheat. No wheat which has been subjected to scouring or brushing for the removal of smut or other fungoid growth, shall be included in this grade.

No. 2 Manitoba hard wheat shall consist wholly of wheat grown in Manitoba or the North-West Territories of Canada, and shall be sound and reasonably clean, weighing not less than fifty-eight pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of

at least two-thirds of hard red Fyfe wheat.

No. 1 hard white Fyfe wheat shall consist wholly of wheat grown in Manitoba or the North-West Territories of Canada, and shall be sound and well cleaned, weighing not less than sixty pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of not less than sixty per cent of hard white Fyfe wheat, and shall not contain more than 25 per cent of soft wheat.

No. 1 Manitoba northern wheat shall consist wholly of wheat grown in Manitoba or the North-west Territories of Canada, and shall be sound and well cleaned, weighing not less than sixty pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of at least

fifty per cent of hard red Fyfe wheat.

No. 2 Manitoba northern wheat shall consist wholly of wheat grown in Manitoba and the North-West Territories of Canada, and shall be sound and reasonably clean, of good milling qualities, and fit for warehousing, weighing not less than fifty-eight pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of at least fifty per cent of hard red Fyfe wheat.

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No. 1 spring wheat shall be sound and well cleaned, weighing not less than sixty pounds to the bushel.

No. 2 spring wheat shall be sound and reasonably clean, weighing not less than fifty-eight pounds to the bushel.

No. 3 spring wheat shall comprise all wheat fit for ware-housing, not good enough to be graded as No. 2, weighing not less than fifty six pounds to the bushel.

Rejected spring wheat shall comprise all wheat fit for ware-housing, but too low in weight or otherwise unfit to be graded as No. 3.

All good wheat that is slightly damp shall be reported and entered on the inspector's books as "no grade," with the inspector's notations as to quality and condition.

All wheat that is in a heated condition or too damp to be considered safe for warehousing, or that has any considerable admixture of foreign grain or seed, or is badly bin-burnt, whatsoever grade it might otherwise be, shall be reported and entered on the inspector's books as "condemned," with the inspector's notations as to the quality and condition.

Any material admixture of "rice wheat," otherwise known as "goose" or "California" wheat, or of red chaff wheat with other descriptions of wheat, shall exclude the parcel from inspection.

All wheat shall be weighed, and the weight per bushel entered on the inspection book.

OATS.

No. 1 oats shall be sound, plump, clean and free from other grain.

No. 2 oats shall be sound, reasonably clean, and reasonably free from other grain.

No. 3 oats shall be sound but not clean enough to be graded as No. 2.

Rejected oats shall include such as are damp, unsound, dirty, or from any other cause unfit to be graded as No. 2.

BARLEY.

No. 1 barley shall be plump, bright, sound, clean and free from other grain.

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heat ada, ling iftyeast No. 2 barley shall be reasonably clean and sound, but not bright and plump enough to be graded as No. 1, and shall be reasonably free from other grain, and weigh not less than forty-eight pounds to the bushel.

No. 3 extra barley shall be in all respects the same as No. 2 barley, except in color, weight not less than forty-seven pounds

to the bushel.

No. 3 barley shall include shrunken or otherwise slightly damaged barley, weighing not less than forty-five pounds to the bushel.

No. 4 barley shall include all barley equal to No. 3, weighing

less than forty-five pounds to the bushel.

All barley which is damp, musty or from any cause badly damaged or largely mixed with other grain, shall be graded as "rejected."

PROVISIONS AS TO ALL GRAINS.

In the inspection of grain, inspectors are to be governed in their inspection of the foregoing classification by the standard samples selected by the Board appointed for that purpose. If, however, they are called upon to grade any wheat, which, as to weight, is not equal to the weight of such standard sample, they are not, if they deem it otherwise equal to the standard sample, to reduce the grade, provided the weight is equal to that required by the legal definition hereinbefore given.

Neither shall the inspectors decline to grade any wheat, other than No. 1 Manitoba hard, because it differs in its constituent parts from the standard sample, provided it is, in respect of soundness, cleanliness and the proportion of hard wheat contained therein, and its general milling qualities equal to the standard placed in their hands for their governance.

Nor shall the restrictions mentioned in grade one as to scoured or brushed wheat apply to any of the other grades

fixed hereby.

No grain that is warm or in a heating conditions hall be graded. No grain that has been subjected to treatment by use of lime or sulphur shall be graded higher than No. 3.

All inspectors shall make their reasons for grading grain, when necessary, fully known by notation, on their books.

Samples furnished to inspectors shall be made to conform as strictly as possible to the conditions and terms specified in foregoing classification,