

are not delivering these rejected Ross Rifles fast enough." Just think of it had the Ross Rifle been delivered faster the contract would have gone on.

Clinical Thermometers

At the outbreak of war the Militia Department bought from Mr. T. A. Brownlee, Druggist in Ottawa, 962 clinical thermometers. Mr. Brownlee charged \$1.00 each for these thermometers and received a cheque from the Government on August 21st, 1914 for \$702 and on October 29th, 1914 for the \$260.

The case was so brazen and the charges so exorbitant that the story of these purchases created considerable comment. On February 10th Mr. William Chisholm, Liberal M.P. for Antigonish N.S. asked for details in regard to the purchase of these clinical thermometers and was told that \$1.00 each had been paid but that subsequently Mr. Brownlee discovered an error in his charge and refunded half of this money, making the net price of these thermometers .50 each.

Mr. Chisholm pressed his question and elicited the further information that Mr. Brownlee only discovered the error and only made the refund on February 11th the next day after Mr. Chisholm had originally made enquiry in the House in regard to this purchase. Matters were becoming warm and Mr. Brownlee evidently decided that it was time to disgorge.

In addition to this transaction Mr. Brownlee supplied the Government with over \$25,000 worth of orders. One order for medicine boxes amounting to \$12,750. No tenders were asked, no competition sought, the Government simply ordered the goods and Mr. Brownlee filled in the price.

Later on when the Government were forced to buy these medical boxes direct from the wholesale dealers it was found that they could be purchased for fifty percent less than charged by Mr. Brownlee.

Field dressings

Field dressings, bandages, lints, salves etc. for wounded Canadian soldiers had to pay the usual blood toil.

They had to be purchased through a Tory middleman. This middleman was at first supposed to be a young man by the name of Powell in the employ of Mr. W. F. Garland, ex-M.P. for Carleton County, Ont., but it was afterwards discovered that the real culprit was Mr. Garland himself who was reaping the profit, practically selling the goods to the Government although under the Independence of Parliament Act. A member of