

SHOT PROVED FATAL

Wm. E. Curtis Died Yesterday Morning in Spokane.

M'AVOY HELD FOR MURDER

He Claims to Be a Miner From Roseland-Curtis' Wound Was Not Considered Dangerous at First—Home Was in St. Paul.

SPokane, Wash., April 8.—[Special.]—Wm. E. Curtis, a young man from St. Paul, who was shot in the ankle by Thomas McAvoy, of Roseland, in the Howard saloon, February 16, died at the Sacred Heart hospital at 4:20 this morning. The wound was not considered a serious one at the time and Curtis was released on a \$25 bond. But Curtis did not recover nor even show any signs of improvement. He wasted away sadly during his confinement and was hardly more than a skeleton when he died.

The accounts of the shooting were somewhat conflicting, but it appears that while it was entirely without provocation on the part of Curtis, it was not altogether accidental. McAvoy had been drinking and had even drunk with Curtis. He had a gun which he flourished threateningly. Curtis asked him to put it up, when he pointed it down towards the floor and fired, the bullet striking Curtis in the ankle. When Police Officer McDermott came in to arrest McAvoy, he says the man had his gun pointed at another man and afterwards attempted to avoid arrest by shooting at the officer from the pocket of his coat.

Curtis was a bookkeeper and expert accountant. His home is in St. Paul and he came here through to Roseland and returning February 16, the day of the shooting. He leaves a wife in California, from whom he has been separated two or three years. His brother-in-law, J. H. Wood, a banker, arrived from St. Paul a few days ago and will take charge of the remains, shipping them to St. Paul for burial.

Prosecuting Attorney Pierce went out to the hospital Tuesday to get Curtis to make an ante mortem sworn statement of the shooting, but Curtis denied that he was dying and refused. McAvoy was rearrested on Tuesday afternoon on the charge of murder and taken to the county jail, where he is still confined. Information to McAvoy by THE MINER's correspondent this morning at the jail. When he found time to regain his composure the prisoner expressed sorrow that Curtis had died. He was nervous and when he spoke there was a tremble in his voice. Tears came to his eyes, but he forced them back with an effort.

"Yes," said McAvoy, "I heard Curtis was not expected to live. I am very sorry this affair has turned out this way. I don't know how it happened. Several of us had been in the saloon drinking. I never saw Curtis before that. He was a total stranger to me. I intended putting the gun away and I never knew I had shot him until I woke up in the city jail and was informed."

"I am 36 years of age and have been a miner several years. This is my first trouble and I regret it very much but it was no fault of mine."

PLENTY OF CANDIDATES

Spokane City Election Is Only Three Weeks Off.

Fusion Convention Will Be Bolted By the Democrats If They Do Not Get the Majority.

SPokane, Wash., April 9.—[Special.]—It is now only a little over three weeks until the city election takes place and the campaign is beginning to warm up in good shape. The various candidates for mayor and their friends are making an active canvass for votes and all manner of combinations are being fixed up. That the differences in the fusion forces are anything but cemented can be judged by the declaration made to your correspondent today by the leading politician in the fusion ranks.

"You can state that it is a safe prediction that if anybody but a democrat is nominated for mayor by the fusion convention, the democrats will refuse to support the ticket. They will support a good republican first."

"From the date of the Ellensburg convention last year up to the present time the democrats have been getting it in the neck from the populist party. The last straw to break the camel's back was last year when the populist party defeated the base ingratitudes of the populist government in turning H. T. Jones down for the position of warden at the penitentiary. This last act has strained the relations of the democrats with the fusionists to the limit, and they will no longer submit to being sat upon."

"If populists at the coming convention fail to recognize the democratic wing of the fusionists to the extent of permitting them to name the mayor, it will be as off with the fusion movement as far as the democrats are concerned. Rather than further submit to a continuation of treatment at the hands of the populists, I can state with positive assurance that the democrats will unite with the fusionists in placing an opposition ticket in the field."

From interviews had with the leading populist candidates for mayor and their friends it can just as safely be predicted that the fusion convention will not nominate a democrat for the head of the state. It must be a straight out-and-out populist of the middle-of-the-road stripe. Anything else than that will result in a bolt from the convention. Such is the sentiment expressed by the populists, or, at least, a large portion of the party. For several days past the claim was being made that efforts to crystallize the union movement were meeting with every prospect of fruition. Since the turning down of H. T. Jones, however, the breach has been materially widened, and unless a great change of sentiment takes place between this and the date of the convention that gathering will be anything but a love feast.

