BELGIAN TRAGEDY CALLED TO MIND

Strange Story of Murder Revived by Efforts to Secure Pardon and Liberation of Perpetrator

BRUSSELS, Sept. 2.—Strong pressure is being exercised, with great probabilities of success, on M. Carton de Wiart, minister of justice, to obtain the pardon and liberation of the convict Leon Peltzer, the one survivor of the two brothers sentenced in 1882 for the murder of the Antwerp barrister, Guillaume Bernays—"the most wonderful criminal case of the nineteenth century," as it was rightfully styled at the time.

The present generation could obtain some rough idea of that extraordinary drama by perusal of the remarkable novel "Andre Cornelis," which the great French author, Paul Bourget, drew from it twenty-five years ago. The case would have attracted universal attention, if only on account of the high social position of nearly all the parties concerned. The Peltzer brothers were of a Belgo-German stock, closely connected by family ties with members of the Prussian house of lords and with former ministers of the King of Hanover. Armand, the elder of the two brothers, was himself an engineer and lecturer of splendid capacities and a much-courted society man. Guillaume Bernays, a barrister of high standing who was regarded as an authority on maritime law, and also an historian, was the son-in-law of M. Arthur Pecker, one of the merchant princes of Antwerp, enjoying, furthermore, great political power as leader of the Antwerp Liberal party.

The motive of the crime was not a sordid lust for gold, but, according to the version accepted by the jury, it was the infatuation of Armand Peltzer for the fascinating wife of Bernays. The latter had given grave offence to his wife, who lived practically apart from him under the same roof, but who, notwithstanding her deep sympathy for Armand Peltzer, was too pure a woman to requite another man's love as long as she had a lawful husband. Hence Armand's idea of doing away with Guillaume Bernays. The trial also revealed brotherly affection and gratitude carried to the lengths of crime, Leon Peltzer having come all the way from America to commit the murder, out of sheer, although misguided, devotion to his elder brother, who had, years before, sacrificed his fortune to save him from bankruptcy.

Murder as a Fine Art

But the most wonderful thing of all was the genius and forethought displayed in the preparation of the terrible deed, fully realizing De Quincy's notion of "murder considered as one of the fine arts." The two brothers had, beforehand, given tangible existence and wide notoriety to "nothingness" by creating a being who, under the name of Henry Vaughan, and in the guise of a wealthy Anglo-American steamship company promoter, was to shoot Bernays dead, during a consultation on maritime law, and afterwards deliberately to attract all suspicions on himself before vanishing into space.

The so-called Henry Vaughan was none other than Leon Peltzer under a wig and an inscrutable disguise, thanks to which he ostensibly visited unrecognized Paris, London, Manchester, Brussels, and many German towns, on the apparent business of company promoting, and managed to entrap Bernays, and to shoot him in a lonely house in Brussels, where the corpse remained undiscovered for days, until a letter addressel from Germany "to the coroner" by the alleged Henry Vaughan, "accidental murderer of Bernays," disclosed its whereabouts, and sent the whole police of Europe on the track of the Anglo-American financier, Leon Peltzer having, in the meantime thrown off his disguise, and calmly begun preparations for returning safely to America.

Such an astonishing plot, which would have baffled Sherlock Holmes, was only miraculously, as it were, laid bare by pure accident through the misreading of a ciphered telegram from Leon to Armand, and the sudden clue it afforded to a bosom friend of the latter, Dr. Lavise, who, indeed, struggled hard against himself and his wife before consenting to the direful duty of acquainting the police with his startling discovery.

Before the court Leon took upon himself the whole responsibility for the crime, which, he maintained, had been unpremeditated, but the jury found that Armand had been "the brains" and Leon the arm in the awful business, and both were sentenced to death, a penalty afterwards reduced to perpetual solitary confinement at the prison of Louvain, where Armand died less than three years after, from remorse according to some, from the grief of tortured innocence according to others.

