The St. John Standard

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COMMERCE BOARD REFUTES STATEMENTS OF

Attorney-General of Ontario Who Charged Board With Showing Strong Favoritism.

ACCUSE RANEY OF STATEMENT

Which Board Claims as Wholly Untrue and That Stenographic Reports Will Prove Contention.

Ottawa, April 30.—(By Canadian Press.)—The outcome of criticism which the Attorney-General of Ontario Hon. W. E. Raney, has levelled at the methods of the Board of Commerce recently in its conduct of an investigation into an alleged combine of grocers in Ontario, is that the Board of Commerce has issued a statement refuting Mr. Raney's utterances and quoting evidence from the official report of the grocer's inquiry to show that Mr. Raney was in error in his declaration of the treatment meted out by the Board to one witness, an employee of the Canadian General Electric, at Hamilton, whose telephone and written communications to Premier Drury appear to have precipitated the inquiry into the alleged combine.

The statement of the board remarks that it is proceeding steadily with its investigation into the production of sales of foodstuffs generally, and that it will shortly resume its public inquiries into specific wholesale and retail businesses, and render its decision in due course. Meantime the board suggests that Mr. Raney must have been mis-reported in the newspaper report of his "observances affecting the probity of a member of this board" suggesting that if he had such to make "he would not have dealt with either fact or innuendo behind the shield of legislative privilege."

False Statements.

"Such press reports," the statement continues, "represent the Attorney-General as saying, with reference to one, Porter, a witness called by this board on an investigation at Hamilton, yet unfinished, that—"he was treated by the board as if he had been guilty of a crime in communicating information to the government. When he asked that his company's name be kept out of the case, as they had nothing to do with the matter, and the bringing in of the company's name might result in his being dismissed from his employment. He was informed that if he were dismissed it would only be what he deserved. He was further told that if he were dismissed they would believe his statement that his company had no interest, but if he were not so dismissed they would not believe it. Well, he was dismissed, so they probably believe it now. It is like the test that used to be employed at the trial of witches in the seventeenth century."

"If these statements were made and were intended to imply that any member of this board treated the witness in the manner mentioned, or spoke to him as stated, or to the same or like effect, or that the like transpired in this board's presence the board's sole comment is that the statements are wholly untrue and that the official stenographic report of the proceedings, a copy whereof was supplied to the Attorney-General's representative will disclose the untruth. Nothing in any manner resembling that alleged transpired.

POLISH TROOPS MEET WITH SUCCESSES

Armored Boats Sailed Down Pripet River and Captured Bolshevik Flotilla.

Warsaw, April 29.—A communique issued today adds:

"Simultaneously with the cavalry and infantry attack from the West Polish armored boats sailed down the Pripet River and met the Bolshevik flotilla head on. A pitched battle ensued. Two of the Bolshevik monitors were sunk and four monitors and forty raider of the red flotilla retreated.

"A great amount of food and stores of ammunition and army supplies and a wireless station were taken with the occupation of Czerkobyl."

Czerkobyl is 90 kilometres north of Kiev. The stronghold was occupied Thursday after severe fighting, the Poles attacking from the west the northwest. In the attack the Poles used cavalry in covering the marshlands, and the infantry was protected by fighting craft.

General Petlura, the Ukrainian leader, has left Warsaw for the front. It is understood that this is preparatory to joining forces with General Pilsudski, the commander in chief of the Poles, who is planning to enter Kiev at the head of the Ukrainians, who are fighting side by side with the Poles in the advance toward the capital of Ukrainians.

RUSSO-JAPANESE AGREEMENT NEAR

Tokio, April 30—The War Office announces the imminent signature of a Russo-Japanese agreement which will concede virtually all the Japanese demands.

SYDNEY MINERS QUIT WORK TODAY

Sydney, N. S., April 30.—Upwards of 12,000 miners will be idle tomorrow, having decided to tie up the coal mines as a demonstration of sympathy for the Winnipeg strike leaders now in Stony Mountain prison. This statement was made by Secretary James B. McLaughlan of the United Mine Workers in district 26 today.

PLANS FOR CANADA'S REPRESENTATION AT

Washington Are Now Before Pres. Wilson—Will be Limited to Treatment of U. S.-Canadian Matters.

