WILD RUMORS OF IMPERIAL REVERSES AT HANKOW CAUSE CONSTERNATION IN PEKIN

Chinese Rebels Believed to be in Control of the Yang Tse Valley—Foreign Refugees From Hankow Tell of the Rebel Attack on Wu Chang—Manchus Massacred Indiscriminately—Sex or Age is Not Being Considered by Rebels.

Pekin, Oct. 19—The official announcement this morning that telegraphic communication with Hankow had been interrupted since sunset last night caused consternation throughout the capital today. The wildest rumors of reverses to the imperial arms spread like wildfire although definite facts to support them were not available. Much significance was attached to the fact that the government has refrained from issuing any official announcements of a victory in yesterday's engagement with the rebels.

Among foreigners, who may be regarded as impartial observers, it is generally believed the situation at Hankow has not been appreciably improved by the events of the past 24 hours. Government officials continue to profess the utmost optimism. They declare that the severance of telegraphic communication for a period of only twelve or eighteen hours over a line 650 miles long is no ground for apprehension. They insist that 21,000 troops with 70 guns, which left Pekin for Hankow, and most of which are no wen route, should be sufficient to swamp any revolutionary attack. Some of the rumors current today, however, hint at disaffection in the army.

Rebels Control Valley.

Shanghai, Oct. 19—Packed steamers arrived here from Hankow today carrying refugees. The steamer Belgivia was occupied exclusively by foreign passengers, who were given free accommodation at the direction of the counsel in Hankow. The ship was so crowded that many passengers slept on the floors. Most of the foreigners were Russians, employed in the factories, and Belgian iron workers employed in the steel works. The refugees declare that the whole Yang Tse valley from Hankow to Shanghai is in the hands of the rebels with the possible exception of one or two of the largest cities to which the officials have retired with their troops.

It has been stated here that Kiu Kang, 150 miles below Hankow, is under revolutionary control. This is denied by officials.

Manchus Massacred.

Accounts of the revolutionary attack on Wu Chang as given by the refugees today emphasizes particularly the massacre of Manchus in that city. In the slaughter neither age nor sex was recognized and it is doubtful whether a single representative of the Manchu race was left alive there.

The run on the Imperial bank here still continues but the officials appear to have ample resources. They are now paying out the newly minted dragon design dollars from the mint at Nanking. The large reserve of Mexican dollars was exhausted by demands early in the week. A Red Cross organization has started here.

Canton Authorities Alarmed.

Canton, China, Oct. 19—The provincial authorities here, alarmed at the revolutionary outbreaks in Wu Chang and Hankow, are making elaborate preparations to prevent any similar movement here. As an emergency measure importations of large quantities of arms and ammunition have been ordered. The gunboat Kungon was despatched to Honk Kong today to convey a ship load of war stores to this city.

Disturbance in Sze Chuen.

London, Oct. 19—The Tien Tsin correspondent of the Times says it is not clear whether the movement in the province of Sze Chuen is conected with the Hankow revolt. The missionaries in the northwest of Hunan are making preparations to leave for a place of safety, as the withdrawal of loyal troops for concentrating in Hankow gives rise to fears of disturbances.

The government arrangements for the transport of the troops from Shan Tung and Manchuria are in confusion and no troops in those districts have yet been moved. The outlook is unchanged except that no risings elsewhere may be held to indicate that the movement is not widespread.

Oliver, Sifton and Rogers Meet in the Office Of the Minister of the Interior in Ottawa.

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 19.—There was a unique gathering in the office of the new minister of the interior, Hon. Robert Rogers, yesterday morning. Hon. Frank Oliver, who is in the city preparatory to going with his family to Edmonton, where he will reside, called at his former office in the Langevin Block to exchange the amenities of defeat and victory with his successor. At the same time it chanced that Hon. Clifford Sifton also called to discuss a few matters with Mr. Rogers. All three men were in the same room. All have a sense of humor and all smiled and exchanged mutual felicitations. History is silent as to just what was said during the fifteen minutes they remained together.

