

Drugs, Bandages and Medicine

DRUG CASE No. I

**Clinical Thermometers Bought at Exactly Twice
Regular Prices. Quick Refund when Liberals
Question the Deal.**

CLINICAL THERMOMETERS.

After the outbreak of War, the Militia Department bought from T. A. Brownlee, druggist of Ottawa, 1,062 clinical thermometers.

Brownlee charged \$1.00 each, and was paid for 702 on August 31, 1914, and for the remaining 360 on October 29, 1914.

On February 10, Mr. William Chisholm, M.P., Liberal Member for Antigonish asked for details and was informed on February 22nd by Major General Sam Hughes, that \$1.00 each had been paid and "subsequently Mr. Brownlee discovered an error in his charge and refunded half of this, making the net price 50 cents."

**Inquiry by Liberal Member February 10th. Refund
February 11th.**

On March 1, answering a demand for more details, it was stated officially that the refund was made on February 11th—**The very day following Mr. Chisholm's first question. Is not this clear proof that it was the Liberal question that forced the refund!**

On March 1st, Major General Hughes admitted officially that the Department subsequently had been quoted much lower prices than were paid to Brownlee.

OTHER PURCHASES FROM BROWNLEE.

It might be assumed that Mr. Brownlee's transactions with the Department ended with the purchase of these thermometers. Not so. He was more fortunate than that. From the return brought down it is shown that Mr. Brownlee got at least \$25,000 worth of orders from the Department. These and some other large items were not investigated by the Committee. It is only fair, however, to state that in one item alone he was asked to supply 150 medicine stores boxes filled complete, which he did at \$85.00 a piece, the order amounting to \$12,750.

Were Tenders Asked ?

Certainly not. No tenders were asked. Brownlee was given the order and he filled it, but to-day after the Government have been obliged in some cases at least to adopt the competitive principle, similar medical boxes can be purchased from wholesale druggists for half that price.