

THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1907

SEVEN

DISCUSSED LAND TRANSACTIONS

Western Members Conducted Debate Yesterday

Robbins Irrigation Company Land Deal and Other Transfers of Large Blocks of Land Talked About

OTTAWA, Feb. 7.—The western members had the floor today and spent the whole of the session practically in discussing the Robbins Irrigation Company land transaction and other transfers of large blocks of land in the west for irrigation purposes. Mr. Monk asked whether the government had received any information from the imperial authorities as to the subjects which would be discussed at the coming colonial conference and if so what were the subjects?

The premier said that it was impossible to give the information desired in the form of an answer to the question. All correspondence on the subject would be brought down at an early date.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Templeman it was agreed that on Monday the house would consider a resolution affirming the expediency of bringing in a measure providing for the inspection and regulation of the sale of proprietary and patent medicines.

Replying to R. L. Borden, Hon. Mr. Aylesworth stated that the bill amending the election acts promised in the speech from the throne was under consideration. It was a matter of considerable difficulty and he was therefore not able to name any definite date at which the measure might be introduced.

The debate on the amendment condemning the sale of land to the Robbins Irrigation Company was resumed by Mr. Lake of Qu'Appelle. He was not opposed to irrigation, but to promoters being enabled to load down projects with expenses which settlers would have to pay later. In this case the promoters' profits had, according to his estimate, been about \$300,000.

Mr. MacPherson, Vancouver, said the opposition were using the same arguments which had been made against aid to the Canadian Pacific twenty-two years ago.

Mr. Heron said the concessions granted the irrigation company had been refused many cattle raisers in the west.

Mr. Carvell of Carleton said it would have been a crime to have disposed of a large block of arable land at the price this had been sold at, but as the land was semi-arid and had to be irrigated in an expensive way and on a large scale to make it productive the government was justified in having given the company a chance to make it fit for the settler and of value to Canada. The main charge seemed to be that some one had made money out of lands. He would ask George Foster, G. W. Fowler and Mr. Bennett if that were a crime.

R. L. Borden said the control of the lands amounting to 200,000 acres was not under control of two men, neither of whom were in the cattle business. While 1,000 applications from settlers had been received, not one had been accepted. He held the people of Canada should have been invited to underwrite the irrigation of these lands and the best offers should have been accepted.

Mr. Northrup and Mr. Bourassa expressed disapproval of the lease and announced they would vote for Mr. McCarthy's amendment.

A division being taken, the vote was a straight party one.

Mr. Bourassa voted against the government and Mr. Robitaille and Verreille voted with it. The amendment was lost, 53 to 86. The house went into committee of supply and put the vote of \$50,000 for Jamaica earthquake sufferers through the several stages and sent to the senate.

Mr. Fielding said about \$40,000 worth of supplies had been sent to the governor of Jamaica and \$10,000 was held in reserve to be used as events indicated.

House adjourned at midnight.

COMMITTED MAYOR FOR TRIAL

BRANTFORD, Feb. 7.—Police Magistrate Woodruff this morning handed out a decision in the case of Mayor Bowby, charged by A. G. Montgomery with defamatory libel, connected with a circular issued during the last session.

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Trial size 35 cts. Regular size, 100 doses, \$1.00.

Dr. Scott's White Liniment Co., Limited, Proprietors of White's Honey Balm for Coughs and Colds.

EVELYN THAW'S PITFUL STORY OF HER RUN BY STANFORD WHITE



ST. STEPHEN TOWN COUNCIL MEETS

Full Board of New Members—President and Committees Were Appointed

ST. STEPHEN, Feb. 7.—The new town council held its organization meeting this evening, the full board being present.

