WORKINGMEN ENDORSE THE GOVERNMENT

(Continued from Page One.)

was made by Travis Barker, who gave a glowing eulogy of the Rutherford government, who had proved themselves the friends of the people in all of their legislation of the past three and a half years. Mr. Barker made an eloquent plea for the working men of the city to support the administration by giving their enthusiastic assistance to the Hon. Mr. Cross and John A. McDougall.

The Attorney-General.

Mr. Cross on rising to face the audience was greeted with prolonged cheers and the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

"Mr. President of the Trades and Labor Council, and members of the various labor unions in the city of Edmonton," said Mr. Cross, "it affords me a great deal of pleasure to be present tonight and to speak of some of the legislation of the Rutherford government which is of especial interest to you.

"Tonight, in this city and not very far away from this very hall is gathered together a body of twenty or thirty men who represent organized capital in this part of the Province, and who are now endeavoring to devise means to defeat me in this campaign. Tonight I want to speak to you and tell you why this organization is using every effort to drive me from political life.

"All over the province of Alberta, and I have travelled over a great part of it in the past few weeks, in the factories, in the mines, on the railways, in every workshop are men gathered together discussing the Workmen's Compensation Act. And these employees are asking themselves why organized capital, why these men who represent the employers of the country, are coming to the government and holding the pistol to their heads in order to secure a repeal of this legislation.

"I want first to explain why I introduced and why the government passed this legislation, and why I intend to stand by the Workmen's Compensation Act until I am defeated at the polls.

"What is this Workmen's Compensation Act? I always prefer to call it The Workmen's Insurance Act because it gives insurance to every workman in the province; because it gives protection to the wives and children of the workmen of this province. It gives protection to the lives and limbs of every workman engaged in every mine, factory or workshop of Alberta. It represents advanced labor legislation in its highest form.

"I cannot understand the criticism of the people who condemn the Workmen's Compensation Act by saying that it is labor legislation. Of course it is labor legislation of the most advanced kind passed for the benefit of the workingman."

Why the Act Was Passed.

Mr. Cross then went on to explain the incidents that led up to the passing of the Workmen's Compensation Act. Two years ago strikes were prevalent in all parts of the province and capital and labor were engaged in a disastrous strife. The Rutherford government appointed a coal commission headed by Chief Justice Sifton to make an investigation of existing conditions. This commission went to all parts of the province and they brought in a report after exhaustive investigation recommending the passing of a Workmen's Compensation Act.

"It is said in the Conservative press that the Workmen's Compensation Act has not received due consideration by the government, that it was hurriedly passed and is immature. But I want to say to you that we have given it long and serious consideration. The act was brought in in the legislature the session before last and was thoroughly discussed by both employers and employees.

"The employers of labor were then told that it was only a question of insurance of their labor. The employers had a year to make their preparations, but now they come and say that the Workmen's Compensation Act is hasty legislation. It is just the opposite, for the government had considered it long and the employers were given almost a year to make preparation for it to come into force in the province." (Applause.)

Condition of Employee Before Act.

Mr. Cross instanced the condition of the employee before the act. Supposing a train crew were running down the C.N.R. or the C.P.R. and owing to a broken rail all were killed. There was no recourse for the dependents of those killed but a common law action with long delays, large law costs and probably no redress in the end.

Another case which was a striking commentary on the former state of affairs had occurred in Edmonton. An employee had been killed in an Edmonton factory. The breadwinner of the factory had left his home in the morning strong and hearty and had been brought back in the evening a mangled corpse. No one was present when the acident occurred. It just happened for no apparent reason. The only person who knew about it was dead. The widow was not able to recover one cent. It didn't matter if the machinery was defective, she had no case at law and so she could not recover damages. In England this kind of accident has been thoroughly investigated and Joseph Chamberlain has said that workmen's families are not able to recover in more than 20 per cent of the cases. And so in Alberta up till the first of January of this year, only twenty out of every hundred workmen injured or killed could secure compensation at law, and even when it was secured it was at the sacrifice of much money in law costs.

"The courts of course gave a right of action, but all that the widow usually got was a big bill of costs. In the Edmonton case referred to the woman and her children were for a long time kept by the churches and other charitable institutions of the city. Is that right, is it fair to the working men?" (Chorus of voices, "No," "no.")

"We who oelieve in the Workmen's Compensation Act say that the industries that may take away the lives and limbs of the workingmen should pay the cost of protection for these lives and limbs.