WEDNESDAY'S BATTLE WAS VERY INDECISIVE

Advantage Appears to Have Rested With Imperial Troops—The Warships were Shelled—Casualties on Both Sides Reported to Have Been Very Large.

The Imperial Chinese troops and the revolutionists have come to grips at Hankow. The battle, as it is, is indecisive. The government at Peking claims a great victory and the government troops hold the trenches at Hankow as well as the station where reinforcements are hourly arriving.

The rebels have fallen back on Wu Chang, which it is said they have succeeded in strongly fortifying in the last few days. The casualties on both sides in the engagement are reported to be large.

During the battle between the land forces, the Chinese warships shelled the rebels' position, but despatches from Hankow indicate that the return fire from the forts was much more effective and that at least two of the Imperial gunboats were badly damaged.

The Abaeranda, which is proceeding to Tien Tsin is carrying a detachment to reinforce the American legation at Peking. The capital is strongly guarded and there seems to be little danger of disorders there.

Government Claims Victory.

Peking, Oct. 18—The Chinese government claims to have won a great victory at Hankow and announces that troops hold the station where the troops trains are arriving rapidly. Although this appears to be an exaggeration, the feeling prevails here that the government has really achieved an important moral victory. The belief has been held here that if the first encounter between the revolutionaries and loyal troops proved decisive, the supremacy would be settled. Only a few unimportant towns outside of Hankow, Wu Chang and Han Yang, have taken part in the rising. Nanking, Chang Sha, Canton and other cities of known revolutionary tendencies have not responded to the call of the insurgents so far as can be learned. They are seemingly awaiting the result of the first encounter. Had the rebels overwhelmingly won today's battle it was expected that the provinces along Yangse Kiang would join. With other important cities in rebellion the government would be unable to concentrate its strength against the three Hu Peh provinces. The rebel leaders have shown characteristic weakness in not following their early victories. No news was received from Sze Chuen, the American legation failed to receive reports.

Native Banks Close.

Shanghai, Oct. 18—Many native banks have closed their doors and general business is coming to a standstill. The Tael has reached an unprecedented value.

Fighting Lasted All Day

London, Oct. 18—A special despatch from Hankow says the Imperial forces still hold the trenches, but have lost several hundred men. Fighting lasted all day. The revolutionaries, after repeated, but unavailing bayonet charges fell back to Wu Chang. Trainloads of wounded were brought into Hankow.

Confucius Anniversary

Hong Kong, Oct. 18—The anniversary of birth of Confucius was celebrated as a general holiday today. The imperial flag was not seen. It was raised over a few shops in the morning, but the crowds yelled "down with Manchus" until the flag was lowered.

DEFENSE ATTEMPTS TO SHOW CONSPIRACY

Counsel for Walter L. Hall, Wolf Creek Storekeeper, Charged With Serious Offense, Fighting the Case Very Hard.

Walter L. Hall, of Wolf Creek, formerly of Edmonton, faced a jury in the Supreme court yesterday charged with a heinous offense. The trial opened at 10 o'clock and was not finished yesterday. Able counsel are defending Hall, and with Crown Prosecutor Cogswell looking after the interests of the prosecution, every inch of legal ground is being closely contested.

Interest in the case is heightened by intimations of the lawyers representing Hall that the action brought against him four months ago, since which time he has been in jail awaiting trial grew out of something savoring of conspiracy to ruin him and his business. Questions asked of witnesses for the prosecution, on cross-examination, indicate the general trend of the defense as offsetting statements of a more or less lamaging nature.

Had a Store at Wolf Creek.

Up to the date of his arrest Hall had for some time been engaged in the general merchandise business at Wolf Creek, about 130 miles west of Edmonton. He was also postmaster, at that place. He is alleged to have committed four crimes, covering a period of three or four months last spring and early summer. The ages of the boys, who are complainants in the action, range from fifteen to twenty.

