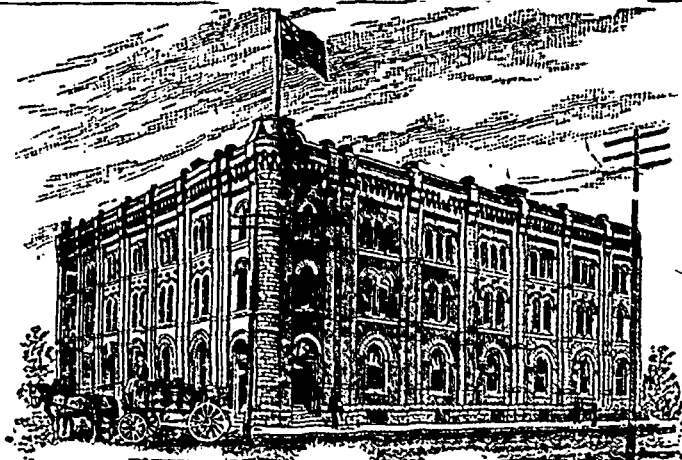


GOODS SOLD TO THE
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TRADE ONLY.

G. F. & J. GALT,

DIRECT IMPORTERS

TEAS, SUGARS, WINES, LIQUORS and GENERAL GROCERIES
CORNER PRINCESS AND BANNATYNE STREETS, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

The earnings statement of the Northern Pacific for the month ending May 31, as compared with the same month last year, is as follows:

Freight....	\$1,028,643	\$943,863.42	\$84,887.68
Passenger..	518,199	502,327.51	15,871.49
Mail	37,500	32,934.79	4,565.24
Express ...	13,500	23,237.22	212.78
Miscellan's.	17,600	34,875.75	*17,075.75

Totals ..	\$1,625,642	\$1,537,288.09	\$88,353.31
Mls of road operated.	3,451	3,280	171
			*Decrease.

DURING the past week a couple of towns in Southwestern Manitoba have suffered severely by fire, and more by good luck than good management the losses were nominal, for places that have no apparatus to cope with the fiery element. On several occasions we have drawn attention to the culpable neglect of town and municipal authorities in this matter, and it is to be hoped that the lesson learned in Morden and Boissovain will be profited by. Each town in Manitoba could have an efficient volunteer brigade at the minimum expense of the apparatus that would not only prove of service to the town, but would give a lower insurance premium—in itself a saving in a year over the price of a fire engine. A competitive tournament held once a year would stimulate the different brigades to efficient work and also provide a recreation interesting to participants and observers. We hope that some effort will be made in the direction of securing efficient fire protection in every town in Manitoba.

THE Rapid City Spectator, referring to the liquor licences being withdrawn from Neepawa, Virden, Elkhorn and Minnedosa, says: "We have always argued this question from a moral standpoint, claiming that the license system excels the non-license system, and from a personal experience in the country when there were no licenses, it would be hard to convince us that we are wrong. If the temperance people were made of the right kind of stuff and would follow up the victory they have won all

would be well; but unfortunately they are made of the same kind of clay as the rest of humanity, and have to look out for a living. so their eye is not always on the moral gun. The evil of their system lies just here: they gain a victory and with that they rest content; they deprive the traffic of the only safeguard it has, and they then rest quietly and allow it to be continued in a far worse form."

Libel Suit.

Mr. J. H. Ashdown, of Winnipeg, has entered suit for damages against the Winnipeg Free Press claiming that he has been libelled by an editorial recently published in that journal. The article in question accused Mr. Ashdown of offering to sell his influence to the C. P. R. Company during the late anti-disallowance struggle, in which he took a prominent part against the company. Mr. Ashdown is also accused in the same article of a fifteen-year-old misdemeanor, in connection with the Merchants' Transportation Line of boats, then running to and from Winnipeg on the Red River, which transportation company he, in company with the late Hon. A. G. B. Bannatyne, is accused of ruining by selling out a controlling interest therein to Hill, Griggs & Co., the opposition company, and receiving in return some special considerations in freight rates. The cause for the publication of the article in question, the Free Press states, is that Mr. Ashdown is President of the Sun Printing and Publishing Co., and that the journal must necessarily be in the selling out business to be like its president. That Mr. Ashdown controls the Sun, the Free Press wishes its readers to believe, although most people competent to judge think that cannot be so, or the Sun would display a much greater share of brains.

Most people are heartily tired of this unseemly squabble between the two Winnipeg daily papers, and Mr. Ashdown takes a square honest course, when he determines not to submit to abuse, which is the worst kind of un-called-for libel, unless the Free Press can prove the statements made in the article referred to.

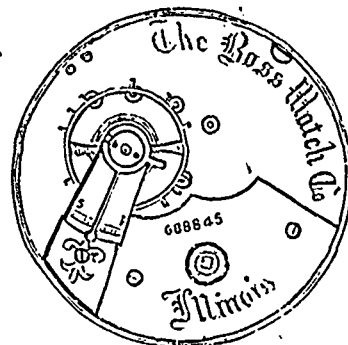
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Partizans will advise the Free Press to show some sand and fight in this business, but the sensible course would be to apologise and get the matter settled. Journals are liable to publish statements in the heat of a controversy, that would be better unpublished, and a journal, like an individual, loses none of its dignity by apologising for its rashness or mistakes. Should the Free Press go to litigation, it will have to defend statements made about a business man, who, at the time they were made, was in no way interfering with any controversy in which the journal was engaged. That will be quite a different undertaking from defending statements made regarding the public acts of politicians. It is to be hoped that the whole matter will end with an apology and a private settlement, instead of a trial in court.

Artificial Coffee.

According to A. Stutzer, in the Zeitschrift für Angewandte Chemie, the manufacture of artificial coffee from burnt flour or meal is carried on by certain firms in Cologne. London Industries explains as follows: "The artificial beans are made in specially devised machines and resemble closely in appearance the natural ones. They have been examined by O. Reitmaier, who has shown that they consist of 34.6 per cent of extract soluble in water, mixed with 56.25 per cent of insoluble organic constituents. The amount of ash on ignition is small, amounting to 1.10 per cent. They can be readily distinguished from the natural beans by their property of sinking when immersed in ether, as genuine coffee beans float on that liquid. Strong oxidizing agents do not decolorize the artificial product so rapidly as natural coffee.

The Empire Produce Company with head office at Toronto, and a capital stock of \$100,000 in \$1000 shares has been successfully started and bids fair to do considerable service to Canadian producers in the marketing of their pork, butter, cheese and other supplies both in Canada and in Great Britain.