Leon, who has now been in prison twenty-nine years, is said to have read and pondered immensely in his cell, and to have become a great philosophical mind, capable of adding to the intellectual wealth of the world. King Leopold II. to his death sternly refused to listen to any request in favor of his release, "the greatness of such a crime entailing the enforcement of the sentence to the bitter end," but th present minister of justice has been won to the cause of pity, and King Albert is also credited with a strong inclination to clemency, so that the return to the world of the once famous and bogus "Henry Vaughan," is considered as a mere matter of days or weeks.

Second Mate Drowned

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Sept. 2.—Word reached here today that the second mate of the lumber schooner Comet stranded on the northwest coast of San Miguel island, was drowned yesterday while swimming out to the wreck from the crew's camp on shore. The man, whose name is not known here, was dashed against the side of the schooner by the waves and disappeared. Two men who were swimming with him were saved.

DIFFERENCE IN SEAMEN'S PAY

Sailor From Rainbow Being Paid $25 Per Month Joins D.G.S. Kestrel at $65 Per Month.

Onlooker writer as follows in the Vancouver Province concerning the Canadion navy:

"Regarding Rainbow naval seaman named Stripes, who was invalided from the Rainbow in the spring of 1911 as unfit for further services. He was at once employed by the marine department on board the fishery cruiser Kestrel at a salary of $65 per month, with an additional allowance of 85 cents per day messing. His pay on the Rainbow was $25 per month and 25 per day messing. Understand that if a seaman on the Rainbow wants any more or better food he has to pay for it out of his own pocket. Why this difference between 25 cents per day on the Rainbow and 85 cents on the Kestrel, both being under the same department?

"I understand that there are a lot of desertions from the Rainbow. This is readily explained when the pay of an able seaman on the Rainbow is only 75 cents per day. Many of these men are married and would have their families out from England and settled in this country, but we, as Canadians, know it to be impossible for a man to keep a wife and family on 75 cents per day. To expect these men to stay here for five years on 75 cents per day, with their wives in England, is outrageous and an insult to the ordinary man's intelligence. No wonder the Australian navy is such a success compared with our miserable effort to establish a Canadian navy.

"Just for a moment we will compare the conditions. The able seaman on joining the Australian navy receives $1.20 per day, which is more than the maximum obtained in the Canadian service.

"Another important point: The Australian seamen can obtain the rank of lieutenant; the Canadian can only rise to the position of warrant officer. Even the imperial service allow men to rise to the rank of lieutenant. Presumably the authorities at Ottawa have not a very high opinion as to the intelligence and capabilities of the Canadian boys, which means that no matter how brilliant a man may be he can only rise to the rank of warrant officer in the Canadian naval service. It is no wonder that these men are disgusted with their pay and prospects."

Aeronaut Drowned

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Sept. 2.—After making a balloon ascension at Lakewood park, a pleasure resort, and making a fireworks display from the car tonight, H. C. Brown, a daring young aeronaut of Michigan, fell with his parachute into a shallow artificial lake and was drowned before a large crowd, who witnessed the display, could save him.

MEN TO FILL STRIKERS' PLACES SOUGHT HERE

Mr. Fred Webb, of Building Trade's Council, Explains Why Digby Island Carpenters Went Out

With that facility of denial which has been practiced so much of late despite the facts the Times denied that any strike of carpenters existed at the marine and fishing depot being constructed by the Pacific Coast Construction company for the Dominion government at Digby Island, Wain's employment agency on Store street meanwhile sought to employ carpenters to replace the strikers.

Mr. Fred Webb, business agent of the Building Trades Council, said yesterday: "Yes, there was a strike at the marine and fisheries depot being built for the Dominion government at Digby Island, because, although it is provided that the eight-hour day shall apply, the carpenters had to work nine hours a day. They struck for an eight-hour day with pay of $5 per day, and when this was refused by the contractors most of the men left town. The company then advertised for carpenters to fill their places, and the Wain employment agency of Store street in Victoria tried to get carpenters here. A representative of the local employment agency came to me and asked if there were any carpenters I could get to work at the marine and fisheries depot at Digby Island at the rate of $5 for a nine hour day. I said that none woud go under those conditions although carpenters could be secured at the rate of $5 for an eight-hour day.