Committees were appointed as follows: Assessments, Councilors Dinmore, Keys, Scoville, by-laws, Councilors Scoville, Keys, Lafin; fire, Councilors Grimmer, Whitlock, Lafin; finance, Councilors Whitlock, Dinmore, Grimmer; health, Councilors Keys, Dinmore, Grimmer; license, Councilors Scoville, Dinmore, Keys; police and light, Councilors Lafin, Whitlock, Grimmer; poor, Councilors Dinmore, Keys, Scoville; printing, Councilors Scoville, Lafin, Whitlock; streets, Councilors Scoville, Dinmore, Keys, Grimmer; schools, Councilors Lafin, Keys, Scoville; wharf, Councilors Keys, Lafin, Scoville; local water, Councilors Keys, Lafin, Dinmore.

Officers were appointed as follows: Mayor, town clerk, Jas. G. Stevens; treasurer, T. F. Cotter, marshal, J. F. Commis and Thos. McElure; police: W. R. Hewitt, road commissioner: R. G. Robb, poor commissioner: W. C. H. Grimmer, solicitor: H. M. Webster, auditor.

CANADIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION MEETS

TORONTO, Feb. 7.—The Canadian Press Association opened its forty-ninth annual convention this morning. The features today were the president's address and a request from D. F. Burk of Port William to have the association support the application to Dominion parliament for suspension of the alien labor law during the coming year, as 100,000 men would be required for railway construction work. The matter was referred to a committee on the subject, but the association will decline to pledge itself.

Nomination resulted in the elections by acclamation as follows: President, Toronto, president: D. Williams, Collingwood; L. S. Channel of Sherbrooke, vice president; John R. Bone, Toronto, secretary; treasurer: A. E. Bradwin of Byth, assistant secretary.

ENGINE EXPLODED AND THREE MEN KILLED

NAPANEE, Feb. 7.—An accident this morning near Selby Village, four miles north of this town, caused the death of Wilbur Bush, Stanley Raymond and Charles Boyd.

They built a fire in the traction engine, which they were using to get power to run the circular saw. It was supposed the engine tubes had frozen during the night and when the fire was started the ice did not melt fast enough to allow the steam to escape, thus causing the explosion. Two of the men were thrown fifty feet, and all were badly mangled.

At the Rollaway

Tonight is "ladies' night" at the Queen's Rollaway. Owing to Tuesday night being so disagreeable, two skating parties who had intended being present, were forced to cancel their engagement. They will be present tonight. Gentlemen will skate each hand with a lady, except the sixth, which is the ladies', and the seventh, which is the gentlemen's. Read the Queen's Rollaway ad. in another column. Something novel.

Judge, Jury and Spectators Moved to Tears by the Tragic Unveiling of Her Sad Life, Her Struggle With Poverty, Her Betrayal by White's Villainy and Her Love for Thaw—Hard Ordeal Awaits Her Today Under Jerome's Cross-Examination.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Feb. 7.—Seated in the big witness chair and looking like a sweet little school girl, Evelyn Nesbitt Thaw today denounced Stanford White as her betrayer. Her thrilling story of how pitfalls are arranged by great and rich men to trap young and pretty girls caused the flesh of every man and woman in court to creep. Certainly no such story was ever told before in a court room.

Wearing a little blue dress, with a white turned down collar, a black velvet hat, and a bunch of violets resting in her bosom, Mrs. Thaw looked not at a day older than fifteen or sixteen. Her voice, which is very musical, reminded one of the little treble of the children in Peter Pan. At the commencement she slipped her answers to both Delmas and Jerome in much the way a good little girl would at school. As she got deeper into her story, there was an unaccountable silence in the crowded court room.

The jurors were held spellbound, while even harsh Mr. Jerome interposed objections in a voice that was little better than a whisper.

When she got down to her first meeting with White her big brown eyes welled in tears as she said, "I thought he was very big and ugly."

Then quietly Mr. Delmas led her on to the awful night when in his home of degeneracy in the tower of Madison Square Garden, she was ruined while in a state of unconsciousness. During the recital of the infamous details, Thaw sat with her handkerchief to her eyes, her body swaying from side to side, and was the object of almost as much pity as his wife.

Everyone's heart was affected, Justice Fitzgerald once turning completely around in his chair, with his back to the court for some few minutes.

Mr. Jerome looked almost ashamed of himself, while men and women all over the court were affected and more than one was too unnerved to keep track of the proceedings.