When the case was called for trial before Justice Simmons today Messrs. McCaul and Mackie appeared for the defense. The selection of a jury consumed nearly half an hour. William Fawcett, the fifth juror called, was promptly challenged by Mr. Mackie for cause.

"I object to Mr. Fawcett because he stated to me that he would send Hall up for life," said the lawyer, and Justice Simmons directed the juror objected to to step aside.

Defense Used Six Challenges.

The defense exercised all of its peremptory challenges—six in number—and the following jury was finally chosen: G. Walker, George McGuire, B. Jelly, James Walsh, George Bull and Ed. Wilmroth.

Justice Simmons ordered the court room cleared of spectators and the trial proceeded.

Three witnesses testified at the morning session. From the standpoint of the prosecution, their evidence was damaging to the accused, but this was vigorously attacked by Mr. McCaul, one of the counsel for Hall.

The defense inquired particularly about a certain fire ranger, who led a crowd of men and boys to Hall's store on the evening of June 3, last, and openly accused Hall of an abominable offense, naming four boys alleged to have been his victims. According to the evidence given by witnesses for the prosecution Hall urged the fire ranger to give him one more chance and he would never repeat the offense. The witnesses quoted Hall as saying that he intended to get married in about two months. If they instituted proceedings against him it would ruin him.

Nelson Has Objection Also.

Nelson, B.C., Oct. 20.—Believing that the census returns do not credit the city with anything like its real population, the citizens of Nelson on Thanksgiving Day, October 30th, will

DEFEATED FIGURES OF STRATHCONA ELECTION

J. M. Douglas, Liberal Member-elect for Constituency, Scored Majorities in Large Percentage of the Polls—His Total Majority One of the Largest in Canada.

Out of a total poll of 8,451 J. M. Douglas had a majority of 2,524 over G. B. Campbell. The respective figures were 5,396 and 2,872, and there were 94 rejected and 89 spoiled ballots. Only in 29 out of the 209 polling sub-divisions did Campbell have a majority, Strathcona being his greatest stronghold. The following list will prove valuable for future reference:—