Washington, April 30.—Plans for the full diplomatic representation of Canada in Washington are now before President Wilson and, until he has acted on them, it is not expected that any formal steps will be taken at Ottawa to forward the project. The extent of the functions of the proposed Canadian representative has not yet been defined, but the general understanding is that he will be limited to treatment of matters purely of American-Canadian interest, leaving questions involving general policies to be dealt with by the British Ambassador.

As the State Department has now taken under consideration the securing of pulpwood from Canada for American use, it is believed that a decision on the question of Canadian diplomatic representation here will be hastened as this question is regarded as one peculiarly proper for direct negotiation between Canada and the United States.

ENCOENIA PLANS FOR UNIV. OF N. B.

Several St. John Gentlemen Among Speakers for the Week.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, N. B., April 30.—Rev. H. A. Goodwin, of St. John, has been finally named to preach the baccalaureate sermon to the University of New Brunswick graduating class in connection with this year's encoenia proceedings. The baccalaureate sermon will be preached at the Methodist church on Sunday, May 9th. Prof. A. Wilmer Duff, of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass., a graduate of U. N. B., will deliver the oration on behalf of the associated alumni. Prof. E. O. Turner, who occupies the chair of Civil Engineering, will deliver the address in praise of the founders at the encenia on Thursday, May 13th. Col. Murray MacLaren, C. M. G., of St. John, a distinguished graduate of U. N. B., will deliver the address to the graduating class. Hilton D. McKnight will deliver the valedictory address.

The graduating class contains twenty-eight members, of whom five are engineers and eight foresters; six of the members are women.

A movement is on foot to hold a reunion of the class of 1918 of the University of New Brunswick on or about the date of the encoenia.

SUSPECTS ROUNDED UP AT CHICAGO

Authorities Ready to Combat Any Overt Act Today

Chicago, April 30.—Federal, States and City forces tonight were prepared to combat any overt act that might grow out of the various demonstrations planned for tomorrow in celebration of May day. Seven y more suspects were rounded up to day by the police in a continuation of the drive that resulted in the arrest of more than 300 men and several women last night.

One of the men, who gave his name as John Juck, was arrested while distributing handbills announcing a May day meeting. Some of the bills urged revolt by "the revolutionary proletariat,' the police said.

Asserting that a May day bomb plot, as announced by Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer was "manufactured in his own mind," the national Socialist committee in a statement asserted that whatever disorder might occur tomorrow would be caused by the "insane and criminal discovery of Mr. Palmer's dime novel plot.'

Socialists were advised to carry out their plans for meetings and "to refuse to be stamped by the anarchist outburst."

JOINT LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Special to The Standard.

St. Leonards, N. B., April 27.—Joint letters of administration were granted today in the Madawaska Probate Court, in the matter of the estate of Belont R. Violette, to Helen F. Violette, widow of the deceased and Dr. Lorne Violette, eldest son of the deceased. W. Emmet McDonagle of Grand Falls appeared in the interest of Helen F. Violette and A. A. Lawson of Edmunston for Dr. Lorne Violette.

DOMINION-WIDE APPLICATION OF MINIMUM WAGE

And 48-Hour Working Week for All Women and Girls Favored by Royal Commission.

RECOMMEND COMMITTEE

Be Appointed to Report Upon Unification and Harmonizing of Law on Industrial Disputes in Dominion.

Ottawa, April 30—(Canadian Press)—Dominion-wide application of the principle of a minimum wage and a 48 hour working week for all women and girls, excepting those engaged in domestic or agriculture employment, was strongly favored by the Royal Commission on the unification of labor laws at the session here today.

Other important items at today's session included the adoption of a motion that a committee of five be appointed to report upon the unification and harmonizing of law on industrial disputes within Canada, and a further recommendation that all laws at present existing in any province dealing with the improvement of sanitation and the protection of life should be made general to such other industries as may be possible throughout the Dominion. The five named for committee for this were: Messrs. Moore, Gills, Coughlan, McNiven and Leckie, with F. A. Acland, Deputy Minister of Labor, ex-officio. The conference will resume its sitting tomorrow.

