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C. P. R. STORE CARS.

The Board of Trade at Revelstoke, B. C., addressed a communication to this Board, in March last, on the subject of certain store cars run by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. between Donald and Kamloops, complaining that these cars competed against the trade of the merchants in that district. The Board requested that we should interview the C. P. R. authorities and assist them in endeavoring to secure the removal of these cars. The Council referred the communication to the officials of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, and asked that they should explain their views on the situation. Mr. Henry Abbott, General Superintendent of the Pacific Division, kindly answered the Board at length, giving details of the operation of their store car, and stated that the supplies for such cars are charged full freight rates, so that there was no advantage, as to prices, in that respect over ordinary dealers; that there are long stretches of road where it would be very inconvenient for section men, especially, to obtain supplies, and that such supplies would cost considerably more, owing to the fact that the men would have to lose time going to stores, and their supplies would be subject to delay, incidental to shipment, and that, in some cases, the section men live at a distance from the station, where ordinary trains stop, so that a large number of men would be put to great inconvenience and extra cost to obtain their supplies from store-keepers. It was for these reasons that the store car was inaugurated, and the sale to outsiders is entirely prohibited, as well as to employees of the road at Donald, Revelstoke, Salmon Arm and Kamloops. Only three men are employed in connection with the store car service.