By this time the jurors were bowing their heads to escape the sight of the beautiful young creature in her time of shame and suffering. No man in court felt courage enough to look upon the girl's agonized face.

After this came a lull, and Mr. Delmas took her to her introduction to John C. Fisher, a theatrical manager. Fisher looked at her and said: "I am not running a baby farm." However, she was given employment, and stayed some time as a chorus girl until her condition necessitated all operation. She told how White never went near her during her illness, but that Harry Thaw was the last face she saw before she was placed under the anaesthetic and with his kiss upon her lips, she underwent the operation.

At this point Delmas, glancing at the weakly reclining figure of the slender girl, and seeing her white and troubled face, begged Justice Fitzgerald to adjourn court then, it being half an hour before the usual time.

Mr. Jerome joined in the plea, saying the state had no wish to be cruel, so his honor promptly adjourned court. At the afternoon session the criminal case was thronged with a mad crowd. Fights and scuffles were going on everywhere. It was truly a memorable day in a court room. Pale lips and men and women listened to the continued story of sin and passion. Evelyn Nesbitt Thaw went on with her story with a sorrowful face. Only once did her expression change, and that was when she caught her husband's eye. Then a faint smile passed over her face.

Nesbitt Thaw was to those who saw her a girl wife—sacrificing herself to save her husband. To save her mother, she would probably keep Mrs. Thaw on the stand another four hours before turning her over to Mr. Jerome.

What the latter will do with her is a matter only for conjecture, but it is known that he has some awful damning facts only for his sleeve and that the frail girl wife has a terrible ordeal to undergo during the next eight hours is known to everyone. Today has certainly been a great one for the defense, but of the morrow no man knows, only there are those whose duty bids them be present, who are dreading it like the plague.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Evelyn Nesbitt Thaw told her story today. To save the life of her husband, charged with murder, she bared to the world the innermost secrets of her soul—a portrayal for which a sanctuary was a more fitting place than a crowded, gaping court room. It was the same story she told to Harry Thaw in Paris in 1903, when he had asked her to become his wife—the confession of one who felt there was an insurmountable barrier to her ever becoming the bride of the man she loved.

In the big witness chair she appeared but a slip of a girl, and she told the pitiful story of her eventful young life in a frank, girlish way. When tears came into her big brown eyes and slowly trickled their way down scarlet cheeks, she strove in vain to keep them back. Though the lump in her throat at times seemed about to smother her, she forced the words from trembling lips, and by a marvellous display of courage which took every man in the court by surprise, she shook off a depression which once threatened to become an absolute collapse.

As the young wife unfolded the narrative of her girlhood and told of the early struggles of herself and her mother to keep body and soul together; of how gaunt poverty stood ever at the door, and how she finally was able to escape the clutches of the photographer and artist, she won the murmured sympathy of the throng which filled every available space in the big court room.

Then came the relation of the wreck of that girlhood at sixteen years of age. It was the story of her meeting with Stanford White, the story of the sumptuous studio apartment, whose dingy exterior gave no hint of the luxurious furnishings within; of a velvet covered swing in which one could swing until slipped loose crashed through the paper of a Japanese parasol saving from the ceiling; the story of a glass of champagne, of black, whirling sensations and of mirrored bedroom walls. In short, she told all the story.

"And this was Stanford White?" The question came from Delmas 31. Delmas, now conducting the defense of Harry Thaw.

"Yes, sir."

The stilling of the crowd, which was his, bustling, shoving and snarling over some especially coveted seat when court convened, was its own tribute to the effect of the girl's story. In the narrative there entered nothing of the woman of the world. A girl in face and figure, Mrs. Thaw still might well have started into terror a woman of mature years and harsher experiences than hers. Into the narrative she injected many little touches of a young girl's hopes and disappointments. Of her early life she related how her mother had come from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia to secure assistance and how she and her brother Howard—the brother who has been in court many days but not once had gone near his sister—were placed on a train by friends and sent on to their mother. She recalled that the two little travelers had trouble with the conductor, who wanted to put their cat out of the car. But, she naively added, they held fast possession of it just the same.

