

# Important.

## A Legal Decision of Especial Interest to the Watch Trade.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT,  
Southern District of New York.

Elgin National Watch Company,

vs.

Lyman G. Bloomingdale and  
Joseph B. Bloomingdale.

Motion granted enjoining the use of the word "Elgin," either alone or in connection with others, as a designation of watches sold by defendants not made by complainants. Injunction to run against marking, advertising, offering for sale or selling under such designation. Without prejudice to their right to insert in such advertisements or in any descriptions of the articles the statement that the watches were made in Elgin, if they were in fact made there: if, however, the watch cases only were made in Elgin the statement in advertisements, etc., must conform to the fact.

April 16th, 1898.

E. H. LACOMBE,  
U. S. C. J.

A true copy,  
JOHN A. SHIELDS,  
Clerk.

# Important.

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## Trade Mark Decision of Especial Interest to the Watch Trade.

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In a suit brought by the Elgin National Watch Company to restrain the Illinois Watch Case Company from using the word "Elgin" upon watch cases made and sold by the latter, Judge Showalter, of the United States Circuit Court for the Northern District of Illinois, in a decision rendered March 31st, 1898, decided that the said word "Elgin" is a legitimate trade mark and that its use in connection with watches belongs to and is the exclusive property of the Elgin National Watch Company. Under this decision, any infringement of our rights will subject the infringers to prompt prosecution in the United States Courts.

**Elgin National Watch Co.**

The Jewelers' Circular - Weekly and Horological Review  
March 6, 1901, pg. 30, Courtesy NAWCC Library

### **New Movements Issued by the Elgin National Watch Co.**

The Elgin National Watch Co., Friday, announced to the watch trade that they had just issued three movements of a new 1901 model. The movements are 18 size, three-quarter plate, stem wind and are specially constructed for exacting railroad service. They are named and described as follows:

Veritas (No. 214), o. f., lever set, nickel; 23 extra fine ruby jewels (raised gold settings); adjusted to temperature, isochronism and positions; quick train with gold wheels; straight line double-roller escapement with steel escape wheel; poised pallet and fork; pallet arbor and escape pinion cone-pivoted and cap-jeweled; exposed pallets, compensating balance; Breguet hair spring, micrometric regulator; patent safety barrel with spring box rigidly mounted on bridge; barrel arbor pivots running in jewels; display winding work; patent recoiling click; patent self-locking setting device; double-sunk glass-enamel dial; dust ring; plates beautifully damaskeened, carefully timed and finely finished throughout.

(retouched)

Veritas (No. 239), o. f., lever set, nickel; 21 fine ruby jewels (raised gold settings); adjusted to temperature, isochronism and positions; quick train with gold wheels; straight line escapement with steel escape wheel; pallet arbor and escape pinion cone-pivoted and cap-jeweled; exposed pallets; compensating balance; Breguet hair spring, micrometric regulator; patent safety barrel with spring box rigidly mounted on bridge; display winding work; patent recoiling click; patent self-locking setting device; double-sunk glass-enamel dial; dust ring; damaskeened plates, carefully timed and finely finished throughout.

H. W. Raymond (No. 240), o. f., lever set, nickel; 19 fine ruby jewels (raised gold settings); adjusted to temperature, isochronism and positions; quick train with gold wheels; straight line escapement with steel escape wheel; exposed pallets; compensating balance; Breguet hair spring; micrometric regulator; patent safety barrel with spring box rigidly mounted on bridge; barrel arbor pivots running in jewels; display winding work; patent recoiling click; patent self-locking setting device; double-sunk glass-enamel dial; dust rings; damaskeened plates; carefully timed and finely finished throughout.

## Central Gives Official OK to New Wrist Watch

►► New York Central's Operating department has announced its approval of the first American-made wrist watch for official use throughout the NYC System. Earlier, the watch was also approved for use on the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie.

Until now NYC, like most railroads, has required operating employes to carry officially inspected pocket watches. Although not always as handy to use as a wrist watch, pocket watches before this could not be matched in accuracy and dependability by wrist watches. As a result, the picture of a locomotive engineer or a conductor reaching for his big "ticker" on a heavy gold chain has long been a familiar sight on American railroads.

This will change now if railroaders take to the newly approved wrist watch. The 23-jewel B. W. Raymond Railroad Wrist Chronometer is manufactured by the Elgin National Watch Co., of Elgin, Ill. Elgin's Vice President & Marketing Director, William E. Koch, presented one of the new wrist watches to John Smith O'Brien, Engineer on NYC's crack Super Van train out of New York. This freight carries Flexi-vans between New York-Boston and Chicago-St. Louis daily and, like all NYC trains, its schedule and safety depend heavily on reliable time measuring devices.

The new wrist watch is said by its makers to meet the railroad man's need for a timepiece that can combine the convenience of a wrist type with the accuracy and ruggedness of the pocket watch.

"A special split second setting device is the heart of it," according to Mr. Koch. "Pulling out the crown," he said, "permits accurate setting of the watch to the second."



**ON TIME** performance of Super Van will be checked now by Engineer John Smith O'Brien (right) on wrist watch recently approved for official use on Central. With him is William E. Koch, Vice Pres. of Elgin National Watch Co., maker of the new timepiece. Pittsburgh & Lake Erie also ok'd watch.

Regular inspection by accredited time inspectors is still required on the new watch, which has a full figured dial with a small second hand. It resembles a version which has been produced for the U.S. Air Force and which exceeds government specifications for watches of this type.

Although specifically designed for railroaders and others who need a wrist watch of the utmost accuracy, the new

timepiece will also be available to the general public. A standard model with a stainless steel case sells for \$79.50. Models in gold-filled and gold cases will cost more.

More than two years of research and development went into the new watch before it was declared ready for marketing.

Before the new watch was accepted for official use on the Central, Elgin watchmaking engineers had to make several innovations. First was dynamic poising of the balance. Most watches have a balance that is poised while it is out of the timepiece. In the new railroaders' wrist watch the balance wheel is poised while in the watch.

The dial on the new watch is also unique. Because of the strong magnetic fields set up on diesel locomotives, a special iron dial had to be developed which shields the watch from magnetism. Normal procedure calls for most watch dials to be made of brass.

Instructions for handling the new watch indicate it requires no special care other than that normally given any fine timepiece.

The expansion of America's railroads was largely responsible for increasing reliance on accurate timekeeping and the establishment of workable time zones across the nation. Through efforts by U.S. railroads, the country was divided into time zones and operating railroaders have been required ever since to run trains with the utmost accuracy in timekeeping. This high accuracy until now has been found only in pocket watches, which railroaders have continued to use, although 98 per cent of all watches produced and sold in the United States are of the wrist variety.