




Slide Show Manager: file 9921


Bartell Drugs: A Slideshow


Essay Meta Data Images Frames


Frame #1  George Bartell opened his first drug store in 1890 in Seattle, and by the 1920s had grown his business from a fledgling enterprise to a thriving chain of pharmacies scattered throughout the city.
Today the Bartell Drug Company has 58 stores throughout the Puget Sound region. Throughout its long history, it has remained in the Bartell family.


Frame #2 
3
Bartell was born in 1868 in Dickinson County, Kansas, and grew up on his family's farm in Junction City. When he was 14 he went to Lincoln, Kansas, and found a job at a local drug store. He flourished there, and by the time he was 17 was the assistant manager of the store. He became a licensed pharmacist when he was 18.

Frame #3 
4,5
But like many in the late nineteenth century, Bartell was lured by the call of the West. In 1887 he moved to Seattle, and after working a series of odd jobs started work at the Lake Washington Pharmacy at 2911 Jackson Street in March 1890.

Frame #4  Two weeks into his job at the Lake Washington Pharmacy he bought the store at 2911 Jackson Street for \$3,000, most of which he had to borrow.

Frame #5 
6
Drug stores in the 1890s were considerably more primitive than they are today or, for that matter, than what they would be just a few decades later. In his 15-by-30-foot store Bartell sold crude drugs extracted from plants like bloodroot, belladonna, and foxglove, as well as bark from cascara and cinchona trees. He also sold oils and medicinal chemicals such as calomel, sulfur, and ipecac.

Frame #6 
7
Bartell handmade various medications into pills and powders, and folded some of the more unpleasant-tasting medicines in onion skins to try to hide the taste. When capsules later came into use, he had to warn his customers not to open them before taking them.

Frame #7 
8,9
Bartell lived in the back of the store building, and worked 12-hour

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