	Campbell	Douglas	Maj.	Maj.
Poll.				
Greendale	17	20	—	3
Doley	6	7	—	1
Highenden	10	18	—	8
Amisk	6	26	—	20
Archer	2	6	—	4
Strong	4	6	—	2
Bellshill	7	16	—	9
Merna	30	36	—	6
Bedford	9	33	—	24
Grainland	1	24	—	23
Duxbury	4	27	—	23
Hastings Coulee	6	33	—	27
Sycamore	2	34	—	32
Banks	1	22	—	21
Pleasington	8	21	—	13
Pests	1	12	—	11
Fairgrove	7	15	—	8
Harts	7	17	—	10
Velva	6	9	—	3
Rossyth	11	16	—	5
Wainwright	101	139	—	38
Simmerman	6	12	—	6
Heath	20	10	10	—
Edgerton	37	25	12	—
Chauvin	19	22	—	3
Leaholm	6	8	—	2
Rockwood	10	34	—	24
Ritchdale	11	25	—	14
Lougheed	21	48	—	27
Prairie Park	4	32	—	28
Willow Hollow	1	22	—	21
Harris	1	27	—	26
Spring Lake	3	44	—	41
Ida	5	9	2	—
Home Glen	7	5	2	—
Chesterwold	3	13	—	11
Anthony Hill	—	13	—	13
Wetaskiwin, W.	163	167	—	4
Battle Lake, E.	4	30	—	26
Star	3	39	—	36
Ferintosh	13	36	—	33
Ecberg	16	24	—	8
Sand	—	8	—	8
Albury	9	15	—	6
Melville	5	19	—	14
Montrose	3	28	—	25
Strome	35	59	—	24
Killam	30	64	—	34
Sedgewick	56	72	—	16
Hardings	4	12	—	8
Strawberry Pl's.	2	10	—	8
Dina	9	34	—	25
Oxville	3	32	—	29
Waverley	4	10	—	6
Plaxton	21	32	—	11
Dalton	8	11	—	3
Hill	8	6	2	—
Irma	31	26	5	—
Jarrow	27	23	4	—
Jackson Coulee	5	28	—	23
Wardville	2	19	—	17
Greeps	3	18	—	15
Wavey Lake	4	5	—	1
Leith	1	10	—	9
Deysland	26	101	—	75
Bawlf	31	93	—	62
Heather Brae	3	27	—	24
Dried Meat	3	5	—	2
New Norway	17	65	—	48
Lewisville	5	13	—	8
Battle River	10	21	—	11
Bears Hill	7	21	—	14
Twin Creek	5	16	—	11
N. Chesterwold	4	10	—	6
Richmond	1	11	—	10
Battle Lake, W	14	12	2	—
West Rose	7	7	—	—
Falun	13	22	—	9
Lone Ridge	8	26	—	18
Pleasant Prairie	13	20	—	7
Wetaskiwin	79	106	—	7
Sweden, New	6	33	—	27
New Berlin	5	16	—	11
Dulhamel	7	33	—	26
Cambrose, South	49	130	—	81
Obaton	8	30	—	22
Quarrel	3	16	—	13
Willow	—	13	—	13
Peterson	14	8	6	—
Prague	5	14	—	9
Philip	8	10	—	2
Rose	17	14	3	—
Roseberry	13	9	4	—
Rivercourse	8	18	—	10
Preston	7	4	3	—
McDonaldville	7	14	—	7
Battle View	15	21	—	6
Buffalo Coulee	12	24	—	12
Orbindale	9	18	—	9
Kinsella	21	14	7	—
Viking	28	57	—	29
Kopernick	1	20	—	19
Rollhokes	4	29	—	25
Likeness	5	22	—	17
Lake Demay	8	31	—	23
Camrose, North	33	117	—	84
E. Bittern Lake	3	21	—	18
W. Bittern Lake	6	12	—	6
Crooked Lake	4	15	—	11
Wang	2	35	—	32
Pipestone	3	9	—	6
Hillside	4	11	—	7
Patience	3	15	—	12
Bonnie Glen	17	33	—	16
Fishers Home	3	7	—	4
Buck Lake	2	5	—	3
Stones Corners	1	5	—	4
Buford	5	26	—	21
Conjuring Cr'k	12	23	—	11
O'Mara	6	17	—	11
Millet	19	50	—	31
Hay Lake	3	24	—	21
W. Thordenajkold	2	6	—	4
E. Thordenajkold	—	38	—	38
Pretty Hill	1	37	—	36
Round Hill	3	54	—	51
Earling	4	26	—	22
Scona	2	39	—	37
Bruce	3	40	—	37
Nestor	2	9	—	7
Echo	6	14	—	8
Laidlaws	2	7	—	5
Cummings	15	17	—	2
Grizzly Bear	8	19	—	11
Rising Sun	7	12	—	5
McKenzie	15	18	—	3
Hennessy	7	10	—	3
Holden	28	54	—	26
Ryley	14	87	—	73
Bardo	4	52	—	48
New Sarepta, E	2	22	—	20
New Sarepta, W	2	6	—	4
Parkdale	10	8	2	—
Fredericksheim	5	24	—	19
Saroya	10	14	—	4
Michigan Centre	14	5	9	—
Thorsby	4	18	—	14
Pokahasset	3	4	—	1
Ornhville	10	10	—	—
Calmar	13	43	—	30
Leduc	68	75	—	7
Plante	8	17	—	9
Looma Vista	1	2	—	1
Spilsted	7	6	1	—
Tofield	54	107	—	53
Martins	1	17	—	16
Mayflower	8	6	2	—
Logan	16	13	3	—
Hastings Lake	14	20	—	6
Ministik	8	11	—	3
Cooking Lake	7	9	—	2
Chorest	5	20	—	15
Beaumont	15	36	—	21
Great West	7	23	—	16
Sprucedale	13	30	—	17
Hallcz	11	22	—	11
White Mud	11	12	—	1
Otoskewan	8	21	—	13
Sandy Lake	11	12	—	1
Wimbledon	6	6	—	—
Glengarden	8	17	—	9
Colchester	19	12	7	—
Mill Creek	5	24	—	19
Rabbit Hill	9	33	—	24
Strathcona—				
Ward 1	127	63	64	—
Ward 2	98	88	10	—
Ward 3	39	45	—	10
Ward 4	134	144	—	10
Strathcona	113	97	16	10
Strathcona Bge	66	45	21	—
East Edmonton	29	22	7	—
Salisbury	24	20	4	—
Bittern Lake	16	28	—	12
Kingman	6	17	—	11
Spencer	3	17	—	14
La Pearl	17	17	—	—
Hazeldean	6	8	—	2
Hawley	52	46	6	—
Young's	4	7	—	3
Springdale	—	9	—	9
Wind Valley	3	5	—	2
Minnehik	6	3	3	—
Poplar Hill	15	10	5	—
Lowe	9	19	—	10
McCauleys	—	24	—	24
Telfordville	4	21	—	17
Linquist	5	15	—	10
Bilastone	18	18	—	—
Sligo	10	14	—	4
Sydenham	20	14	6	—
Black	15	14	1	—
Greenshields	16	22	—	6
Total	2872	5396	—	2524