"I see that the Times denies that the men went out and says the men struck for more than $5 per day for an eight-hour day. This is not true. All the carpenters wanted was an eight-hour day, to which they were entitled. When it was insisted the men work nine hours a day they quit, and when the Times says they went back to work after a few days, this is untrue. The majority will be found in Vancouver today, and employment agencies are endeavoring on behalf of the contractors to get men to fill their places. Union men will, however, not work if the contractors insist upon the nine-hour day.

Mr. Webb said the Wain employment agency in Victoria had come to him and asked him as business agent of the Building Trades Council, if he couuld secure carpenters to go to Digby Island. He said he could at the rate of $5 for an eight-hour day. The representative of the empoyment agency said he was not instructed to offer anything else than $5 per day for a nine-hour day.

HOPE THAT STRIKE WILL BE AVERTED

Shop Employees of Harriman Lines and Illinois Central Still Carry on Negotiations With Officials.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 2.—All action toward the calling of a strike of the shop employees of the Harriman lines as a result of the refusal by the railroads to recognize the federation of shop employees has been deferred until next Friday, and the representatives of the shop crafts who were present at the conference yesterday with Vice-President Kruttschnitt of the Harriman lines express the hope that a strike will be averted.

A meeting of the advisory board of the federated shop employees of the Harriman lines has been called to convene in San Francisco next Friday. The board comprises thirty-five members, representing the shop employees of all the important plants of the Harriman roads.

Until the arrival of the members of this board the international presidents of the five shop crafts who are now in San Francisco will take no official action. They will attend Labor day celebrations throughout the state, and will not return here until Friday.

The international president of the five shop crafts issued a formal statement tonight, outlining the position taken by the federation. The statement is in answer to that of the railroad's position issued by Mr. Kruttschnitt some days ago

The statement takes up, one at a time, the nine demands presented to Mr. Kruttschnitt, and also deals with his attitude toward them. It maintains that the federation plan now works on systems as much under government control and as much responsible to the public as the Southern Pacific.

Illinois Central Case

CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—Letters sent by representatives of the unions composing the federated shop employees to President Markham, of the Illinois Central railroad, seeking another conference on Tuesday, were not answered today by the railroad officers. The letters set forth that an answer by Tuesday morning was desired.

The union men say they have complied with the technicality requiring thirty days' notice to cancel existing contracts with the road. They maintain, however, that should President Markham ignore their request for another conference, they would not consider themselves bound to wait until the end of September to take whatever action may be decided on. The matter of reaching an agreement with the railroad now rests with the representatives of the international unions involved. The federation delegation left Chicago today, leaving only President McCreery and Secretary Bowen here. As the railroad has flatly refused to deal with the representatives of the federation, these officials can do no more than await the results of the efforts of the international representatives.

After two conferences held today in the office of W. F. Kramer, secretary of the blacksmiths' and helpers' international union, it was made known that no definite action would be taken until Tuesday. The union men believe that President Markham will receive them again, and that they will be able to adjust the controversy.

Even should President Markham refuse another conference, it is believed that the union leaders will await the ultimate outcome of the efforts of their president to reach an agreement with Julius Kruttschnitt, vice-president of the Southern Pacific, on a similar controversy.

CANADIANS WIN AGAIN

Artillerists Defeat Territorials in Match for Canadian Cup, and Lead in Londonerry Cup Contest

LONDON, Sept. 2.—A detachment of Canadian artillery today defeated a company of London territorials for the Canadian challenge cup, scoring 137 to 132.

The Canadians also led the territorials in the contest for the Londonderry cup, although no award was made, neither team scoring a sufficient number of points.

MANITOBA'S STAND AGAINST RECIPROCITY

Visiting Editor Says Western Province Decisively Against Pact—Liberals' Conflicting Promises

"There is no doubt in my mind but that Manitoba will prove herself heartily against reciprocity when the decisive day comes later this month," said Mr. Hay Stead, associate editor of the Winnipeg Saturday Post, an independent weekly of wide influence, who is in Victoria at present with Mrs. Stead on the eve of starting for a tour of the Fort George country.