The resolution dealing with the pay and working hours of women came from the committee on minimum wage and read as follows:

"We approve the principles of a minimum wage for women and girls, and recommend that a committee be created in each province in the Dominion to establish a minimum wage adequate to maintain self-supporting women and girls, and such authority shall be empowered to fix hours of employment for women and girls not already provided by legislation; and further recommends that such hours of employment shall not exceed 48 hours, except of employees engaged in domestic or agricultural employment.'

The committee on mines and mining laws reported that it had investigated the departmental folio on mining laws, item by item, for each and every province. The committee found that minor provisions exist in the various acts throughout Canada which are made necessary by local conditions and concerning which no practicable uniformity is possible. The members therefore directed their attention to those principles of provisions of a general character which are applicable to all provinces."

BOLSHEVIK WEAKER IN SOUTH UKRAINE

Warsaw, April 30.—The resistance of the Bolshevik has been broken in South Ukraine, according to today's official communique which announces that the Poles have captured Mohilev and are now moving South East along the Dniester.

The Poles have captured 15,000 prisoners, 60 cannon, hundreds of machine guns and 76 locomotives since their offensive began, the communique adds.

REMILLARD'S SISTER ON WITNESS STAND

Tells of Happenings On Night Lieut. Morrissette Was Shot for Which Brother is Held.

Quebec, April 30.—The chief witness this afternoon at the trial of Romeo Remillard, charged with the murder of Lieutenant Lucien Morrissette, at Bienville, was his sister, Gabrielle, who swore that the accused had told her on the night of the murder that he was expecting someone who, he said, was one of the friends of their mother. Prior to the shooting she had heard her brother tell her mother to answer the back door and some time after her mother had gone to the front door and she heard her say to someone "My friend, I do not know you." Then she heard two shots. She went downstairs and saw her brother coming in with a body. In cross-examination Miss Remillard said she heard her brother reply to a telephone call, "come up, its all right."

GERMAN DEFENCE TROOPS WILL MARCH INTO RUHR.

London, April 30.—It was officially announced in Berlin today that German state defence troops will march into the Southern Ruhr district for the protection of public order and industry, says a wireless message from the German capital this afternoon.

Albert, N. B., April 27.—The following merchants of Riverside and Albert have agreed to close their stores on Thursday afternoon and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, beginning April 29th and up to the last of October: O. H. Anderson, W. J. Carnworth, Eastern Hay & Feed Co., R. C. Copp, J. C. Prescott, R. O. Atkinson.

INDIA SEETHING WITH DISCONTENT

London, April 30.—Agitation by the Khalifa extremists is increasing in violence, says a despatch to the London Times from Simla dated last Wednesday. Delhi is the focus of the movement and during the past few days' speeches of marked disloyalty have been delivered there. Some disquieting reports also have been received from the Sindh region in the extreme western part of British India. Shaukrat Ali and other leaders are advocating the migration of Indian Moslems to Afghanistan and Asia Minor.

SENATE CONSIDERS TROOP REMOVAL FROM HALIFAX

Senator Crosby Thinks Halifax Has Not Been Treated Fairly and Gov't Has Acted Unwisely.

Ottawa, April 30—Removal of troops from Halifax was discussed in the Senate today by Senator Crosby. He stated that for years there had been from two to four Imperial regiments maintained at Halifax and ample accommodation had been created for them there by the Imperial authorities. Five or six years ago the Dominion authorities had undertaken to garrison Halifax and the property of the Imperial Government had been turned to the Dominion authorities. The Dominion had maintained from two to three thousand men there.

Last year an agitation was raised against the barrack accommodation and the result was that the garrison had been removed to Montreal and established there in quarters that, he was informed, were no better than those abandoned at Halifax. Senator Crosby held that the withdrawal of troops from the duty of garrisoning Halifax was a breach of the agreement that the Dominion government had made with the Imperial authorities. Two years ago legislation was enacted for a Canadian Army of [illegible] so there should be enough men to provide a force at Montreal sufficient to relieve the Halifax garrison. There was also, the question of the naval dock yards property. It has been decided to withdraw the North Atlantic Squadron to Bermuda and dock property had been turned over to the Dominion authorities for naval use. It could not be sold. This was another matter that required attention.

Senator Power said that the matter was one of importance and adjourned the debate so that he might refer to it at a later date.