MUNICIPAL CIRCLES AGITATED.

Saint Boniface Civic Officials Are Now Under Fire.

Saint Boniface, Oct. 19—The greatest sensation in municipal circles here is launched with the circulation of a petition charging the council with letting a new contract for a bridge in the city without obtaining satisfactory explanations for the failure of the work on the previous contract. Again the petition states that the civic officials and councillors sold material and supplies and labor to the city. The auditing of the civic accounts, it is said, is not satisfactory, the claim being based on the copies of accounts furnished to the citizens.

Prince Albert to Take Census.

Prince Albert, Sask., Oct. 20—The board of trade here has decided to take a special census in the city next Monday. It will be done carefully by volunteers and the returns will be carefully checked to avoid errors. People here feel that the city has about seven thousand, five hundred population, but the census only gave it six thousand two hundred and fifty-four. The board of trade is also backing up the Saskatoon and Moose Jaw protest to Ottawa, but will make no formal complaint as to Prince Albert figures until the result of the special count is known.

ONTARIO IS FALLING BEHIND UNDER WHITNEY

Liberal Members Draw Attention to the Fact that Census Returns Show Lack of Development Both in Old and New Ontario.

Toronto, Oct. 19.—At a meeting of all the Liberal members of the Legislature as well as the Liberal candidates, who have been chosen to contest seats in the approaching elections, held today at the offices of the Ontario Reform Association, a resolution was passed, on motion of Daniel Reed, M.P.P. for Wentworth, and J. C. Elliott, M.P.P. for West Middlesex, expressing confidence in the leadership of Hon. A. G. Mackay, and he will continue to lead the party in the next election.

The following statement was issued by G. N. Smith, former M.P.P. for Sault Sainte Marie: "The general political situation in Ontario was freely discussed by the members of the caucus, and the unanimous conclusion was expressed that the Whitney Government had failed to measure up to the expectations of the people of Ontario. The census returns, just published, coupled with the conspicuous inability of the administration to take advantage of its great opportunity in the north country, were quoted as evidences of the necessity for a change of government in Ontario. It was felt that the agricultural policy of the Whitney government, so far as old Ontario is concerned, and the colonization policy in connection with the agricultural lands in new Ontario, is entirely inadequate.

"The census returns show that the Whitney policy has not only retained the natural increase in the rural population of old Ontario, but has absolutely failed to secure any part of the large immigration entering Canada, for either new or old Ontario, so much so that the rural population of the whole province has actually decreased during the regime of the present government."

Dr. Clapp in South Bruce.

