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built to any part of it. Easy of access by electric cars.

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HENRY HOGAN, Proprietor.
St. Lawrence Hall, Montreal.**DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW.**

WEALLEANS V. CANADA SOUTHERN R. W. Co.—In 1882 the Canada Southern Railway Company, by written agreement, leased a portion of its road to the Michigan Central Railway Company for a term of twenty-one years. While the latter company was using the road sparks from an engine set fire to and destroyed the property of W., who brought an action against the two companies for the value of the property so destroyed. An insurance company who had paid the amount of a policy held by W. on the property so destroyed, was joined as a plaintiff. At the trial the plaintiffs were non-suited as against both defendants, it being admitted that the fire was not caused by negligence, and the Queen's Bench Divisional Court sustained such non-suit, holding also that the insurance company had no *locus standi*. The Court of Appeal dismissed a further appeal by the insurance company and W. as against the Canada Southern Railway Company, but allowed W.'s appeal as against the Michigan Central Railway Company, holding that the Canada Southern Railway Company had statutory authority to make traffic arrangements only with a foreign company, and could not give the latter running powers over its road. The Michigan Central Railway Company then appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada, where it was held, reversing the decision of the Court of Appeal, that under the Act relating to the Canada Southern Railway Company, and the Railway Act of 1879, the Canada Southern Railway Company could lawfully lease its road to a foreign company, and the injury to W.'s property having occurred without any negligence on the part of the officers or servants of the Michigan Central Railway Company, which was lawfully in possession of the road of the Canada Southern Railway Company under the agreement, the Michigan Central Railway Company was not liable for such injury.

NARES, NICHOLLS & CO.**Financial and General Agents, WINNIPEG.**References: The Canadian Bank of Commerce.
The Union Bank of Canada.Debentures Purchased. Sole charge taken of City
and Farm Properties for sale. Rents Collected, etc.
Business solicited. P.O. Box 1265, Winnipeg.**THE ADVANTAGES OF KNOWING
HOW.**

The best bulwark against the encroachment of outside or inside competition, such as department stores, tea stores, peddlers, gift stores, and the cheap cash stores, is knowledge of the business. By this we mean knowledge of goods, knowledge of methods, and knowledge of all the little details that make up a large total in the course of the days and weeks.

Superficiality, such as is encouraged by the enormous expansion of the production and sale of package goods, is one of the best weapons the enemies of the grocers could have. Every half-educated grocer or assistant—we refer to technical education—plays directly into the hands of the enemies of the legitimate retail dealer in groceries.

How was it possible for the country grocers, in the districts where the Granger stores were started, years ago, to defy that form of competition? How did the dealers in the North-eastern part of the country manage to hold their own against the Patrons of Industry? How is it that in England many thousands of retail grocers are prospering, notwithstanding the competition of the most gigantic co-operative stores the world ever saw? The same answer fits each question—the superior technical knowledge of the grocers prevailed.

There are always some trade victims of every general movement to establish co-operative stores, just as there are victims of the department stores, but almost invariably they belong to the large class of inexperienced and technically ignorant merchants, who are compelled to rely upon the salesman's judgment when buying goods, or else become a possible victim of the sharpers that constantly lie in wait for unsophisticated or ignorant merchants.—*Merchants' Review.*

**ARE THERE TOO MANY FRATERNAL
ORDERS?**

The fraternal orders all have their uses and do much good. It is not with either their work or their object fault is to be found. It is with the number of them. A thing can be overdone. What is good and wholesome in small doses may kill in large ones. In the plethora of fraternal orders lies a danger to home life. Brother this or brother that is the Inside Mogul of the Royal Order of Ancient Chumps and has to attend lodge meeting Monday night. Being Rear Grand Admiral of the Exalted Order of Swamp, Angels, he is compelled to be out on Tuesday evening also. Wednesday he has got to go and give the secret work to the Modern Mound Builders of the Earth. Thursday he has to attend the emergency meeting of the Imperial Guards of the Ark of Noah. Friday is the election of officers of the Brethren of Troy. He must be there. Saturday night there being no lodge, his attendance is required at a committee meeting to audit the books. Sunday he has to drop around and discuss lodge matters with Bro. So and So, or Bro. So and So has to drop around and discuss them with him.—*Toronto News.*

THE RIVERS OF RUSSIA.

The latest reliable statistics are said to show that Russia has now, in Europe, about 35,000 miles of navigable rivers and canals, that is to say, 6,000 miles more than all the rest of Europe, and that her river flotilla using these waterways is quite double that of Germany and Austria combined, and enabled her to carry, during the last six months, thirty millions more goods by water than by rail.

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