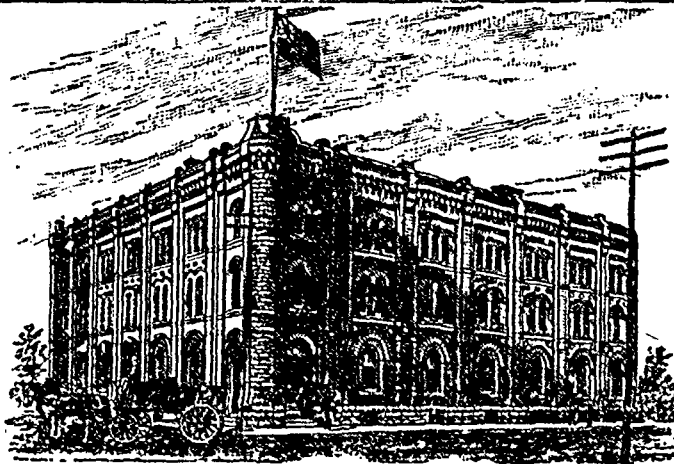


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TEAS, SUGARS, WINES, LIQUORS and GENERAL GROCERIES

CORNER PRINCESS AND BANNATYNE STREETS, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

THE Senate at Ottawa is making a move in the matter of the divorce regulations. A committee has been entrusted with the work of framing new rules governing proceedings in applications before the Senate for divorce. There is certainly plenty of room for reform in the laws governing divorces in this country. The whole system is a very absurd one. The laws of Canada practically provide that a poor man cannot obtain a divorce, whilst the rich man may. This is owing to the costly nature of the operations in moving for a divorce. If it be right to grant divorces at all, then the claim of the poor man should be considered, and divorce should be placed within his reach. The proposals to form the basis of the new regulations, however, are no improvement in this respect.

THE action taken last fall in prohibiting the manufacture of hop beer in the Territories, caused considerable hardship to a number who had engaged in that business. The manufacture of this beer in the Territories had been carried on for years, and in some instances a considerable sum had been invested in plant, which was rendered valueless by the prohibition. The matter has lately been taken into consideration at Ottawa, and it is likely the manufacture of hop beer will shortly be again permitted. A despatch says: "The cabinet considered to day the matter of the manufacture of hop beer in the Territories. The question was whether the distilleries should be discontinued or licensed under a Territorial act for the manufacture of beer of certain strength, the manufactories to be under the supervision of the inland revenue department, which will from time to time make tests to see that the privilege was not exceeded. It was finally decided to adopt the latter alternative."

It is simply wonderful what an amount of work Royal, Ross and Scarth are now doing at Ottawa in favor of Manitoba's cause. According to the dispatches, they are holding daily interviews with ministers, and apparently spend most of their time urging concessions to the province. Can any one who has known the past course of these men, believe that they are

earnest in the work, and that Royal and Ross, who belong body and bones to the C. P. R., and Scarth, who was a few weeks ago endeavoring to induce the province to sell its liberty for a mess of pottage, are really now working in the interests of Manitoba. If these reported interviews are taking place, it is more than likely they are urging some scheme which will provide a big bag of boodle for the C. P. R. Co., in lieu of monopoly. It would indeed be a strange change to have these men working in the interests of the country rather than the railway company, which latter has heretofore been their main care. Country before personal interests is not expected from men of the stamp of Royal and Ross.

THE election of supporters of the Greenway Government by overwhelming majorities last week, in the constituencies rendered vacant by the removal to the United States of two ministers of the late Norquay Government, is another indication of the state of public feeling in Manitoba. These two constituencies, though represented by ministers in the late Government, have now returned opponents of that Government by immense majorities. In fact the elections have simply been one-sided affairs throughout, in favor of the new Government. The elections have not been conducted on party lines, strictly speaking. At least the people have refused to be led by their party leaders, and the verdict is simply a declaration of no compromise on the disallowance question, from Conservatives and Liberals alike. It is felt that at the present time, what is most needed is a united people, and any move which would weaken the provincial cause, could not be tolerated. Mr. Norquay was given a fair opportunity to rid the province of monopoly, and failed. The people are now determined that nothing shall be done in any way to weaken the Greenway Government in its fight against monopoly. Should the Ottawa mission result in a failure, a general election would probably give Mr. Greenway a practically unanimous House, in support of any measure which he might undertake to break the monopoly. It is doubtful if a single opponent of the Government could

be elected in the entire province, were an election to occur on this issue.

THE statement made by Governor Dewdney at Ottawa, to the effect that the anti-monopoly agitation was confined to Manitoba, and that not much was heard of it in the Territories, has been denounced by the press in all parts of the district over which the Governor presides. These papers are nearly all supporters of the Dominion Government, and on this account their utterances against monopoly are bound to carry weight. One paper cannot imagine what could lead the Governor to make such a statement, and says: "So far as we are able to glean the people, are as keen for the abolition of disallowance in the Territories as are the people of Manitoba, feeling that the prosperity of that province is the prosperity of the Territories generally, and the sooner that every clog from the wheel of progress is removed the better for our country." Another paper thinks the Governor must have been misrepresented, and finds it "difficult to believe that he ever made such a statement." Another paper says: "In making such a statement, he must, for some reason of his own, have been making a statement that he knew to be false or he must have closed his ears to the opinions of those he governs outside of a select circle of obsequious Government officials at Regina." The Lethbridge News says: "Let him come to Lethbridge, the third largest town in the Territories, and he will find no one, with the exception of a few Government officials, but agree with us in condemning monopoly. Out of a population estimated at eleven hundred he will not find six men but will tell him that monopoly is the curse of, and is ruining the country." Of the fourteen papers published in the Territories, every one with the exception of Davin's sheet at Regina, has as boldly denounced the Governor's statement as thoroughly false. These papers, with two exceptions, are all Conservative in general principles. But Dewdney's term of office in the Territories is about over, and as he is no doubt anxious to secure another fat position, he will continue to cringe to the powers that be at Ottawa, regardless of the interests of the Territories.

THE people of Portage la Prairie are very anxious to terminate the state of affairs prevailing there since the resignation of the town council, on account of the financial troubles in which the place is involved. A short time ago the commission appointed by the Local Government, investigated the financial standing of the town, and made a report thereon, showing what portion of its indebtedness, in their opinion, the town could carry and pay interest upon. No settlement with the creditors, however, has been brought about by this investigation, and the town still remains without a council and school board. As a result municipal and school affairs are in a very unsatisfactory condition. The public schools are closed; the fire department is disorganized, and the town is in great danger of fire. The attempt to manage affairs by a citizen's committee, has proved a failure, owing to the inability of the committee to collect moneys without legal authority. A petition has now been prepared, for presentation to