Then came their advent in New York, of her life here, and eventually the acceptance by her mother of the actress' invitation to a girl of the theatre to meet some of her friends at luncheon. The girl's mother told Evelyn's mother they were people in New York society and perfectly proper, else she would not let her girl go with them.

"When she came for me in the house," said the witness, "I remember hoping we were going to the Waldorf. I had heard so much about it and wanted so to go there. But the handsome stopped in front of a dingy-looking building in West 24th street and I was told to get out. Mother had dressed me. My skirts were just to my shoe tops then."

"This was in August, 1901. He was big and fat and ugly—I remember him meeting us at the head of three flights of stairs," she continued. "He gave me presents and my mother let me go to his apartment and we went to the bedroom with the mirrors all over the walls."

Thus the story ran, with just here and there a glimpse of the girl's life before she came to New York, and the girl's life before she came to New York, and the girl's life before she came to New York.

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His whole frame shaking, he lay with his head buried in his hands, a handkerchief covering the eyes. Where the defendant sits he is all but shielded from the jury. Bending over the table as he sobbed he could not be seen at all. Thus Thaw sat for many minutes, and when he finally lifted his head his eyes were red and swollen. Even if they could have seen, the jurors would have had no eyes for the prisoner. They, too, had turned their gaze from the witness as the tears came to her voice as well as her eyes, and each man of the twelve seemed intent upon some object on the floor before them. Justice Fitzgerald looked out through the long grating windows. The scene and the story marked a new precedent in the history of criminal proceedings in New York. Old court attendants gave their ready assent to this.

Mrs. Thaw was still on the stand, her direct examination uncompleted, when the day was done. Once during the afternoon she was excused for an hour while Lawyer Frederick Longfellow was sworn to fix the date of certain letters written to him by Harry Thaw subsequent to the revelations Miss Nesbitt had made to him in Paris. The girl had identified that writing, but the court held that the date must also become a matter of competent evidence. Mrs. Thaw seemed to appreciate the relief this incident offered, although during the hour and a half recess for luncheon she had recovered from the fatigue of the two hours spent in the witness chair during the morning session. As she left the stand for the recess she walked unsteadily, and passing back of the jury box ran the story of the girl he loved and her relations with the man, it is claimed, he killed as a result of insanity inherited in part and induced by a stress of circumstances.

The letters were written by Thaw to Mr. Longfellow as his attorney. They told of his coming marriage with Miss Nesbitt and of "the row they want to raise." Disconnected and jerky, jumping from subject to subject, they nevertheless breathe the love he bore the girl and he wanted among other things that provision should be made that in the event of his death all his property should go to her. The letters constantly refer to "that blackguard" who poisoned her as a girl and say that her name was falsely connected with two others besides "that blackguard." Only two of a half dozen offered in evidence were read during the afternoon session. The others probably will be presented when court convenes tomorrow and Mrs. Thaw is again called to the stand.

The completion of the direct examination of the prisoner's wife will possibly require all of tomorrow's sessions. There is an impression that Mr. Delmas may strive to have it occupy the entire day in order that the young woman may take advantage of the adjournment over Saturday and Sunday to recover from her fatigue and be prepared for the cross-examination of District Attorney Jerome. In testifying today Mrs. Thaw was not allowed to state the names of certain persons, but by consent of counsel for defense she gave them in whispers to Mr. Jerome "in order" as Mr. Delmas said, "that the prosecution may have the fullest possible opportunity to refute any of her statements if he can."

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PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT NOW GETS MOUNT RENTS

FREDERICTON, Feb. 7.—The Provincial Government is now receiving the rentals from the Mount property on Queen street occupied by D. MacCathern.

It will be remembered that recently there was an Equity Court case between Postmaster Edwards of this city and Mr. Pick of Moncton over the ownership of the property. Mr. Edwards lost and announced that he would appeal his case. Then the government stepped in and entered a claim on the property.