Senator McLean secured the appointment of a committee with authority to ascertain reason for failure to land supplies for fishing at the Magdalen Islands this spring.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday afternoon.

CANADA AND WEST INDIES TRADE CONFERENCE

To Open in Ottawa on May 31st—Subjects for Discussion Are Trade Relations, Communication and Transportation.

Ottawa, April 30.—Sir George Foster announced in the House tonight that the Trade Conference between Canada and the British West Indies has been arranged to open in Ottawa on May 31. The subjects under discussion would be:

(a) Communication, transport and cable

(b) Trade relations.

The object of the conference would be to enlarge the volume of trade between Canada and the West Indies by an extension of the existing preference.

Sir George explained that the preferential tariff agreement reached at the conference of 1912 would expire in 1922. At the coming conference all the British West Indies would be represented including Jamaica, Bermuda, the Bahamas, British Honduras and Trinidad.

The matter of the cable between Canada and the West Indies was brought up by William Duff (Lunenburg). A contribution by Canada of $39,000 towards the up-keep of this cable was included in the estimates passed, and Mr. Duff asked if the service was to be improved. For years business men had been unable to get anything but the poorest service on this cable. Sir George Foster said that this would be taken up at the coming conference, but he understood that the operation of the cable during the war had been handicapped by the impossibility of getting inspection and repair ships to look after it. He had been assured that Canada would get a better service hereafter.

Sir George said that the item in the estimates represented Canada's share of a subsidy which was necessary to maintain the cable and which was covered by an agreement to which Great Britain, Canada, the United States and all the West Indies were parties.

Liverpool, April 30—Ard sir Megantic, New York.

PARLIAMENT COMPLETES ITS SECOND MONTH

Progress Has Been Slow and by No Means Indicative of Prorogation at Early Date.

GRAND TRUNK BILL MAIN ISSUE

Before the House, Calling for Ratification of Agreement for Acquisition of G. T. Property.

Ottawa, April 30.—With the Budget still to come and little supply voted, Parliament has completed its second month. During the last four weeks progress has been slow and by no means indicative of prorogation so early as the more optimistic at first predicted. Apart from the Franchise Bill—discussion of which was carried on from the previous month—the main issue before the House has been a bill to ratify the agreement for acquisition of the Grand Trunk Railway system by the Dominion Government. The bill was a sequel to legislation passed in the special session of last year when purchase of the Grand Trunk was authorized after a keen fight both in the House and in the Senate. It sought to correct some minor errors in the agreement. But it again threw open the way to discussion, and critics were not slow to take advantage.

Chief Critics.

In particular, Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Leader of the Opposition, led protracted discussion, first in committee of the whole, and later at third reading of the bill, on the pension rights of Grand Trunk employees. The bill has now passed the Commons, but approval by the Senate remains.

The Franchise Bill, its hundred clauses still in committee, paved the way to discussion of campaign funds and attacks on the National Progressive Party.

During the month, too, the House gave third reading to a bill to amend the Food and Drugs Act and reported a bill to amend the Opium and Drugs Act—both after much debate—and approved the Peace Treaty with Bulgaria. There was the opening skirmish on a Government measure to create a purchasing board for the purchase of Department supplies. A similar bill, presented at the regular session of last year, was still on the order paper when Parliament prorogued. Of the main estimates roughly $500,000,000 (less one-sixth voted in interim supply bill) still remain to be voted. Actual votes so far are: $20,000,000 for ship buildings; for ocean and river service, $1,610,000; for an ice-breaker on the St. Lawrence $2,000,000, and for dredging the St. Lawrence (maintenance and operating dredging), $475,000; restoration of Parliament Building, $2,000,000. Five-sixths of the supplementary estimate of $12,500,000 for civil service bonus also remain to be voted.

KNOCKED OVERBOARD AND DROWNED

Bridgewater, N. S., April 30.—Captain Edward Walters, aged 72 was drowned today. In the company of his son, they were in a sail boat on their way to their home at Middle La Have, when a squall of wind came up and Mr. Walters, sr., was struck by the boom and knocked overboard. The son could not bring the boat around in time to rescue him. The body was recovered.

HIGH TRIBUTE TO THE CANADIAN CORPS

From Maj. General Sir Charles Townshend at a Luncheon in New York.