"The great objection in the past to the old common law recourse was that the legislation was so costly that little could be secured as the result of a law suit. A few years ago an employee named Hanson, now living in Stettler, was injured while working on the C. P.R., and it was only after two years and a half that he secured damages. Recently since the Workmen's Compensation Act came into force a man was killed at Calgary, and in three days the railway paid $2,800 to his widow.

"Why did the railway company do this? Because they saw that the woman could recover $1,800 at once under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and that there was also a common law liability, so they at once made a settlement for $2,800 in all. The employers of labor seek to cut out the common law liability. But every man should have his right under the common law despite any other enactment. Is it not in the interest of the workingman that they should have an expeditious and ready way of securing damages apart from lengthy legal suits that may take place if they go to the courts?

"The theory of the Workmen's Compensation Act is that every dangerous industry should pay for the lives and limbs of those who are killed and injured while employed at that work. Those who believe in the Workmen's Compensation Act say that the cost of protection should be charged against the goods in the manufacture of which the employee may be engaged."

A Case in Point.

Mr. Cross instanced a case in the city of Edmonton where a business man had a business of $40,000 a year. Part of this was made up of the cost of production, part in insurance against fire, and part was allotted to profit. Those who believe in the Workmen's Compensation Act say that the cost of insurance of life and limb should be also charged against the business, which in the case referred to would amount to the small sum of $140. Last year this man's business amounted to $40,000. This year he will have to provide for $40,140. The people of the city who do business with him will have in this connection to pay what is really a tax of one and a half or two cents a year as a result of the insurance of the lives and limbs of all the employees engaged.

Mr. Cross spoke strongly on the case of a coal operator who had asked to be relieved of his contract to supply coal to the city of Edmonton because of the hardships of the Workmen's Compensation Act. The city council should not have let this man out of his contract unless he had better reasons than that the Workmen's Compensation Act was to blame. The coal operators say that they can't get insurance, but they can, and it is only a matter of the price to be paid. Now the government is trying to provide cheaper insurance than at present obtainable.

"But to go back to the coal operators," continued Mr. Cross. "I want to say that it costs only three or three and a half cents per ton of coal to provide for insurance. And I will say that the people of Alberta would be glad to pay 50 cents more if they were assured that the wives and children are fully protected.

Will Reduce Accidents.

"But there is another effect. The accidents will be reduced by 60 per cent by compelling greater care. And this legislation that saves 60 per cent of the lives and limbs of the employees of Alberta is the kind for which I have no defence and for which I and the government of Alberta will stand. (Prolonged applause.)

"If we could get all those injured in the mines, on the railways, in the factories of this province together for the people to see, there would be mighty little opposition to the Workmen's Compensation Act in the future." (Applause.)

The Act Itself Explained.

Mr. Cross then took up the Workmen's Compensation Act itself, explaining it fully to the large audience. He quoted the main clause, section 3 of the act, showing how it worked automatically.

"Our opponent, Mr. Ewing," he said, "has said that the Workmen's Compensation Act will produce litigation. Such is not true. It settles cases, as the case in Calgary several weeks ago before referred to was settled, and as it settled a case in Fernie, where the families of two miners killed received their compensation a few days after the accident. What a contrast to a recent case in Coleman before the Workmen's Compensation Act came into force, where the legal suit resulted in $700 more costs than the damages awarded.

"Let me take up some of the arguments against the Workmen's Compensation Act. Some employers say that the Act is not in the interests of the employees, and they also contend that it is not in their own interests. Whose interests can it be in then?"

Some had said that the Act discriminated against a married man, but Mr. Cross read the description of a "dependent," which made almost every employee come under the $1,800 instead of the $200 clause. Time and again he had challenged the employers of the city to produce a man who did not come under one of those heads. And a living example had not yet been found. (Laughter and applause.)

The Star Criticism.

"Then we have the other star criticism of Mr. Ewing that the Act does not apply to the bankrupt employer of labor that has not taken out insurance. Note all the conditions. He must be bankrupt and he must not have taken out insurance. There is some truth in this criticism, but it is not a criticism of the Workmen's Compensation Act, but a criticism of the condition previous to its passage. Still, in a case of bankruptcy, the employee or his dependants have the first claim."

Mr. Cross stated that he had studied the Workmen's Compensation Act as it had been worked out in Great Britain and Germany and he found that such cases of bankruptcy and no insurance were only one in 1,000. But he pointed out that the Workmen's Compensation Act was only yet in its infancy, and if found that there were many cases of this kind the government would bring in a Compulsory Insurance Act. But, in the meantime, he pointed out that in Europe there was only one in 1,000 and that was not a very serious aspect.