From present indications it looks as if Dr. J. D. McLean would be the nominee of the fusion convention for mayor. John Hearn is, however, giving him a close race. It was rumored on the street yesterday that Mr. Byrd had practically withdrawn from the mayoralty contest in favor of Mayor Belt. This rumor was emphatically denied by Mr. Byrd's friends. They say he is in the race to stay, and that even if he withdrew it would not be in favor of anybody else, and particularly Mayor Belt. It seems to be conceded by nearly everybody that Mayor Belt's chances for the nomination have gone glimmering.

The situation up to date has shaped itself that it can be positively stated that the republicans will not put a straight ticket in the field, but will join in a movement to select a non-partisan ticket. In the event of the democrats bolting the fusion convention it is believed that a good representative democrat will be chosen to head the ticket. This would have the effect of uniting both democrats and republicans in the fight against the populists.

A delegation of prominent citizens called upon Col. W. W. D. Turner today and asked him to enter the race for mayor on the business men's non-partisan ticket. The colonel has practically given his consent. As he is an uncompromising republican this will place him in the position of opposing his brother, Senator Turner, in trying to secure control of the politics of this city.

COUNTESS D'IVRY'S SUIT

She Claims the Toronto World Libelled Her.

Testimony in the Case So Far Shows She Was Very Free With Mr. Reginald Thomas.

TORONTO, Ont., April 9.—The Countess d'Ivry's libel suit against the World is proceeding today. Ainsworth, her lawyer, in opening the case said the plaintiff is Madame Elsie d'Ivry. She is foreign born, of Belgian parents, and was educated in Belgium. Seven or eight years ago she came to this country with her relatives. Five years ago she met the Count d'Ivry, a gentleman of rank and position of old France. They were married and had two children. Their married life had been spent partly in Canada and partly in Europe with the count's relatives.

In October last the plaintiff, accompanied by her husband, came to Toronto to visit some lady friends. After the first time they had been here. After the visits were over they took up their stay at the Arlington hotel. After about ten days they returned to their home in the neighborhood of Montreal. Among their acquaintances was Reginald Thomas, a bank clerk, whom they knew through a mutual friend. He had visited the houses of their friends. Late in the evening the three returned to the hotel and sat chatting in the general sitting-room near the office. After he went away, and shortly afterwards Madame d'Ivry went to her room. After a while, as the count did not come, the countess crossed the corridors. Hearing her husband's voice from a young gentleman's room she tapped at the door and received an answer from her husband. She remarked to him it was time for him to go to bed. He retired with her. Shortly after this the night watchman excitedly rushed to the manager's room and told him the lady had gone to Mr. Thomas' room. Mr. Story, with the watchman, went to Mr. Thomas' room, knocked at the door and asked if any lady was there. He was answered in the negative.

This is the story on which the World based its item, giving no names, in which it said the couple got received into society here and pictured the husband's indignation on hearing of the woman and young man being found in a room together in a prominent hotel at an early hour in the morning. The story added that the young man got the room at the hotel by representing that the cars had stopped running and that he could not get home. That he visited the foreign couple in their room and then retired. Soon after the lady left her room in her nightdress and entered that of Mr. Thomas. The article also said that the hotel manager seemed to be much annoyed over the matter and had been asked to receive the foreigners.

McLean when put into the box refused to admit publication, giving as a reason that he might answer that in a way that it would be a step in a criminal prosecution. Chas. A. Ward, bookkeeper and chief clerk of the Arlington hotel, swore that while attending on the dining-room table and looking across the courtyard he saw Mr. Thomas seated on a sofa in the wine room. The Countess d'Ivry was standing between his knees with her hands on his shoulders. His hands were on her hips. Subsequently he saw her sitting on his knee.

WILL PROTEST THE ELECTION

Chaplain Liberals Will Not Tolerate Clerical Interference.

MONTREAL, Que., April 9.—Opinions are divided as to the contest in Champlain. The election is to be protested as soon as the official returns are placed by the returning officer. The grounds of the protest will be those of clerical intimidation and corruption. Grandes Piles and Ste. Genevieve de Batiscan are the principal points where the interference of the clergy was particularly pronounced.