Walkerton, Oct. 19.—South Bruce Conservatives today nominated Dr. R. E. Clapp, of Mildmay, as candidate for the legislature. Dr. Clapp won the riding in 1905, but was defeated in 1908 by R. E. Truax, who resigned to contest the Federal riding unsuccessfully. Mr. Truax has refused the Liberal nomination.

HON. R. ROGERS WILL CONFER WITH MINERS

New Minister of Interior Will Meet Representatives of Western Miners at Lethbridge on Oct. 25th—Dispute Will be Re-Opened.

Fernie, B.C., Oct. 20—Nothing has developed from the supposed operators' conference, which is said to be in session in the Frank district this week. The miners are not hearing the operators and there is no progress to report regarding the strike situation in the district except the report of the following telegram and Secretary Carter's answer thereto.

Ottawa, Ont., Oct 19, 1911.

A. J. Carter, Fernie, B.C.—"I am directed by the Minister of Labor to inform you that the Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of the Interior, will probably be in Lethbridge on Wednesday, October 25th on matters connected with the interior department. The Minister of Labor has thought you might desire to take advantage of Mr. Rogers' presence at Lethbridge to place before him on behalf of the employees the present situation of the dispute between the Western coal operators and their former employees. The minister of labor feels assured I am to add, that in the event of your doing so, the Hon. Mr. Rogers will be pleased to do what may be possible to assist in promoting a settlement in the long standing dispute.

(Sgd.) W. ACKLAND,
Deputy Minister of Labor."

Secretary Carter has just sent the following reply:

"W. Ackland, Deputy Minister of Labor, Ottawa, Ont.,—Acknowledging yours of the 19th inst., on behalf of District 18, U. M. W. A., I would say that we would be pleased to confer with the Hon. Solbert Rogers, and comply with your suggestion re representation of present situation.

(Sgd.) A. J. CARTER."

This would indicate a re-opening of the subject by officials of the new government and the meeting next Wednesday will be eagerly looked forward to by the miners.

SALARIES OF MEMBERS.

Earl of Dudley Does Not Like Idea of Paying Members of Parliament.

London, Oct. 20—The Earl of Dudley, speaking at Worcester regarding the payment of members, said that while he hoped Great Britain would follow the lead of the colonies in many directions, he trusted she would never follow the example of some of the overseas states, regarded as very democratic, which sent men to parliament who depend solely on the stipends found them by their states. Men who had been engaged in professional labor life if they engaged in parliament became, after a few years' service, rusty and out of touch with changing conditions, and their salaries became a sort of old age pension.

AVIATOR ROBINSON PASSING THROUGH IOWA.

Dubuque, Iowa, Oct. 20.—Hugh Robinson, aviator, who is on his way from Minneapolis to New Orleans, in an aeroplane, arose from here at ten o'clock today, his start having been delayed by thick fog. Although the weather was far from clear when he left the ground, Robinson circled the city and then started south. He expected to reach Rock Island, 77 miles from here, by tonight.

WAS ACQUITTED BY JURY OF THE MURDER OF BRAHVELT

FRANK VAN CANNEYET WAS NOT CRIMINALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KILLING OF BELGIAN AT MACKAY SIDING ON ELECTION DAY. SHOOTING WAS ACCIDENTAL, PRISONER SHOWS KEEN EMOTION IN TELLING OF TRAGEDY.

A verdict of acquittal returned by the jury in the Supreme court before noon Thursday in case of Frank Van Canneyet, the young hotel clerk charged with manslaughter in the killing of Raymond Brahvelt, a Belgian, and fellow countryman, on Dominion election day, September 21, at Mackay Siding, 95 miles west of Edmonton. The case went to the jury at 11:15, little time being consumed in arriving at a decision.

The jury found that the shooting was purely accidental and that Van Canneyet, acting in the capacity of deputy returning officer, was not criminally responsible for the death of Brahvelt by reason of carrying a revolver.

The First Witness.