In an interview with the Colonist yesterday, Mr. Stead said that it was conceded by Winnipeggers and Manitobans generally who were men of long experience in political affairs in that province that the farmers are quite aware of the fact that the proposed reciprocity pact plans to give them just as little as possible and retain the name of reciprocity. They are also beginning to wonder how the Liberals intend to keep their two promises, to give the farmers cheaper staples on the one hand and higher prices for their produce on the other. So far, Mr. Stead says the Liberals in Manitoba have failed to successfully explain this enigma.

Referring to the situation in Winnipeg and Brandon, Mr. Stead declared there was small doubt but that Mr. Alex Haggart, who defeated Mr. Cameron by a very large majority at the election of 1908 would have even less difficulty this time in winning over Mr. James Ashdown. In Brandon Mr. J. A. M. Aikins, a strong, popular candidate would, Mr. Stead felt, poll a long lead over the Liberal candidate Mr. A. E. Hill.

BYLAW PETITIONS

Preliminary Steps for Submission of Parks and Library Measures Are Now Being Taken.

The petitions which must be circulated and signed by at least one-fifteenth of the ratepayers entitled to vote upon money measures, before the recently defeated Parks and Library bylaws can again be put before the ratepayers, are being extensively signed, and in a few days it is expected that the necessary number of names will have been secured.

The Parks bylaw provides for the expenditure of a sum approximating $210,000 for the purchase of convenient land for open spaces and park sites and the Library measure, if passed, will permit the increase of the amount for annual maintenance of the library from $5,000, the present maximum amount, to $25,000. These measures will be submitted to the ratepayers some time in November, or possibly sooner, and with them will be put the bylaw to provide the headquarters equipment of the fire brigade with motor apparatus, as well as the purchase of a water works motor truck and motor garbage collector.

IROQUOIS FINDING BEING CONSIDERED

Marine Court Will Give Judgment Regarding Loss of Steamer Off Sidney Within Ten Days.

The finding of the marine court concerning the loss of the steamer Iroquois off Sidney on April 10th last with 21 lives will be given within the next ten days. Mr. Justice Martin and Capts. Neroutsos and Reed, the nautical assessors who sat with the admiralty court judge, are now preparing their finding.

LIBERALS RELY ON MR. HEARST

Employee of American Publisher Encamped in Montreal is Concocting Some Remarkable Campaign Stories

OTTAWA, Sept. 1.—The clerk of the crown in chancery stated today that there will be no deferred elections, so far as he knew, other than those already announced. He apparently does not look for any delaps in British Columbia or Saskatchewan ridings.

Some doubt exists in regard to the two Algomas and Nippising in northern Ontario. The lists for these districts are coming in, but there is a prospect of numerous appeals against the action of the Liberals in herding men into the bush polls from the construction camps of the national transcontinental railroad. This may be used as a pretext for the deferring of the elections in these ridings.

Hearst to the Rescue.

Pre-reciprocity interests in the United States have placed men in the fort to assist in the Laurier campaign. W. R. Hearst has a man in Montreal writing lurid stories of alleged anti-reciprocity help from the United States trusts. These stories are being printed in the Hearst papers, which in turn are sent into Canada. Copies of the so-called Canadian edition of the Boston American are being given away freely in Ottawa today, containing the wholly unfounded dream story of lavish expenditure of American trust money by Conservative candidates in close constituencies.

The intention is clearly to influence the Canadian electors, but the story is so evidently grotesque as to defeat its purpose, and no interference is probable on that account. A campaign of this sort under the Canadian act is illegal.

Hon. Clifford Sifton, after his tour in the Maritime provinces, comes back to Ontario. He speaks in Ottawa on the 5th, with W. T. White, first vice president of the National Trust company, and one of the eighteen Toronto Liberals in revolt on the reciprocity issue. Mr. Sifton then goes to North Lanark, Cobourg, Oshawa, Weston; Aylmer, Stratford, Port Hope and Windsor.

Henri Bourassa is still suffering from his throat trouble, and may not be able to do any more campaign work this week.