In a number of districts around St. Tite, St. Thelme and Grande Piles there was a good showing for the liberals. The liberals claim that had Trudel on the day of his nomination come boldly out and accepted the Manitoba school settlement without quibble it would have brought him many votes which were not polled at all. On that occasion his utterances lacked definiteness and on that account a large number of liberals in the neighborhood of Ste. Genevieve de Batiscan remained at home and would not vote. It is understood that, in the event of the election being voided, Trudel will not be asked to represent the constituency, and that either T. Rosseau, of Ste. Anne de La Parade, or Caliste Le Berouff, of Montreal, will be asked to stand.

A prominent member of the club says: "The fight is not over yet. We have cut the majority down more than half this time, we will wipe it out entirely next time." Conservatives ridicule the idea of the election being protested.

NEARING THE END

The Provincial Parliament Passed the Estimates Yesterday.

A FEW KICKS REGISTERED

Hume Will Ask What is to Be Done About the Provincial Land Registry Office for Nelson and Supreme Court Registry for Rossland.

[From Our Special Correspondent.]

VICTORIA, April 9.—The beginning of the end has come, for now that the estimates are through business is being rushed ahead in the legislature at a lively rate. The committee of supply sat till 1 o'clock this morning and got through all the estimates, and in the house this afternoon they were put through the third reading and passed without much discussion.

Semin made objection to \$4,000 for the minister of education being left on estimates as useless. This has been regularly provided for several years, but as no fifth minister has ever been appointed the salary is not used, although Col. Baker has taken charge of the department. Semin did not see the use of the sum there at all, but Premier Turner replied that it was there in case the necessity for appointing a fifth minister arose.

Semin also made a kick against granting \$3500 for the agent-general in London, saying the Hon. Forbes George Vernon was ornamental but not useful. \$1000 to aid the resident physician at Clinton. However, both votes passed on the usual division.

A big batch of private bills was put through the third reading and passed, including the Kaslo and Ladro-Duncan railway, Stickeen and Teslin railway, Cariboo strike, Victoria, Vancouver and Eastern railway, Delta, Westminster and Eastern railway, Vancouver and Lulu Island railway.

There was an attempt to place some amendments in the West Kootenay Power and Light company's bill, but though the bill was reconsidered in committee, the amendments seeking to exempt Salmo and Sayward from the operations of the bill were defeated, and it was read a third time and passed. The Barkerville, Ashcroft and Kamloops railway bill was read a second time, as well as the Bedlington and Nelson railway bill.

Government Offices in Kootenay. Hume is going to ask the government on Monday what they are going to do about the land registry office for Nelson and the supreme court registry for

Roseland, no provision having been made in the estimates for these, though deputations which were down from both cities when the incorporation bill was up, asked the government to make such provision.

The Yukon railway bill, about which there was a little difficulty a week or so ago, about allowing its introduction at such a late period of the session, was reported by the railway committee today. W. A. Gallier, of Roseland, has been sworn in as a barrister and solicitor. The Kellee tramway act amendment bill, providing that the provisions of the tramway bill, which are now restricted to the east of the Cascades, should be extended to the whole province, was read a second time without opposition.

Want a Bigger Bonus. A deputation representing the Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern railway, with the mayors of Vancouver and New Westminster and board of trade delegates from the same towns, with Alderman McCandless, of Victoria, interviewed the government today with the hope of securing a bigger bonus to help the scheme. After discussing the subject in the morning the deputation drew up a memorandum which they presented in the evening asking for a bonus of \$920,000, being \$4,000 a mile for 230 miles, with a ferry to be operated from English bluff on the mainland to make Victoria practically the terminus of the road. The memorandum states that the delegates believe that the Dominion government, in the event of this bonus being granted, would come to the assistance of the road also. Premier Turner promised to give an answer by Tuesday for the government, but pointed out if the government did make the grant it would mean a much larger loan than was contemplated by the present Railway Aid bill.

PAST ATLANTIC SERVICE. Colonial Secretary Chamberlain Says The Contract is Signed. LONDON, April 9.—In the house of commons today the secretary of state for the colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, answering a question on the subject, announced that a contract had been signed between Canada and the Paterson's, of Newcastle, for a fast steamship service between Canada and Great Britain, but, Mr. Chamberlain added, the contract still required the sanction of the Imperial government, which is considering the matter. In conclusion, Mr. Chamberlain said it would be premature to make any further statement on the subject. The attorney-general, Sir Richard Webster, replying for the government today relative to the blockade of Greece, said the intentions of the powers could not be announced until a definite decision had been taken. He could not say whether the blockade would be pacific or belligerent.

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