"Another objection is the 30-foot limit. This Alberta Act is a copy of the legislation brought in in Great Britain in 1897, and then there was the 30-foot limit. In British Columbia it is a 40-foot limit. This section does not mean, however, that a man must fall 30 feet. He may fall in the basement or he may only fall a foot.

"Why do you not cut out the 30-foot limit?" one in the audience asked.

"Educate the people to this end and I think the suggestion will be received by the government," replied Mr. Cross, amid applause.

Will Get Favorable Consideration.

"Again I will say, 'educate the people,' for you have a good cause," he continued, "and I am sure you will receive the most favorable consideration from the Alberta government."

"The leader of the Opposition in the Legislature has said that this legislation is crude legislation. In answer to that, I say that the model was drafted in the mother of parliaments, that of Great Britain, and if that legislation is crude, I am perfectly satisfied that it should be called such.

"Then opponents of this act are saying that it is unconstitutional legislation. If this be true let them go to the courts and find out if this law can be taken off the statute books of the province.

"Mr. Ewing has endorsed the so-called Workmen's Compensation Act of one of the western States of the United States. But President Roosevelt, in his last presidential address, said that one of the defects of the United States is that they cannot bring in an Act similar to the British Workmen's Compensation Act. This illustrates Mr. Ewing's knowledge of the subject.

"It has been said that the Workmen's Compensation Act is class legislation. I have been a Liberal all my life and its doctrines are not in favor of class legislation. This is not class legislation, but legislation in favor of every part of the community, because it helps the employer as well as the employee and the general public by bringing peace between capital and labor.

Bitter Opposition of Employers.

Mr. Cross next took up the circular of the Central Employers' Association, signed by A. C. Wetmore, secretary of the association, a body of men who have banded themselves together to defeat the Attorney General. He read the extract where it was urged that the members use their utmost endeavors to put Mr. Cross, the author of the Act, out of political life. The speaker denounced the circulation of this letter as one of the most barefaced acts by capitalists to defeat a candidate that had ever come to his notice.

"These men say that organized labor is no good, and I want you gentlemen, representing every labor union in the city, to say by your votes whether you endorse this legislation or not, and whether the cause of labor shall triumph or be defeated.

"This legislation is of benefit to the employers as well as the employees, and in five years' time they will be as grateful as the workmen are. For one of the great aims of the Workmen's Compensation Act is to bring peace throughout the province between workmen and capital.

"But the employers of labor are attacking me not alone because of the Workmen's Compensation Act. They are attacking me indirectly because in my capacity as attorney general it was my duty to prosecute the lumber combine. In the Bulletin of today is a letter signed 'John Macdonald, of D. R. Fraser Co., Ltd., One of the members of the Employers' Association,' and in it he says:

It matters little as to who the members of the Employers' Association may be, whether persecuted lumbermen, contractors, or other employers of labor.

"I change the word 'persecuted' to 'prosecuted.' These gentlemen were not 'persecuted,' they were 'prosecuted,' because they had violated the criminal law of the land and were amenable to it as other violators are. And it was because of this prosecution that today they are endeavoring to drive me from political life. I say that it does matter who the Employers' Association are, and I want the public to know that they are largely lumbermen who were prosecuted for illegally carrying on their business in Alberta. This is another reason why they are determined to drive me from political life."

Mr. Cross went on to say that he would cancel any engagement he had to meet these employers and discuss every clause of the Workmen's Compensation Act fully before a public audience. He pointed out that D. R. Fraser, an estimable citizen and a respected alderman, for one was paying out five or ten times as much yearly for charity, due to accidents around his factory, as he would have to pay for insurance to his employees.

Mr. Bennett an Enemy of Labor.

Mr. Cross made a reference to some of the legislation of the Northwest Territories passed while R. B. Bennett, of Calgary, and Dr. Brett, the leader of the Conservatives in this election, were in the Territorial legislature. Mr. Bennett had brought in an act protecting the railways and the large employers of labor, and later in the same session introduced a resolution, not lessening the time of workingmen, but repealing the eight hour law, which was then on the statute books. He (Mr. Bennett) then said he did not think eight hours was long enough for miners to work. He did not think that coal mining was any more dangerous than other employments and it was his opinion that the shop girls of Calgary should be given an eight hour day if the miners had one. By his efforts the eight hour day was repealed and did not come into force again until brought in by the Alberta Government Act, which came into effect in March of this year. Then Mr. Bennett introduced an act to imprison a man for debt if he owed less than $400, but if he was a rich man and owed more than $400 nothing could be done to him.

