

## Northwest Ontario.

On alarming fire occurred at Rat Portage on March 21. It started in the building known as the old Hub, and, assisted by a strong wind which was blowing at the time, it rapidly spread to the adjoining stores, and they were completely gutted. The Queen's hotel had a narrow escape. The stores occupied by F. Hemmings, also those of S. Botroll and B. Caslake are gone up, and the north end of the Queen's hotel is seriously damaged from fire and water.

The Port Arthur law firm of Wink & Cameron has been dissolved. Mr. Wink will continue to practice his profession at Port Arthur.

F. Stetton, who for some time conducted the business of Mr. Cooke, has opened business on his own account at Fort William, in the watch and jewellery line.

There was a meeting of patent medicine manufacturers and vendors at Toronto recently to take steps to prevent the local legislature from amending the Pharmacy Act. The druggists of the province will have a bill introduced during the coming session providing that no one who is not a properly certified member of the Pharmaceutical Association will be allowed to sell medicines of any kind. This will seriously affect the business of the retail grocers and general storekeepers, who are large handlers of patent medicines and simple remedies, and on which the profits are larger than on any other lines they handle. It is stated that the object the druggists have in view is to prevent such men as Eaton & Co., who have sold patent medicines at less than the regular prices. The bulk of the business in patent medicines and simple remedies, such as castor oil, epsom salts, senna, etc., is done by the general storekeeper, who is in many instances miles away from any drug store.

The imports into the Dominion during February, 1893, amounted to \$7,989,834 and duty thereon to \$1,582,239. In February, 1892, the imports were \$7,691,275. The exports during February were valued at \$3,770,822, and for February last year \$4,777,891. During February \$222,532 were deposited in the Dominion Government savings bank, and \$210,379 withdrawn, leaving \$17,121,358 on deposit.

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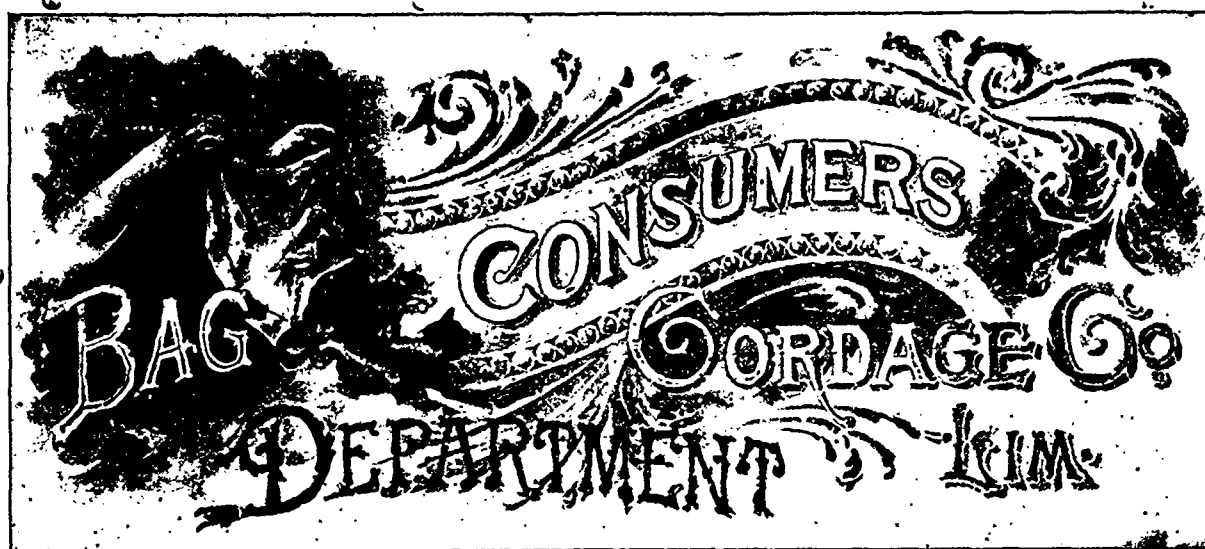
## WATER POWER.

THE Mayor and Council of the Town of Minnedosa, Manitoba, invite correspondence from parties willing to undertake the construction of a Dam and working of Water Power on the Little Saskatchewan River. On the basis of a Report and Plan prepared by Geo. H. Webster, Esq., C.E., Chief Engineer of the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway Company.

Mr. Webster's report provides for a Reservoir or Power Canal, 600 feet long, 150 to 200 feet wide, and of a minimum depth of 13 feet, with four good mill sites adjacent thereto, and states that there is every opportunity for the utilization of a splendid Water Power, estimating that the revenue derived at the low rental of \$10 per horse power from the 400 horse power to be provided will probably repay the whole outlay in three or four years.

The Report and Plan may be examined at the office of

ERNEST W. PEARSON,  
Clerk and Treasurer.



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