Last evening the government had before them a letter from Mr. MacCathern of St. John, who has been engaged as counsel by the government to take charge of their case. Mr. Pick claims that he has received two deeds of the property from Mary E. Brennan and T. J. Short. When Miss Mount died she left surviving an uncle in Halifax named Joshua Jones and an aunt, Elizabeth Short (nee Jones), who were brother and sister of Miss Mount's mother. Joshua Jones died at Halifax on September 11th, 1904, unmarried, and Elizabeth Short died at Halifax on March 20th, 1901, leaving one son, T. J. Short, and one daughter, the wife of John Brennan, of Amherst, N. S.

The property is therefore claimed by virtue of deo dem. Deforest v. Wood, 23 N. B. R. P. 29.

All these Mr. Edwards claims are fabrications.

Dr. Macrae gave the government an opinion on their case in the matter, but no action was taken by the government.

ROOSEVELT WANTS BUFFALO PROTECTED

MONTREAL, Feb. 7.—At the annual meeting of the North American Fish and Game Protective Association, held here today, an application for membership was received from President Roosevelt and favorably acted upon.

In addition the president drew the attention of the association to the fact that heretofore in Alberta, Canada, and suggested that the government of Alberta and British Columbia be asked to see that this herd, the remaining vestige of the great herds which once roamed the plains, be given effective protection. It was decided to act upon Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion.

INQUEST INTO TRAIN WRECK

NEWCASTLE, N. B., Feb. 7.—The inquest was continued this afternoon. Jeffrey and other witnesses corroborated Holligan's previous evidence, bringing out nothing new. Lawyers sought eagerly to get evidence that would fix the liability for damages on either the Intercolonial or the pulp company. The chief evidence was Conductor Doyle's. He had charge of the wrecked train Tuesday; never had charge of that train before. The wreck seems to have been caused by orders not plainly given, or wrongly interpreted. He received orders from District Henderson here at 7:25 Tuesday morning. Left for the west 7:30. Before going compared orders with the driver and dispatcher. Hung orders in van and they were destroyed in the wreck. Witness remembered the orders correctly as proved later on cross-examination. They were, "Doyle will run special to Newcastle, to a point two miles east of Busby siding and work between Beaver Brook and Busby's, at that point till 12 o'clock, regardless of white signals. When the west-bound special comes in sight and the east-bound special comes to Busby's to cross them, No. 34 will run three hours' late from Bathurst to Newcastle." As he had no orders for the afternoon, but understood he was to go to Bathurst before then, he thought his orders gave him the right to run to Beaver Brook and back. He was not to run to Bathurst until twelve o'clock he would have been on the main line without orders, which is a very unusual predicament. He considered going to Beaver Brook was obeying orders. He had crossed No. 34 and No. 36 at Busby's. They also between 11:35 and 11:40, proceeded half a mile when he saw Sears' special smoke. He applied the brakes immediately, but the train was too far on. The collision occurred half a minute after he jumped. The engine of the special was partly buried in the wreckage of the pulp train and set the cars afire. He saw Doctor Thibodeau dead in the wreckage and attended to the wounded. The inquest promises to be long drawn out.

MORE RUMORS OF LORD STRATHCONA'S RESIGNATION

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Newspaper paragraphs are being put into circulation anticipating Lord Strathcona's retirement and Sir Frederick Borden's name is again associated with the high commission.

The Yorkshire Post says it is significant that Sir Frederick Borden accompanies Sir Wilfrid Laurier to London in April. Lord Strathcona himself refuses to discuss the matter with the journalists, and hence it is supposed he himself has no wish to resign, though willing to meet the convenience of the Canadian ministers.

90 MINUTE EARTHQUAKE.

Recorded at Lalibah With Extraordinarily Vague Accuracy.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Prof. Belar, the seismologist, telegraphs from Calcutta that an earthquake lasting ninety minutes occurred yesterday 4,687 miles from Lalibah. It reached its maximum intensity at 9:25 p. m.

He points out that his records of the earthquake that occurred in January 3 are now shown to have been those of the disturbance that occurred in the Tonga or Friendly Islands.

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