"I have only introduced this," Mr. Cross said, "to show Mr. Bennett's and the Conservative party's part in legislation for the benefit of the workmen of the country.

Mr. Cross, in closing, pointed out that a vote for Mr. Ewing is a vote for the Central Employers' Association organized for the express purpose of repealing the Workmen's Compensation Act and putting the Attorney General out of business. "I want you, gentlemen, as organized labor in this city, to teach organized capital a good lesson on the 22nd March next. (Prolonged cheers.) If you have men coming to you and telling you that the Workmen's Compensation Act is not in the interests of the labor men of the province, tell them that I will meet them on the platform, will cancel any engagement that I may have, and discuss the Act at any time from now on till election. I want you, gentlemen, on the 22nd to give Mr. McDougall and myself, who are the friends of the Workmen's Compensation Act, every Labor vote in the city in the best interests of yourselves and of the country."

William MacAdams, president of the Typographical Union, submitted a resolution passed by that body asking that the union label be placed on all government printing.

Mr. Cross, in answer to a question as to his attitude, stated: "As far as I am concerned, as a member of the government, I pledge myself to use every effort to have the resolution carried out." (Great applause.)

A Union Man Speaks.

Jos. W. Adair followed with an exceptionally able address. He said that the labor men were thankful to the Central Employers' Association, because by their opposition to the Workmen's Compensation Act they had given a better organization to the working men of this city. The appreciation shown of the Workmen's Compensation Act was measured by the ethical development of the individual. The people of all the world came to this country to better their conditions and one of the means of doing this was by such legislation as the Workmen's Compensation Act. One of the greatest causes of poverty was the loss of the bread winner of the family. By this Act the widows and children of the workmen and mechanics killed by accident were protected.

In answer to a question as to why the 30-foot clause was not eliminated, Mr. Adair explained that it was retained for the present to protect the small contractor, who found it almost impossible to obtain insurance at the present time. He made an eloquent plea for the sympathy of all workmen to the Act, which would, in the next few years, be made one of the most perfect acts in existence.

Candidate McDougall.

John A. McDougall was received with singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" and hearty cheers. After what had been said by Mr. Cross and Mr. Adair, all that need be said was that he was a supporter of the Rutherford government and Mr. Cross, who had introduced that Act. Many prominent Conservatives were supporting Mr. Cross and himself, believing that the government had done good work and should not be opposed merely for the sake of opposition. He quoted an article from the Victoria Colonist, a strong Conservative paper, supporting the Rutherford government. So Conservatives, not alone in Alberta, but in other parts of Canada, were endorsing good government. He read several extracts from this highly complimentary article. He closed with a strong plea for the triumphant return of the Rutherford government in the best interests of the province.

A. A. Healey Speaks.

Mr. Healey said that it was well known that in politics he was entirely independent. He said he remembered that some months ago Dr Clarke, in delivering a lecture, and quoting Henry George, said "Labour produced all wealth." The workers knew that quite well and also knew what share they received of it. When he first saw this Employers' Association letter it reminded him of that quotation, and he pointed out that these men were the leeches that would suck the very life blood away from the workers. That letter was signed by a gentleman who was also secretary of the Master Builders' Exchange, and he said it was from such men as these that labor could seldom get a square deal and strikes were caused. The speaker said that before the Conservative party could honestly say they were on the side of the workers it was up to them to give an explanation as to who was responsible for the circulation of a petition in their club-rooms against the Compensation Act and the signing of it by boys in that building. He called the attention of his audience to the fact that the Red Deer Conservative Convention only outlined briefly the plank in their platform and left it to a local gentleman to fix up, and that person had called upon the speaker's services to aid him to that end. Mr. Healey said it was pretty evident the Conservative party did not know the requirements of the workers. It was not his intention to have mentioned this matter, but the campaign against the Attorney General had reached such a stage that he deemed it necessary.

During Mr. Healey's address he was interrupted by one of the audience, in the rear of the hall, who evidently did not stand in the good graces of the Labor Council.

"If you would show as great zeal in the business of the labor unions as you do in trying to interrupt this meeting it would be better for the cause of labor," said the speaker, and his reply was greeted with loud applause.

Mr. Healey then moved the resolution of appreciation of the labor legislation of the Rutherford government and pledging support, especially to the Attorney General, in his work on behalf of the cause of labor. It was seconded by E. H. Garrison in a brief but pointed speech and being put to the meeting was carried amid cheers by a standing vote.

Big Labor Employer Speaks.