New York, April 30. — (Canadian Press.)—A high tribute to the gallantry of the Canadian Corps was paid by Major-General Sir Charles Townshend at a luncheon given in his honor by the Canadian Club here today. He eulogized the Canadian Corps as a fighting machine, and, in the course of his address, referred to the fact that one of his ancestors fought in Canada during the early troublous pioneer days there.

There was enthusiastic cheering as the "Hero of Kut" arose to speak. He gave a graphic account of the advance of Bagdad, the retreat in the face of the overwhelming Turkish force, and the subsequent prolonged and heroic defence of Kut, followed by the surrender to the Turks.

General Townshend paid a high tribute to the treatment accorded him by the Turks during the two years that he was a prisoner in Constantinople, but said that he nearly went mad at his enforced inactivity when all his heart was on the Western front, where he longed to be. Finally, when at last he reached Paris and hoped to take a hand in the military events, the armistice was on the point of being signed.

General Townshend leaves for Toronto tomorrow morning. He will address the Canadian and Empire Clubs in Toronto on Monday, and will spend Tuesday and Wednesday in Hamilton and Montreal respectively.

PREPARED TO CHECK DEMONSTRATION

New York, April 30.—William J. Flynn, chief of the investigation bureau of the Department of Justice, conferred today with his New York district lieutenants regarding preparations to forestall possible May day demonstrations here. Extraordinary precautions against possible attempts at May day demonstrations have been taken by the Police Department.

THE PROSPERITY OF THE FUTURE

Depends on the Good Will, Co-operation and Sense of Equity Which Prevailed the Country Over.

Halifax, N. S., April 30—Before a large audience in the Assembly Hall of the School for the Blind tonight, Sir John Willison delivered an interesting address on the "Situation and the Outlook in Canada."

The speaker thought that the prosperity of the future, which he indicated was probable, was dependent on the good will, co-operation and sense of equity which prevailed the country over. He laid great stress upon the burden of debt which is Canada's as a result of the war, the adverse exchange situation, Canada's adventure into railway matters, and the need for greater production. The lecture was under the auspices of the Canadian Club.

C. N. R. ANNULS ORDER TO DO AWAY

With Despatcher's Office at Newcastle—Young Desperado Arrested at Moncton.

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, N. B., April 30. — An order recently given by the C. N. R. management to do away with the despatcher's office at Newcastle and transfer the work of that office to Moncton has been cancelled from Ottawa. The work of dismantling the Newcastle office and fitting up extra despatcher's quarters at Moncton under way was stopped yesterday. The order to make the change, it was stated, was cancelled following the visit of a deputation from the Newcastle Board of Trade to Ottawa.

Armed with a 32-calibre revolver and ammunition, a young man named Addison Ralph Morrison was arrested here this morning, as he alighted from the Maritime express, on the charge of breaking into a store at Bathurst, Thursday night. The accused only had a small sum of money on him. He will be taken back to Bathurst for a hearing.

H. H. Pengully, a well-known C. N. R. machinist, retired today from the service and enters upon the Provident fund. At the close of work, today, Mr. Pengully was presented by his fellow machinists with a club bag, accompanied by an address. Mr. Pengully had been in the C. N. R. service thirty-five years, and had learned his trade in St. John. He will remove shortly to Worcester, Mass.

District Supt. W. R. Fitzmaurice, of the Campbellton Division of the C. N. R. has been transferred to the New Glasgow Division, and R. H. Martin, District Supt. of the New Glasgow Division, to the Campbellton Division. Mr Fitzmaurice went through to New Glasgow today.

CONNECTICUT STATE GUARD CALLED OUT

Authorities Hear of Attempt Planned to Blow Up State Building.

Hartford, Conn., May 1—Colonel Charles W. Burpee, of the First State Guard Regiment here, at 1.10 this morning, called his staff out. There was much secrecy in the summons and the cause for the call.

It was given out officially by Colonel Burpee that the call was sent to all officers and men of the State Guard as the result of a telephoned tip that the Capitol Building, the State Armory and the East Hartford bridge were to be blown up before dawn.

The Capitol was heavily guarded, and at two o'clock a cordon of men was thrown around the State Armory. A detail was on its way to the East Hartford bridge, and from all points in the city State Guardsmen were hurrying to the Armory, the place for reporting.

