

The Cooperstown Courier.

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COOPERSTOWN, GRIGGS CO., N. D., THURSDAY AUGUST 31, 1905.

\$1.50 PER ANNUM

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INSPECTION FIGHT NOW UP TO MOODY

DAKOTAN INVOKES HIS AID AGAINST GRAIN RING

Senator Young Asks U. S. Attorney General For Opinion In the Case. Wants to Know Whether Grain Shipped to Superior Can be Held Back For Inspection on the Way; Speaks on Behalf of Dakota Shippers.

Superior Daily Telegram.

One phrase of the Wisconsin grain inspection fight is up to Attorney General Moody of the United States.

The matter is that of the right of railroad companies to hold up grain consigned to Superior and to have it inspected by Minnesota officials before it gets here. Already there have been instances of grain consigned here that has been held at Duluth for Minnesota inspection and this without orders for Minnesota inspection.

Young Writes

Attorney General Moody has been communicated with by Senator George M. Young, of Valley City, N. D., asking for an opinion as to whether this action by the railroad companies is not interfering with the rights of shippers in violation of the interstate commerce law of the United States. Senator Young asks that if the attorney general finds that Minnesota inspectors cannot interfere with cars consigned to Superior that the attorney general take vigorous measures to see that the rights of shippers are not interfered with.

Result of N. P. Order.

It is supposed that the request for action comes from the fact that the Northern Pacific has already given orders that grain billed to Superior for storage and handling here must be marked "Wisconsin inspection," and the fact that it is popularly supposed that all grain shipped by North Dakota people to Superior will be held up at various points in Minnesota for inspection.

Grain Delayed.

The instance referred to above is that of two cars of grain shipped from Dakota on August 16 and consigned to Superior. It is not here yet although it was due here Monday. It is understood that the road is holding it up in Duluth where it has already been inspected by Minnesota officials without orders from the commission men here to whom it was consigned.

Young's Letter.

Senator Young's letter to the attorney general is self-explanatory and says: Hon. W. H. Moody, Attorney General for the United States, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The natural grain markets for North Dakota are Minneapolis, Minn., Duluth, Minn., and Superior, Wis. For many years the grain entering these markets has been graded by inspectors appointed under the provisions of the grain and warehouse law of Minnesota. The Minnesota inspection system has never been satisfactory to our people and our grain growers have suffered great injustice thereby. It has been operated too largely in the interest of the terminal elevator companies.

The Grain Fight.

During the session of 1903 of the Wisconsin legislature a bill was introduced providing for the establishment of a Wisconsin grain and warehouse commission for the state of Wisconsin and providing for licensing and inspection of grain in the city of Superior and other points in the state of Wisconsin. Concurrent resolutions were adopted by the legislature of North Dakota requesting its passage and declaring it to be the desire of the grain growers of the state. A legislative committee was also delegated to the Wisconsin capitol to urge the passage of the bill.

New A Law.

A bill substantially the same as the one referred to was introduced in the legislature of Wisconsin during the session of 1905 which was passed and has since become a law. Our legislature endorsed the bill and urged its passage. I enclose an unofficial copy of the bill. You will observe that section 2 provides that before the governor of the state of Wisconsin appoints the commissioners, he shall request the governor of the state of North Dakota, the governor of the state of New York and the board of trade of the city of Superior to re-

spectively recommend a person or persons for appointment upon such commission.

The constitution of this board was designed to prevent the raising of grades and other juggling. Under the provisions of the Wisconsin bill commissioners have been appointed as follows: Homer Andrew from the state of Wisconsin, John D. Shanahan from the state of New York and Hilton F. Swanston from the state of North Dakota, all these persons having been recommended as provided by law.

Preparations Made.

These commissioners have been making extensive preparations for the past month or so to weigh and inspect consignments of grain to Superior from North Dakota, South Dakota and other states. Certain interests in Minnesota are opposing the Wisconsin inspection scheme. Among other things it is given out that the inspectors for the state of Minnesota will insist upon inspecting all grain which passes through the state consigned to the city of Superior. If this is permitted to be done it will delay the shipments. It is obvious that grain consigned to Superior will under such conditions fail to reach there as soon as grain consigned to Duluth.

Time is required to make the inspection, if it is done properly and the breaking of car seals entails more or less confusion. If the shipments consigned to Superior are held for inspection at any point in Minnesota it will be very serious interference with the rights of shippers, and I should think an unwarranted obstruction of interstate commerce.

Asks Opinion.

I should be very glad to have your opinion as to this matter. I have perhaps, given you more facts than are necessary in order to consider the legal proposition. I have done so because I am anxious to have you understand the position in which our grain growers are placed and the importance of seeing that their rights are protected. No feasible plan has yet been suggested for the grading of grain within the state of North Dakota. We have no terminal elevators. The natural place for such work to be done is in markets where large quantities of grain are used or where grain is transferred such as at Duluth and Superior. These points being beyond our state lines we are compelled to go to other states or to congress for redress.

Appealed to Wisconsin.

Having failed to receive any concessions from Minnesota, we appealed to Wisconsin. That state has passed a law satisfactory to our people, one designed to protect the eastern millers, as well as the western farmers. It should be borne in mind that the eastern millers have suffered perhaps as much from the raising of grades and other manipulations as the grain growers of North Dakota and other northwestern states.

Wants Square Deal.

Our grain growers are not looking for the best of it. All we want is an honest inspection. We want the same standards observed when the grain arrives in the cars as when it is transferred from the elevator to the boats. This also is what is required by the eastern millers. There must be uniformity. The middle man must not juggle with the grades. The east and west are united in interest upon this point. We therefore want the Wisconsin inspection given a fair trial, because we believe that a majority of the board, those from New York and North Dakota, if not all the members, will stand for an honest inspection and correct weights.

If your view is that the Minnesota grain inspectors cannot grade or tamper in any way with the shipments of grain from North Dakota consigned to Superior, Wisconsin, I hope that your department will take vigorous measures to see that the rights of shippers are not interfered with.

Yours most respectfully,
GEORGE M. YOUNG.

October fashion sheet FREE.

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JOHN SYVERSON.

A Fatal Accident

Oscar Johnson is Kicked by a Horse and the Injury Proves Fatal.

Oscar Johnson, the eighteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles O. Johnson of Pilot Mound, was kicked in the stomach by a horse Monday forenoon, and was subject to great pain and suffering before aid could be rendered. He was driving four horses hitched to a binder, and had stepped between the horses to fasten the fly blanket on one of the middle horses. In this way he received the injury. Dr. Truscott was called to attend him and at first nothing of a serious nature could be ascertained.

But, death seemed determined to claim the young life, and, while the skill of man was being exercised with the greatest care and precaution to guard against all possible fatalities, the workings of the unseen Hand were mysteriously going on internally and the death angel hovered over the home until 5 o'clock Wednesday morning, when it bore the soul to its Maker and eternal happiness.

The funeral was held at the West Prairie Church Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, immediately following the usual service at the home which began at 11 o'clock a. m.

The sorrowing relatives have the profound sympathy of all in this their time of deep sorrow. —Binford Times.

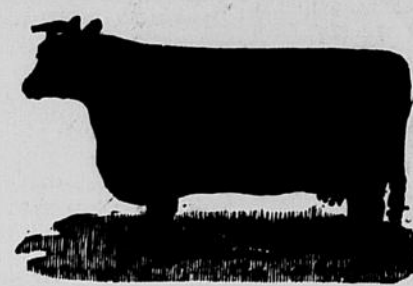
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