Charles May, one of the largest employers of labor in Alberta, gave a brief address. He favored the Compensation Act. As he had stated before, he had worked at his trade as a journeyman for over 20 years. Now his firm was employing from 50 to 600 men, and he was always in favor of protecting his men, and such protection was afforded by the Workmen's Compensation Act. He had always found that he could get more from his men when he paid them right and used them right. He asked the labor men to support the Rutherford government and Mr. Cross and Mr. McDougall in their efforts on behalf of the laboring men.

This ended the speech-making, but a few musical numbers followed. The program given during the evening included quartets by the Liberal Club Quartet; recitations by P. Dunn and W. W. Howe; songs by Norman Plummer, F. Holmes Wright, Alfred McIsaac and Howard Stutchbury, and a violin solo by Mr. McMahon. It was almost midnight when the meeting, from whom hardly any of the audience had departed, broke up with singing of the National Anthem and cheers for Cross and McDougall.

PROPOSED NEW BRIDGE BETWEEN TWIN CITIES

(Continued from Page One.)

bill and from there turn easterly on the same route as described for the Sixth street crossing. The deck of the bridge would be on a level with the flats above the E. Y. & P. railway, which latter railway would be low enough to give an overhead clearance. The viaduct on the Strathcona side would be short, consisting of but two plate girder spans. The river crossing would consist of two 275 feet deck spans, with the upper deck at an elevation of 100 feet above low water mark. The Strathcona viaduct would extend up Third street west for a distance of about 1,700 feet, and on an average elevation above the ground of 75 feet, making a total length of 2,330 feet. Traffic from Edmonton would approach this crossing by passing down Seventh street, crossing Saskatchewan avenue on a bridge. Connection could be made with the Saskatchewan avenue street car line by the latter passing down the lane between Sixth and Seventh streets and connecting on Calgary avenue with the Seventh street crossing.

Two schemes are proposed for the construction of this bridge.

The First Scheme.

This would be similor to that proposed for Sixth street with the difference that the elevation of the deck of the viaduct is some 75 feet from the ground on the Strathcona flats and would require a vamp using a 7 per cent grade, 1,200 feet in length to reach the bridge deck from the flats. This would hardly be warranted as the distance from the point where the saw mill traffic would originate to where the deck of the bridge would strike the hill and where traffic could enter would be but 1,600 feet, while the brick yard traffic would not have its haul materially lengthened.

The Second Scheme.

The second scheme which provides for an upper and lower traffic deck is similar to Sixth street crossing except that the vamp from the lower deck at the Strathcona end would have to rise about 25 feet, and using a 7 per cent grade would be about 250 feet in length; while at the Edmonton end a cut would be required from the E. Y. & P. railway to about Calgary avenue to bring vehicular traffic up to the street level or otherwise this traffic could cross the railway at Sixth street and come round on the river side of the track. There might be a little trouble with the bank on the Edmonton side of this crossing as on account of springs the top soil has a tendency to slide on the lower strata. This, however, could be taken care of so as not to give any future trouble.

When the business arising from the Strathcona flats will warrant it, track connection could be made with the south end of the viaduct of either crossing and extended down to the flats for the purpose of hauling freight which may originate at this point.

The total cost of the first structure would be $456,000 and of the second $500,000. The cost of a structure similar to the third scheme for Sixth street bridge would be $278,000.

Should any of these schemes be decided upon and the work of construction started by July or August next the bridge could be fisished by a year later. The foundation work on the viaducts at both sides of the river could be completed before the cold weather sets in and the river work completed during the winter, while the following spring and summer the balance of the steel and timber work could be erected and the floors laid and the entire work completed.

Either of these bridges would shorten the route of the street car line from Jasper and First street to C. P. R. Strathcona station from four miles to 2.8 miles.

Surveys were also made with a view to a possible crossing at the foot of either Fourth or Fifth streets in the city of Edmonton. These surveys serve to show that the only type of crossing possible at either of those points was a low level and for this the cost of the river crossing foundations and steel superstructure would be approximately the same as a high level bridge. The saving in energy consequent in not having to go up and down long grades would, however, not be secured.

Testing the Aerodrome.

Baddeck, N.S., March 10—Mr. D. McCurdy, made two flights this morning in the aerodrome "Silver Dart," aggregating about nineteen miles in all. The flights took place over the ice on the Bras D'or Lake along a measured course in a straight line of four miles. This route is marked at half mile intervals by spruce trees planted in the ice and passes through the harbor at Baddeck. The engine was removed this afternoon from McCurdy's Silver Dart and experiments will now be resumed with Dr. Bell's tetrahedral aerodrome "Cygnet Second," the fifth aerodrome built by the aerial experiment association.

