

MR. STRATTON'S STRONG DENIAL

Had Nothing to Do With Promotion of the Farmer's Bank

Says That the Insinuations Being
Circulated About Him Are Abso-
lutely False.

(Canadian Press)

Toronto, Ont. Feb. 21.—Mr. J. R. Stratton gave out a statement last night denying absolutely that he had taken any part in the organization of the Farmers Bank or at any time received any money from the bank. He said: "In no manner, shape or form, direct or indirect had I anything to do, nor did I assist in doing anything in any way in the promotion or the organization of the Farmers Bank."

"In no manner shape or form had I any conversation with any of the provisional or subsequent directors of the Farmers Bank. I never directly or indirectly at any time had any communication direct or indirect, verbal or in writing with the Hon. Mr. Fielding or any member of the Dominion Government or with any official or clerk of the finance department in the matter of the obtaining of a license for the Farmers Bank. I wish to most emphatically declare that the imputations that are being circulated to the effect that I received a sum of money in connection with the organization of the Farmers Bank are absolutely false."

EX-GOVERNOR RICHEY DEAD AT HALIFAX

(Special to The Mail.)

Halifax, Feb. 21.—The Hon. Matthew H. Richey, for five years lieutenant governor of Nova Scotia, and ten years a member of the Canadian House of Commons, died here this morning, aged eighty-three years. He was Mayor of Halifax for several terms. Deceased was a brother-in-law of the late Sir Edward Kenney.

CHATHAM CURLERS DEFEAT NEWCASTLE

(Special to The Mail.)

Chatham, Feb. 21.—The annual curling competition between Chatham and Newcastle took place yesterday. Chatham won by a score of 154 to 112. They therefore, hold the cup again this year.

COMMITTEE TO HEAR OPERATOR'S CASE

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 21.—A committee composed of Jos. Manning, Montreal; M. J. O'Neill, Ottawa, and C. A. Goodwin, Toronto, representing the discharged operators, will hear the cases of dissatisfied C.N.W. employees today. President S.J. Konenkamp of the International Union, said last night:

"It is our intention to see this thing through and that the claims of the men are given some consideration. If it is necessary to ask for a conciliation board, we will do so."

MANITOBA TO HAVE FREE
INDUSTRIAL BUREAU

Winnipeg, Feb. 21.—The Province of Manitoba may establish a free industrial and employment bureau. The Winnipeg Industrial and Development Bureau has been considering the matter for some time and there was talk of Winnipeg establishing a labor bureau. This was considered hardly feasible and the government has been asked to take up the matter.

Hon. Robert Rogers, who met the deputation, seemed to be favorably impressed with the idea and intimating that legislation might be forthcoming this season.