Alfonse Salz, who was returning officer on Dominion election day at the polling place where the tragedy occurred, was the first witness called. He said that Van Canneyet was deputy returning officer and they worked together.

The witness recalled that about three o'clock that afternoon there were a number of Belgians in the shack used for polling purposes at Mackay Siding. Two of the men became involved in a dispute over a bottle of whiskey. Van Canneyet sought to restore order, saying there must be no trouble, but then a shot was fired. A moment later Van Canneyet remarked that his revolver had been discharged without his knowing it. At this juncture it was discovered that Brahvelt had been shot and mortally wounded, the bullet from Van Canneyet's gun having pierced Brahvelt's heart.

Van Canneyet Overcome With Emotion

During this portion of Salz's testimony, the accused young man leaned forward in his seat, in the centre of the court room, overcome with emotion and it was several minutes before he regained his usual composed feelings. Continuing, Salz said Brahvelt took no part in the row. He quoted Van Canneyet as saying right after the shooting that he had shot a boy, who had never done him any harm, and in frantic tones asked that some one take the revolver and kill him. Van Canneyet was almost insane with grief. He wanted to come to Edmonton without delay to give himself up to the mounted police.

Ballots Were Burned.

Everybody was so excited over the shooting that they ran out of the polling booth, leaving the ballot boxes. Later in the afternoon, Salz testified, some person took the ballots outside and set fire to them.

Inspector Worsley, of the mounted police, was the last witness summoned by the prosecution. He said Van Canneyet was greatly agitated over the killing at Mackay Siding. The defendant told him that the revolver was discharged accidentally while he was trying to quell a disturbance. Van Canneyet told the witness that his only purpose in pulling the gun from his pocket was to scare the disturbers of the peace. The prosecution then rested

Didn't Know Gun Was Loaded.

H. H. Robertson, counsel for the defence, called Van Canneyet to the stand With tear-stained eyes and trembling voice the accused related the circumstances of the fatal shooting. Van Canneyet said he thought the gun was empty. He did not point the revolver at any one and made no threats. While engaged in an effort to pacify the men who were fighting over a bottle of whiskey the gun went off. He was not acquainted with Brahvelt.

Joseph Halstead, who conducts an hotel, in this city, testified that Van Canneyet had been employed as night clerk in his place of business for about sixteen months. He declared that Van Canneyet's general reputation was very good.

Asks For Verdict of Acquittal.

In summing up for the defence Mr. Robertson pointed out to the jury that the Canadian Election Act provides that returning officers, such as Van Canneyet was, are also peace officers, in which capacity the accused had a right to carry a revolver. This, the lawyer contended, exonerated Van Canneyet from the charge of carrying concealed weapons in an unlawful manner. All of the evidence agreed that the shooting was accidental, and Mr. Robertson asked for a verdict of acquittal.

Crown Prosecutor Cogswell, in addressing the jury, said there was no doubt in his mind that the defendant had no intention of shooting Brahvelt. The only point was his carelessness and disregard of the consequences of carrying a revolver and pulling it out in the way he did. Mr. Cogswell urged that there was no jurisdiction for displaying the gun in view of the fact that the disturbance did not amount to much.

Justice Simmons charged the jury on the points of law involved in the case, and asked that a verdict be returned in accordance with the testimony.

The jury that heard the evidence was composed of D. G. Gletcher, Ransom Sill, George McGuire, J. Wilse, and George Mains.

NEW MINISTERS INTERESTED IN FORT CHURCHILL DISTRICT

SUGGESTED ACCORDINGLY THAT H.B. RAILWAY WILL GO IN THAT DIRECTION, INSTEAD OF TO FORT NELSON—EX-MINISTER OF RAILWAYS WILL WELCOME FULL INVESTIGATION OF CONTRACTS LET RECENTLY.