DEADLOCK IS NEAR IN BALKAN IMBROGLIO

Austria Refuses to Allow Outside Inherference Between Her and Servia—Is Playing a Skilful Game—Trying to Make Servia Fall Into Her Arms Without Provoking War

London, March 12.—It is necessary to warn distant observers of the great game that Europe is playing over the Balkan situation that the high optimism of the last few days is as much out of place now as the black pessimism of a week or a fortnight tgo.

Servia, in response to Russia's friendly appeal, definitely withdrew her claims for a territorial concession and for the autonomy of Bosnia and Herzegovina, or, rather, she announced her willingness to submit in all respects to the decision of a European conference touching all her interests, but this concession was just as suddenly cancelled.

The news of her surrender was received in Vienna with secret chagrin and irritation. Austria has never given her full consent to a European conference over the effect of her action of last November. She expressed a willingness at the height of the crisis to submit the question of the annexation of the two provinces to the formal ratification of a conference, providing such action was agreed to in advance by an exchange of notes by the signatories of the Berlin Treaty, but nothing more.

It has come to be tacitly understood by the powers during the time that has since elapsed that it was not worth while to summon a conference for such a purpose. Austria has recently made it known in emphatic terms that there is nothing between her and Servia which in any respect concerns the other powers. She again made her position clear in this regard today by inviting Servia to notify the Vienna Government officially of her peaceful intentions in the same terms as the Servian reply to Russia's note, intimating that negotiations might then be begun over questions of trade and intercourse.

The effect of this action is likely to be fresh trouble, for this is practically a demand that Servia shall abandon her appeal to the powers and throw herself unreservedly upon Austrian mercy. No Servian ministry could make this important surrender at the present moment and live. Moreover, Austria's motives in giving the situation such a turn are open to the gravest suspicions. Slav patience, which is never a very reliable quantity, may give way without waiting for the intervention of the powers at Vienna, and then Austria might gain what apparently is her secret wish, an excuse for crushing Servia.

Even if the Servian authorities remain prudent it is more than doubtful whether the representations which Russia and the western powers will make at Vienna within a few days in favor of a conference will avail anything. Germany's unwilling and restricted consent to join in the conciliatory efforts at Vienna providing that Servia's reply to Russia's note was favorable, really means very little. She will put no pressure whatever upon her ally.

Baron Aerenthal, the Austrian foreign minister, considers that he has an unassailable case in refusing to allow outside interference between Austria and Servia. The situation is, therefore, drifting toward a deadlock, which is more difficult than any that has yet been encountered. The best thing to hope for is that time will mitigate instead of increase the strain.

If the Servian authorities are shrewd enough to see through the game, they will be able to preserve, or, at least, to prolong the independence of the little kingdom. Austria has been playing skillfully for the "moral" position, and she thinks she has gained it. She also seems to believe that by careful tactics, Servia, by her own rashness, will presently fall into her arms without provoking a general European war. Russia fully appreciates the situation, yet she cannot publicly advise Servia to abandon even her demand for a conference and accept the status quo without reserve.

On the other hand, the St. Petersburg government is not in a posiion to adopt the drastic course of notifying Austria that it will defend Servian independence under all circumstances. It is a pretty game and there is plenty of gunpowder still lying around loose, but the influences for peace are as strong as ever. Diplomacy will be able to settle the Austro-Turkish side, and the Turko-Bulgarian feature of the problem ought to be got over without bloodshed.

BRYAN TO AID IN FIGHT

Against Tuberculosis—Will Speak of it During Lectures.

New York, Mar. 12—William J. Bryan announced today that he will join in the fight against the spread of tuberculosis. Mr. Bryan, who was in this city on his way to Newark, N.J., called on Nathan Straus and discussed Mr. Straus' long fight for the prevention of tuberculosis by the Pasteurization of milk.

Mr. Bryan said: "I have been impressed with the spiendid array of facts, vividly shown in the tuberculosis exhibit now in Philadelphia, and I hope that this exhibition will be brought out to the great west, so that the people here can be shown the dangers and the way to overcome the disease by fresh air, healthful habits, cleanliness and the Pasteurization of milk. I hope to use the opportunities that I have in lecturing in various parts of the country to aid in this fight, and particularly to spread the knowledge of the fact that Nathan Straus has demonstrated, namely that milk can be separated from the list of causes of tuberculosis by Pasteurization."

King to See Flying Machines.

Pau, France, March 12—King Edward arrived by motor car from Biarritz this afternoon at the field where the Wright brothers are making their aerial flights. There was al arge crowd present, and much interest is taken in the promised exhibition.