Sir James Whitney announces the receipt of a letter from an old time Liberal, Senator James McMullen, of Mount Forest, endorsing his stand against reciprocity. Many other Liberals are joining the reciprocity ranks, and some of them are taking the stump against the government. It is now said that there are only ten seats at the most in Ontario which may be classed as safe for the Liberals.

Hon. Mr. Graham's troubles in Brockville are increasing. Cheese in the district is selling at good prices, and holds well above the level of the prices across the boundary. In their efforts to get over this difficulty, the Liberals are accusing Montreal Conservatives of boosting the price. In the same district it is said that more money was sent out to offer the farmers higher prices for hay for delivery after the passage of the reciprocity agreement.

Edward Kidd was nominated by Carleton Conservatives today.

SHOT ENDS LIFE OF MR. D. T. FERGUSON

Body Found in Stateroom of Princess Victoria as Boat Arrives at Dock Last Evening

Lying upon the berth in a stateroom of the Princess Victoria the dead body of Mr. D. T. Ferguson, formerly a merchant of Kenora, Ont., but for the past six months a resident at times of Victoria and Vancouver, was discovered just as the steamer drew into her dock here last evening. A bullet wound in the left breast and a revolver, a 38-cal. automatic, lying on the berth with one cartridge empty, indicated that death was due to deceased's own act.

Mr. Ferguson boarded the steamer at Vancouver to come to Victoria. He engaged a stateroom and was little seen by other passengers. Just when the shot was fired does not appear certain. None of the passengers or crew, it is said, heard any report. As the vessel was approaching the dock the wireless operator was passing the staterooms and glancing into the open window of one of them he saw someone lying back upon the bed. The attitude struck him as peculiar and he notified one of the officers, who investigated. Mr. Ferguson was quite dead when discovered.

The late Mr. Ferguson, who was about fifty years of age, was for years a prominent jeweller at Kenora, but ill health induced him to take up his residence on this coast. He frequently travelled back and forth between Vancouver and this city. He leaves a wife and family in Kenora and a brother in Winnipeg. Friends here last night notified them of the occurrence. The body is lying at the rooms of the Victoria Undertaking company. It will be shipped to Kenora for burial subsequent to the inquest.

MALAHAT DRIVE TO BE WIDENED

Public Works Department Arranges for Improvements to Popular Scenic Drive in Victoria's Vicinity

Arrangements are being made by the provincial department of public works for the widening of certain portions of the new Malahat Drive (more generally known still as the Mill Bay road) especially at the end nearest Goldstream and more particularly as it traverses the mimic canyon of that pretty brooklet and ascends from the Flats. It is also the intention of the department in future, where gravel is taken from roadside pits, to have the extra road way thus made possible graded so that where roads are narrow these may be adopted as convenient crossing places. Road Superintendent Peatt is now engaged in investigating the most favorable route for a short new road to connect from approximately the 19-Mile Post on the Malahat Drive, with the new side road from Fitzgerald's crossing via Finlay creek, and affect a junction with the old Victoria-Nanaimo trunk road. This it is expected will involve but two or three miles of construction, largely along a side hill, and with a grade far from formidable. By this link a new, shorter and attractive alternative route to Sooke and Shawnigan lakes will be secured, and an attractive look drive provided to Shawnigan and return.

MR. SHEPHERD'S TOUR TRIUMPHANT ONE

Conservative Candidate in the Nanaimo District Addresses Successful Meeting at Salt Spring Island

There was a goodly gathering of electors at the agricultural hall at Ganges Harbor, Salt Spring Island, yesterday afternoon on the occasion of a political meeting in the interests of Mr. Frank H. Shepherd. The Conservative candidate got a very hearty reception, as did also W. H. Hayward, M.P.P., and A. E. McPhillips, K.C., who had journeyed to the island with him.

Mr. Shepherd, taking advantage of the fact that most of those in the audience were farmers and the further fact that the inhabitants of the Gulf islands are dependent for a living upon the success of the farming industry, devoted most of his time to an expose of the illogical position of the Liberals, who say that under reciprocity the farmer will get more for his produce while at the same time the consumers of that produce are told that the cost of living will be materially reduced. The Conservative candidate also dealt with the danger which threatened Canada owing to the desire of the people of the United States to pursue a policy which would ultimately lead to annexation. In this connection he read a number of extracts from some of the leading newspapers of the United States in which a desire for annexation was plainly stated.