REVOLUTIONISTS HOLD CHIHUAHUA

Agua Prieta, Sonora, April 30—Chihuahua City is definitely in the hands of revolutionists, it was announced by General P. Elinas Calles tonight. Chihuahua City is one of the largest cities in Northern Mexico. It has a population of approximately 40,000.

ALIEN AGITATORS ACTIVE IN THE VICINITY OF HYDAR.

Washington, April 30.—Activity of Alien agitators in the vicinity of Hydar, Alaska, resulted in the despatch today of the coast guard cutter Algonquin from Port Townsend, Wash., to that place.

FARMERS HAVE THIS COUNTRY BY THE THROAT

Declares a Farmer Member in Commons in An Address Opposing the Oleo Resolution.

ALL PARTY LINES WERE OBLITERATED

And a Free For All Discussion on the Resolution of the Minister of Agriculture Took Place.

Ottawa, April 30—(Canadian Press)—"Thank God the farmers have got into a position where they can say, and they are doing it and will continue to do it 'we have this country by the throat. They had us by the throat long enough and now we will defend ourselves.' "

This declaration came in the Commons today from John Best (Dufferin) when he was opposing a resolution by the Minister of Agriculture for one year the time for importation and sale of oleomargarine.

The resolution provided a free-for-all where support or opposition cropped up regardless of party lines. Several Unionist members, chiefly from the rural districts, opposed the bill, Donald Sutherland (South Oxford) hinted that in some way oleomargarine was partly responsible for the war. At least, he said, the countries which had been the heaviest users of oleo were those which stood aside and watched the ravaging of Belgium without helping her. The Canadian soldiers, who had been to fight for Belgium, were not reared on oleo. Mr. Sutherland predicted grim hunger striking throughout Canadian towns this winter unless there was a bumper crop.

Protection Move

Dr. Michael Clark (Red Deer) claimed Unionist members who opposed the bill were following the principle of protection. They sought to shield the interests in their action at the expense of the Canadians, as a whole. On the other hand, free trade kept in mind the needs of the whole country and therefore he would support the bill.

R. H. Halbert, (North Ontario) took the same view but he did not trust the Government too far with regulations. They could regulate anything, he declared, not even daylight. The City of Ottawa was setting the time for the House of Commons. Members who supported the resolution urged that all care be taken to see that in no way could oleo be sold as butter. Hon. W S. Fielding wanted to take off the time limit, and thus encourage manufacture of the product. The resolution carried and the bill passed and was given first reading.

The House then went into supply for the discussion of estimates.

U. S. FEDERAL AGENTS PREPARED TO MOVE

In Case May Day Demonstrations Assume Dangerous Turn—Officials Guarded.

Washington, April 30. — Federal agents have been instructed to "go as far as the law will allow" in breaking up May day radical demonstrations. In making this announcement, today, Assistant Attorney-General Garvan said Department of Justice officials were concentrating on efforts to protect the lives of officials, Federal and State, who are reported to have been marked for destruction, and to prevent violence generally.

Surveillance of parades and similar demonstrations will be left largely in the hands of local police, but Government agents will be on hand to aid should disorders, coming within Federal statutes, occur.

PARLIAMENT'S WORK FOR NEXT WEEK

Sir George Foster Gives Outline of Programme to be Brought up.

Ottawa, April 30.—Giving an outline of the business for Parliament next week, Sir George Foster told the House that it was the fervent hope of the Government that the Opium and Drugs Act would be disposed of, that third reading would be given to the Animal Contagious Diseases Act, second reading to the Industrial Disputes' Act, the latter coming from the Senate and being in charge of Hon. Arthur Meighen. In addition, there was the Inspection and Sales Act, and the Petroleum Act. "This," concluded Sir George, "with the small items remaining to be discussed in the Franchise Bill, will complete th list."

No mention was made of the Budget, railways matters or the Oleomargarine

HON. MR. DOHERTY AT HIS OFFICE

Ottawa, April 30.—Although still ill, Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice, returned to his office today to consider the case of George James Coppen, condemned to die in Toronto on May 5. This morning, counsel for the condemned man were in conference with Mr. Doherty. Coppen was convicted of the murder of his wife.