Ottawa, Oct. 19.—In accordance with the general instructions issued by Hon. Frank Cochrane, minister of railways, for the cessation of work on the contracts awarded in his department subsequent to the dissolution of parliament ordered to help further operations have been sent to Contractor J. D. McArthur, who was awarded in August last the contract for the first 185 miles for the Hudson's Bay railway. This will, however, not seriously delay the construction of the road as only the preliminary work of taking in contractors' supplies is now under way. Mr. Cochrane has decided that he will investigates all the circumstances connected with the awarding of the contract.

Hon. George P. Graham, ex-minister of railways, says he will welcome the fullest investigation of all contracts let under his supervision as minister. The department acted in each instance only after a thorough and reliable report by the engineers in charge and the lowest tenderer in every case got the contract.

The contract let was only for the first 185 miles of the road, from the Pass to the point where the road may branch off to Fort Churchill or Fort Nelson. It has not so far been decided at which of these two points the termination of the line will be, and when the late government was in power the question was under the consideration of the department of marine and fisheries.

There are rumors that some of the new ministers have interests in the region of Fort Churchill, and more than one suggestion has been made that the railway will go in that direction.

The stoppage of operations on the line at the present time is most inopportune, as there are about a hundred men out there working on the line, and they have all of a sudden been turned out of work and they are left practically out in the wilds, hundreds of miles from the nearest town of any consequence, with no prospects of work in the vicinity and no certainty as to when work may begin on the road where they have been working for the past month.

The action of the new government in stopping so much work on the government road is causing a good deal of comment in the city and the hope is expressed on every hand that the cessation of work will not be for long. The contractors have large sums of money invested with the government as a guarantee that they will complete the work within a certain given time, and as a result of the action of the new minister of railways there can be no intention to hold the contractors to the original terms of the bonds which they entered on.

N.T.R. Work Not Held Up.

On behalf of Hon. Frank Cochrane, minister of railways and canals, A. W. Campbell, the deputy minister of railways, this morning states that there was no truth in the report that all construction work on the N.T.R. had been held up.

The order to suspend work, Mr. Campbell said, applied only to contracts let for buildings such as stations, coal-chutes and round-houses, let since the dissolution of parliament. The big contract for the construction of the roadbed and the putting down of railways will be proceeded with. The smaller and more recently awarded contracts indicated above will be delayed until they have been reported on to the minister by officials of the department.

MOTHER THREW HERSELF AND BABE UNDER TRAIN

Mrs. Pearson, Wife of St. Thomas Brakeman, Who Refused to Support Her, Deliberately Ends Her Own Life and That of Her Child.

St. Thomas, Ont., Oct. 18.—Failing to bring about a reconciliation with her husband or get support for herself and three-year-old child, Mrs. Margaret Pearson, wife of "Del" Pearson, a Pere Marquette brakeman, this evening deliberately ended the lives of herself and little one. Both were struck by a train at First avenue, just within the city limits. Mrs. Pearson died just after she was discovered, her dead baby clutched tightly in her arms. The body of the child was badly mangled.

Texas Train Wrecked.

Marshall, Texas, Oct. 20.—One person was killed and fifteen seriously injured in the wreck of a passenger train here today.

Nobel Prize in Medicine.

Stockhorm, Ontario, October 19th—The Noble prize in medicine has been awarded to Prof. Allvar Gulctrand, of Upsala University, Upsala, Sweden, for research work in his study of the eye.

BORDEN PLANS SHORT SESSION PARLIAMENT

Bank Act Will Not Therefore Be Revised This Year if Program of New Ministers Goes Through—Present Act Satisfactory.

Ottawa, Oct. 18.—It is said to be quite within the bonds of probability that there will be no revision of the bank act this year, but that following the precedent of the late government the new ministry may bring in a measure formally extending it for another year, thus prolonging the charters which expire on July 1.

There is no great complaint regarding the present enactment, but if revision is taken up, it will mean that the coming session will be greatly prolonged. As the government plans a short session, the bank act as well as other imminent legislation, may go over to the fall. Suggestion of a second session in the late winter does not seem to be much favored, and it would not be surprising if there is only one session with an adjournment over Christmas holidays.