Mr. Hayward, a practical farmer, delivered a very instructive address, showing that the farmer, instead of standing to gain under the reciprocity pact, would assuredly suffer a tremendous loss, as the farmers of the neighboring states, would, because of the fact that their fruits and other produce mature earlier than in British Columbia, be able to glut the local markets in this province long before the home farmer would be able to handle his produce. As this would work out, the farmers of the Island would find their local market gone.

That Alien Labor Act.

Mr. McPhillips dealt with the general record of the Laurier government and made many telling points which elicited hearty applause. He drew attention to the duplicity on the part of the administration at Ottawa in evading the provisions of the Alien Labor act and conniving at the entrance to British Columbia of large numbers of men from the neighboring states, who coming to Victoria and Vancouver found themselves in many instances out of work and thus thrown into competition with the workers who made their home at those cities.

Mr. McPhillips also pointed out the dangers which threatened the nationality of the country owing to the insidious attempt of President Taft to get the consent of the people of Canada to a policy which would ultimately lead to absorption into the neighboring republic. He pictured the glorious destiny which awaited the Dominion if the inhabitants would be true to themselves.

The meeting, which was a success in every way from the standpoint of the Conservative cause, closed with cheers for Mr. R. L. Borden, Hon. R. McBride and the candidate.

OPENS NEW WARD AT NANAIMO HOSPITAL

Hon. Dr. H. E. Young Officiates at an Interesting Ceremony—Hon. Thomas Taylor's Mission to Agassiz

Both Hon. Dr. Young and Hon. Thomas Taylor returned to the Capital yesterday, the former from Nanaimo and Duncan and the latter from Agassiz. On Thursday evening the Provincial Secretary, who is head also of the Health and Educational Departments, took a principal part in the ceremonies incidental to the formal opening of the new Alexander Young Ward of the Nanaimo General Hospital, which ward serves as a perpetual memorial to the Minister's late estimable father, Rev. Alexander Young, who for some years was a resident and useful citizen of Nanaimo.

The new ward conforms to the general architectural design of the hospital proper and contains ultra-modern accommodation for ten patients. In addressing the large and interesting gathering at the opening, Hon. Dr. Young paid high compliment to the efficiency and zeal of the hospital staff, especially commenting with pleasure upon the high qualification for her position, the tact, and the infinite patience of Miss Miller, the matron, who in her difficult position would be a tower of strength to any hospital. In the course of the evening's proceedings, the Minister also had the pleasure of presenting their diplomas to four just-graduate nurses, these being the Misses McArdle, Munroe, McFadden and Stainsby.

Friday was spent by Hon. Dr. Young at Duncan, where, in his capacity of Minister of Education, he formally opened the new high school, erected by the Province at a cost of approximately $4,825 upon a site generously donated by the Rev. Mr. Holmes to assist the education cause. The social arrangements for the afternoon were in the hands of the ladies of the community, and the event was exceedingly pleasureable, addresses being delivered by the Reeve, by Principal Phelps, Inspector Gordon, Mr. Smeares, Mr. Green and Rev. Mr. Holmes and by W. H. Hayward, M. P. P., and Hon Dr. Young.

In the course of his address, Deputy Speaker Hayward announced his generous intention to present a medal to the schoool for annual competition and to reward superlative rating in deportment and discipline, its object being to stimulate the cultivation of unfailing courtesy and consideration. Hon. Dr. Young also announced the readiness of the Department to grant an additional sum of $250 for the laying of suitable cemt floors in the indoor playground.

Hon. Mr. Taylor's mission to Agassiz was to officiate at the opening of the new two-room school there, the proceedings being both pleasant and interesting and being joined in by Messrs. W. J. Manson and Alexander Lucas, M's. P. P., in addition to the Minister of Works.

JAPANESE STEAMER WILL BRING SUGAR

Tramp Carrying Cargo From Formosa to British Columbia—Kish en Route From Java.