SERVIANS WARRING AMONG THEMSELVES

Peace and War Parties Are in Conflict. House Divided Against Itself Cannot Stand.—The Austrian Cat Ready to Spring.

Budapest, Hungary, March 12—Reports from Belgrade show that the situtiont here has been complicated by a new and dangerous development. The Servian house is divided against itself, the pressure of the foreign powers having produced dissensions among three important forces, the army, the party opposing the dynasty and the press. The army is embittered because it feels that the naitonal prestige is suffering, the element under Dr. Veja Volkovitch, which is opposing the dynasty, is working feverishly against the King, who is unable to cope with the situation and the press has been endangered to the point where it is capable of any indiscretion that chance may offer, even to precipitating war. This dissension, should less attention be paid to military operations, might lead to a revolution. However, the energy of the authorities in preparing for war continues without abatement. Three infantry regiments and a battery of artillery have been sent to Jscar and Negotin, while part of the army has been occupied in adding to the frontier defense by putting up barbed wire entanglements along the Danube, so as to render difficult the landing of hostile troops. Yesterday the entire third division of reservists aged from 38 to 45 years, was called out for training. Sixty tons of smokeless powder has been ordered in Brussels. The refusal of Austria to renew the commercial treaty with Servia is taken as another menace against the Slav race.

Situation Bristles With Difficulties.

Vienna, Austria, March 12—The Servian situation is still obscure and threatening. Baron Aehrenthal, minister of foreign affairs, is indignant at the tone of the Servian note, finding fault especially with the opening words; "In accordance with the friendly council of the Imperial Russian government." This is regarded as showing that Russia has taken Servia under its protection. Some anxiety is displayed here because of the reports that Servia, aided by Russia, is trying to induce the Porte to sell a strip of territory across the Sanjak of Novibaza r for a Servian railway to the Adriatic Sea. Such a project for uplifting Servia Montenegro would meet with the most determined opposition of Austria, which would resort to extreme measures to prevent its completion. Altogether the situation bristles with difficulties which are greatly worrying the diplomats of Europe.

CALAIS LACEMAKERS PROTEST.

Against Proposal to Remove Industry to United States.

Calais, France, March 11—Scenes unprecedented in this city have followed the verification of the report that one or the principal lacemaking firms here has become a member of the American Textile company, which the lace-makers regard as their bitterest enemy. Clamoring crowds blocked the street, shouting demanding the destruction of the factory of Cadoras and Ozanne, the firm in question, and they were so obviously bent on disorder that Mr. Ozanne, an Englishman, who has greatly developed the manufacture of lace in the north of France, had to flee for his life. His idea is that more money is to be made in America by manufacturing lace there than by importing it from France.

"This whole industry," said Mr. Ozanne, before leaving Calais, "was originally English. It was brought from Nottingham 90 years ago, and even now we use English lace-making machines here. Why may we not do so in America? It is this which has made all the trouble. been expelled from the labor associations Our workmen have deserted us; we have been expelled from the labor associations and the tradesmen refuse to receive our families. In fact, the Calaisians seem to be doing their best to destroy one of the chief sources of their prosperity, for, though they object to our operating in America, they are trying their hardest to make it out of the question for us to remain here.

"Moreover, there is every reason why the United States should make its own lace without windows being broken in Calais about it."

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE RESPONSIBLE

Vancouver Man's Suicide Discloses Peculiar Methods of this Sect.

Vancouver, B.C., March 12—In the suicide of John J. Harrison, a former citizen of Winnipeg last evening, the police believe they have unearthed one case in a series in which peculiar methods under the guise of Christian Science have been applied to several persons with curious and horrible results. The man around whom the investigation hinges is Charles A. Varey, leader of the Christian Science church in Vancouver, and its "medical practitioner."

After hearing the evidence at great length regarding the Harrison's suicide, the jury brought in a verdict with the following rider attached: "From the evidence adduced, it is quite apparent to the jury that a certain Varey, a Christian Science leader in the city, was largely the cause of Mr. Harrison's despondency and we recommend that the attorney-general investigate the matter at once."

Harrison was aged 54 and until last November lived happily with his wife and children in a good residential district in the city. Fifteen years ago he came from Winnipeg, where he has several relatives. He entered business here and the day he took his own life, was owner of realty worth one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Early yesterday morning he waited upon Chief of Police Chamberlain, who was one of the principal witnesses at the inquest. He told the chief that he could not rid himself of Varey's influence, that Varey had been treating him by the regulation Christian Science methods for some time and that Varey wished him to sign over all his property to the Christian Science church.

