

Under this Act, the Department of Trade and Commerce, through the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, supervises the marketing, handling, grading and weighing of Western Canadian grain, providing a measure of protection alike to producer and ultimate purchaser, whilst assuring to operators of elevators engaged in the handling of the grain equitable fees for the services they render. In order to make this possible all operators of elevators served by a railway in the western inspection division—extending from Port Arthur, Ont., to the Pacific coast—are required to obtain licenses from the Board permitting them to operate, and also to enter into bonds with sufficient sureties and for such amounts as are approved by the Board. This also applies to all grain commission merchants, track buyers and primary grain dealers in the western inspection division, and to operators of public elevators in the eastern inspection division—east of Port Arthur, Ont., to the Atlantic sea-board.

All operators of terminal, public and country elevators are required to file for approval with the Board, annually, copies of the tariffs of charges proposed for the ensuing season. Charges for receiving, storing, cleaning, shipping, insurance against loss by fire and delivering grain are, in the case of terminal elevators, entirely subject to such regulation or reduction as the Board may determine, and in the case of country elevators the Board controls the maximum rates chargeable for similar services. The Board is also empowered to fix the maximum rate that may be charged by commission merchants for sales made by them. This latter is a feature introduced into the new Act which did not appear in the old.

The grading, by inspecting officers of the Board of Grain Commissioners, in either the western or eastern inspection division, is provided for according to certain defined standards for each variety and grade of grain. One noticeable feature of the new Act in this regard is the inclusion of Amber and Red Durum and Kota wheats in addition to the Hard Spring and Alberta Winter Red, White and Mixed wheats; whilst the three highest grades of Hard Spring wheat must now be equal in value to "Marquis" wheat. In case of a dispute as to grading by the Board's inspecting officers, an appeal can be made to one of the Grain Appeal Boards at Winnipeg or Calgary, appointed by the Board, instead of, as under the old Act, to a survey board nominated by various bodies and provincial Ministers of Agriculture.

Other special features included in the new Act, which did not occur in the old, are authority for the maintenance of a grain research laboratory to assist the chief inspector and the Grain Standards Board in determining the grades and the milling value of grain; and the introduction of a section concerning private elevators. The legalizing of the mixing of grain in private elevators is no doubt the most outstanding feature of the new Act. Private elevators may carry on the business of mixing grain under the provisions outlined in the Act and such regulations as may be promulgated by the Board with the approval of the Governor-in-Council. In this connection the Act provides that a private elevator shall receive only such grain as is the property of the person or corporation operating such elevator, but may, however, receive grain shipped with the written consent of the owner.

Another exception to this rule is provided, whereby private elevators may receive grain which is being handled by grain pools. These pools have been organized in the Prairie Provinces and have introduced a new method of handling grain, the marketing of which through country elevators is also recognized by the Act by allowing such pools to operate country elevators solely for the use of their own members, without being compelled to take in public grain for storage, provided,