A Japanese steamer has been chartered to bring a cargo of sugar from Formosa to Vancouver for the refinery there and she has been chartered for this purpose by the firm of Suzuki & company of Kobe. The cargo will amount to about 3,000 tons and will be loaded in January-February next. It is seldom Formosa sugar finds its way to Vancouver as most of the cargoes come from Java, with occasional shipments from Mauritius, British Guinea or Peru.

There is one steamer on passage from Java. This is the British steamer Kish, which sailed from Java on August 23. After discharging her sugar cargo, the Kish will load lumber at Hastings mill for Australia and New Zealand under charter to the Union Steamship company of New Zealand.

Sailors Rescue Comrade.

While one of the pinnaces of H. M. C. S. Rainbow was towing a boat from the wharf to the vessel at Vancouver on Friday one of the sailors fell overboard. The launch at once let go her tow and went to the rescue of the man in the water. Life-buoys were thrown to him, but he was evidently unable to reach them. At last two other seamen jumped overboard and held him above water till the crew of the launch picked them all up.

SUGGESTS BASIS OF SETTLEMENT

City and V. & S. Railway Company May Yet Reach Amicable Arrangement in Suit Now Under Way

If the suggestion made at a conference between the city solicitor, the attorney general and officials of the Great Northern railway, held on Friday at Vancouver, is adopted by the city council, the executive council, the head authorities of the railway company, the long standing dispute between the city and provincial government on the one hand and the Victoria and Sidney Railway company on the other, will be brought to an amicable conclusion. While no definite agreement was formulated at this conference, and in fact the suggestion embodying the results of the meeting, are purely tenative the matter, as presented to the city council at last night's session of that body, appeared to be received with favor by some members of the board. To permit, however, of full discussion, the council will hold a special session next Tuesday evening when the definite action to be taken will be decided upon.

The city and government guaranteed bonds of the company eighteen and one-half years ago to the amount of five per cent, the city to the extent of $9,000 a year and the government, $6,000. The guarantee has yet six and one-half years to run. The company undertook to meet interest on these bonds when its net earnings exceeded operating expenses, but it has always claimed that until this year, expenses exceeded net earnings.

Recently the city, convinced that the company's earnings were in excess of expenditures, sued to recover about $170,000 paid out as interest to the bond holders and the government has signified its intention of suing for the $100,000 paid out in like manner.

Shows Surplus

The city solicitor informed the council last evening that as a result of the Vancouver conference, the company's solitor admitted the company has for the past three years earned about $49,000 over operating expenses though the government auditor has given it as his opinion that the company has been showing a surplus since 1905.

It was suggested that the city and government should not insist on repayment of the interest charges for those years in which the company's earnings were less than operating expenses, but that the city and government is entitled to a first charge on everything over that limit and that the company should immediately pay that amount, to be fixed by audit. The city would thus secure about $22,000 plus the [illegible] paid for this year's interest charges. In return the city would relinquish its claim to the $170,000 and get an undertaking that nothing further should be paid by the city for the remaining six and one-half years, the company paying it, an amount of $57,000. In fact the total saved to the city would probably run to at least $100,000.

The city solicitor stated the Great Northern officials would arrive in the city next Tuesday, when the matter could be closed up if the council so desired. There would be no trouble for the city to secure judgment against the company for the $170,000, but how would it be enforced? One portion of the line, that within the city, is owned by the Victoria Terminal Railway and Ferry company, which does not come within the arrangement. The other portion of the road without terminals would not be worth much to the city. On the other hand the bondholders might step in and secure the road and sell out to some other company, or the city might secure control and sell out but in the latter case he (the solicitor) doubted if the city would secure any more for the property that the company is now apparently willing to pay.

The mayor favored enforcing the claim the city already has for the amount already disbursed for interest charges.

Alderman Bishop congratulated the solicitor on solving a difficult legal tangle. He advocated accepting the suggested compromise.

It was decided, however, to hold the special meeting when the whole matter could be fully discussed.