Other evidence was adduced that in the presence of his wife Harrison recently told Varey that he would give a large amount to be rid of his influence. In a written statement to the chief of police Harrison said: "He brought me up to the stage of mental treatment, where it would seem that I had to renounce all my connection with any society of party, either political or re-

IN T

Wednesday's Session.

Ottawa, Ont., March 11.—V
public works supplies for Qu
Nova Scotia engaged the atte
the House for the greater p
the time up till six o'clock y
when the usual Wednesday
ment was taken. A few q
were answered and for about
there was a discussion on t
tion of co-operative Societie
was introduced by F. D. Monk
Jacques Cartier), whose bill
with the subject was slaught
the Banking and Commerce
tee of the Senate last sessi
Monk severely criticized the
of the upper house for their

"Some of the members of t
house," he said, "studied the
but others thought they co
pose of it without taking the
to study it."

He characterized as scur
pamphlet distributed among
moners this year by the secr
the Retailers' Association. In
sion he asked what the gov
intends to do about it.

Commons' Position Unchan

Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, w
chairman of the committee
drafted Mr. Monk's bill, said
spite persistent opposition
senators on both sides of polit
government had not changed
tion. While personally he w
pared to again give his sup
such a bill it was to be reme
that the question of provincia
is involved. All things con
he thought it would be as wel
matters stand for a while.

Ralph Smith (Lib., Nanaim
it looked as if Mr. Lemieux
the "down grade." He added
would not be unseemly to t
senate by the throat, and ur
government to do all in its p
bring a Co-operative Societ
into effect.

In answer to a question by
ton Lennox (Cons., Simcoe), H
Graham announced that t
neers who are drawing up p
the Quebec bridge have decid
the reconstruction of that via
a height of 150 feet above hi
and with 600 feet clear in the
The minister declared that J.
strong's proposal for a submar
duct was impracticable.

Canada Life Bill.

The Banking and Commerc
mittee considered the bill res
the Canada Life Assurance Co
G. E. Cox and Mr. Bruce,
for company, being present. L
McCarthy, K. C., on behalf
company, explained that by
parliament passed in 1879, it h
stated that "heretofore" the c
had distributed 75 per cent of
fits. This was unfortunately
statement of facts. Consider
the bill will be resumed on F

Level Crossings Before Se

E. A. Lancaster's level cross
was before the senate railway
tee again today and a lively
resulted. M. J. Butler, depu
ister of railways, stated that w
attempt was made to classif
ings accidents, a large percent
due to the carelessness of the
themselves. The bill, which
ister of railways would in
while making provision for al
cure better protection of c
leaves the speed of trains to t
ment of the railway commis
Mr. Biggar for the Grand Tru
ed that his company had 7,00
crossings of which 2,000 were
towns and villages, and Mr. C
for the C.P.R. said that while
pany was not opposed to the p
of the bill, it did not think t
the best way in which to get
difficulty. They preferred th
question should be left to the
commission. The bill, as it
would put the railway. busi
Canada back twenty years.
stance, if the bill was passed
required for crossing the c
would be increased by two o
days.

Thursday's Session.

Ottawa, Mar. 14—in the H
Commons Hon. G. G. Graham
ister of railways, this afternoo
ed the following resolution: Th
expedient to provide the sum
000 each year for five con
years from the first day of Ap
be appropriated and set apa
the consolidated revenue fund
ada, for the purpose of aiding
providing of protection, saf
convenience of the public in
of existing highway crossings
ways at rail level, and that s
be placed to the credit of a
account to be known as
grades crossings fund and be
under authority of board of
commissioners for Canada.

No Need for Argument

Hon. Mr. Graham said that
of the general discussion wh
already taken place on the
of level crossings it would not
essary for him to advance ar
to establish the necessity of
tion being taken. The problem
and what is required is a prac
lution. The crux of the bill
would be based upon the res
s an enlargement of the po
the board of railway commi
and a contribution out of the
treasury of a sum of money
accomplishment of the object
Some objection had been take
proposal outlined in the resol
the ground that all the expe
nected with the protection
crossings should be borne by
ways and municipalities affect
bill would leave the railway
son free to adopt that view w
it thinks that it is proper to

"We are at the begining of
way legislation," said the m
"the problem of the protection
crossings would not be difficu
ways in the past, however, h
ceived aid from federal and pr
governments and municipaliti
have been allowed to have
much their own way in the m
crossings. The time has no
when it is necessary to undo
have done. The only practica
to pursue is for the House t
to a contribution to elimin
evil."