GOVERNMENT FIGHTS BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

A report has been received by the provincial department of agriculture from Drs. A. Knight and S. A. S. White, provincial veterinary inspectors, who have recently been conducting thorough tests among the dairy herds of the districts adjacent to Victoria for bovine tuberculosis. The veterinary inspection work, it is pleasant to note, is progressing very satisfactorily, and it is encouraging that the movement is now meeting with the hearty support of the owners of dairy herds. It is the aim of the department to improve as rapidly as possible sanitary conditions in dairy stables on dairy farms, in order that the conditions generally may be known about whereby a more wholesome supply may be obtained for public benefit. In provincial dairy reports dairies are graded into four classes according to the sanitary conditions found on the farms by the provincial veterinary inspectors. The appendix reports give the names of the breeders together with addresses and the grade in each case under which the dairy is entered:

Grade B

Bishop & Clarke, Sidney, 47 head; J. B. Knowles, Sidney, 36 head; J. Bradley-Dyne, Sidney, 13 head; E. & T. Raper, Victoria, 90 head; R. Townshend, Foul Bay road, 16 head; Braefort Farm, Cedar Hill, 26 head.

Grade D

J. Nicholson, Cedar Hill, 80 head; J. Bull, Royal Oak, 12 head.

BULLET ENDS OF NEW

Thomas Mullahy, in Room at Rock With a Revolver His Hand

Lying on his bed in Rock Bay hotel, with a the forehead and a revo the right hand, the dead Mullahy, a recent arr was discovered yesterd 10 o'clock by the landlad ry who entered the roo tention of making up t the position of the bod roundings it was appare had taken his own lif are unknown. Little wa other than that it wa came here to work as a He had spoken to seve dents at the hotel and impression that that From documents found upon the person of the apparent that he came Bellingham, several re recently paid to the O in that place having be

When the body was police were notified and can took charge of t dering their removal Undertaking parlors, Ya

The deceased was las nesday evening about 8 bid several of the hotel night. He appeared in gave no indication that ending his own existe man of about 40 years his demeanor and of a An inquest will be held 4 o'clock by which time to learn from Bellingha his antecedents.

Because he failed to pearance to serve upon was yesterday empanell the circumstances surro of Thomas Mullaly, fo room at the Rock Bay h morning, death having a bullet wound in the Quagliotti, summoned as fined $3 by Coroner H often that Dr. Hart inf ty for the non-appears man or for late appea the jury was forced to teen minutes and Mr. Q appear the coroner levi the same time remarkin individual is summoned jury he must be in at hour set.

The investigation int Mullaly resulted in a took his own life whil spondency. Evidence w Ellen Holder, proprietr Bay hotel, who went to about 10 o'clock on T to do up the room. As sponse to her knock door and saw Mullaly bed dead, a bullet wo and a revolver grasped Deceased had been a place for about two we been working since his so far as Mrs. Holde been drinking to exces

Police Constable Du by Mrs. Holden, stat lying upon his bed dre ception of his coat. Th ed through the right on the left side of th of the six cartridges in been discharged. A r paid the Bellingham l fellows indicated that been in that city as There were no signs of sum of thirty cents w found in deceased's cl

Neil Jensen, a roon also gave evidence of parent sobriety while hotel.

The jury was com John Dilworth (forema James Curtis, R. E. Slugget, and W. J. Cla

The police, who tele B. Pitman, secretary o lodge of Oddfellows, b by him to hold the bod instructions.

OBJECT TO SU

City Council Requested All Unnecessa On Sabb

Complaining of the manual labor has bee contractors' employee principally in connecti las Road sea wall and on Belleville street a Empress Hotel, a pe nearly 200 persons ha to the city council works other than th nature, be stpped on S tition was considered meeting of the city

Alderman H. M. Fu the petition be grant Morley pointed out t little difficult to deal city had the foresig contract works that should be permitted, coming under the Lo action could only be of the Attorney Gene

Alderman Gleason weeks ago the emplo and Mineral Rubber working on Sunday the company stopped bor and he believed building the sea wall if requested.

Aldermen Ross an out that the sea wall be rushed in order weather and tides ca tage of and Sunday undoubtedly a necess