

QUEBEC MURDER

Man Killed and His Body Cast Into the River.

HE MYSTERIOUSLY DIS- APPEARED A WEEK AGO,

And Autopsy Revealed a Crime.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Shawinigan Falls, Que., June 27.—A man named Arthur Frenette had been missing since Saturday, June 20. On Tuesday night his body was found in Little Shawinigan River with a bruise on the head.

An inquest was held on Friday night, and after an autopsy by Drs. Dufresne and Garceau, the jury found that deceased had been killed by a blow on the head previous to being thrown into the water.

Up to the present there is no clue to the perpetrators of the murder.

HOT SHOT,

[CONTINUED FROM THIRD PAGE.]

ment declaring that what concerns the Bell Telephone Company should be drafted upon such a bill as this, he says that forthwith the honorable minister of railways and canals ought to resign.

My honorable friend says that you will never find anything of the kind in England. He recalled the fact to me a moment ago that I claimed to be a Liberal of the British school. So I do claim to be a Liberal of the British school today, but I defy my honorable friend to bring anything forward to qualify the position that he had taken. (Cheers.)

Mr. McLean—The minister of railways and canals would resign if he were in England.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—No such thing would take place in England. What takes place in England is this: If any member is connected with a company he will not be allowed to promote the interest of the company on the floor of parliament, and if he did he would be abusing the privileges of parliament, but when there is legislation of a general character brought before parliament, no member is prevented from voting or exercising the privileges of its position because it so happens he is a member of an incorporated company. My honorable friend will not find anything in the records of the British parliament to justify the contention.

My honorable friend is altogether unwarranted in the assertion he made a moment ago that the minister of railways and canals is the main apologist of the Bell Telephone Company.

My honorable friend stated earlier in the debate that I was a Liberal. I do not know what he calls himself. I presume he is a Tory, but he told me he was a Tory who acts as a Radical. I do not know whether he is a Radical Tory or a Tory Radical (laughter) but I would rather believe that he is a Radical Tory, that he is one of those out and out Tories whose instincts have always been to eutrench upon the property of other people (cheers.) That has been their habit in the old land and in this land as well.

But my honorable friend will allow me in this connection to say that I have looked with some suspicion on the legislation which he has introduced upon this subject.

I accuse him formally not of being a Socialist but of being a Communist. I thought there was something in his bill that smelt strongly of communism because he has betrayed a tendency to commit depredations upon vested rights and the property of other people. If my honorable friend had proceeded differently I would have been disposed to have taken over his amendment for future consideration but in view of the attitude of the honorable gentlemen, and in view of the insulting language he has used towards honorable members of this house there is

nothing to do but to vote down the amendment.

Hon. Mr. Blair Replies.

Hon. Mr. Blair—I expected that the honorable gentleman (Mr. Maclean) would some time during the present session read from this statement which he has read today because the publication was quite generally discussed throughout the country.

I have never been in the habit in the course of my public career of following up slanderous and defamatory statements as they appeared in the newspaper press, because I have felt that I would have very little else to do if a certain class of newspaper men thought they would be likely to receive attention, if they published statements that would have a scandalous and defamatory effect. Therefore, I have taken no notice of these things, but it is only fair that I should characterize the statement, as I can characterize it, a tissue of wholly unfounded statements.

It is true that I have been the holder of stock in the N. B. Telephone Company. If this is a crime I have been guilty of the crime. It is true that I have been filling, since the organization of the company a good many years ago and a good many years before I came to Ottawa, the position of president, not that I am receiving any salary from the company, for I have not received a dollar of salary from it. I was asked to take the honorary position of president of the company, and when I came to Ottawa I saw no impropriety in my continuing in the position, without having anything more to do with the management of the business than I had before I came here, or as much. I have therefore to acknowledge that I am open to the accusation of having been connected with the company and of being the president of that institution.

It is also a fact that Mr. Sise, a gentleman known as Colonel Sise in Montreal, holds stock in that company, but when the honorable gentleman (Mr. Maclean) says that I am interested and connected with the Bell Telephone Company, he states what he cannot have, and has not the slightest authority for stating. It is absolutely and entirely incorrect.

I cannot tell who are all the shareholders of the company. I did at one time know who they were, but I have not seen the share list for some time. But I know that Colonel Sise is a shareholder, quite a considerable shareholder. He took stock in the company the same as others took stock in the company, but I hold no stock in the Bell Telephone Company. If, because Colonel Sise is a shareholder in another company in which I have some stock, if that makes me a party interested financially or otherwise in the Bell Telephone Company, then I can only say that it is a very strange conclusion to draw from a very single and individually distinct fact. Therefore the honorable gentleman (Mr. Maclean) has no warrant for saying that I have the slightest interest any more than he has, perhaps not as much.

I have not one dollar of stock in the Bell Telephone Company. I have never had and never expect to have. So far as the financial interests are concerned or so far as their interests in any way are concerned I am quite as indifferent to them as is the honorable gentleman opposite, quite as indifferent.

The trouble with the honorable gentleman (Mr. Maclean) is that he cannot imagine that any person can have an opinion upon any question which he raises or upon any question of public moment, unless he be moved to that opinion through some private personal interest of his own, or through some private or personal interests of his friends. He cannot conceive it possible that any man upon any public question can have an opinion which is not subordinate to some improper motive, or which is not instigated or suggested by some personal or individual interest.

My honorable friend (Mr. Hale) has answered that so far as Mr. Randolph is concerned, although he happened while he lived to be connected with me, and I am connected with the family, everyone in New Brunswick knows that Mr. Randolph had no financial troubles; neither do I think that he or his family had any stock in the Bell Telephone Company. I am not aware that they had.

All these jumbling together of these statements came from some source to the honorable gentleman (Mr. Maclean). I almost suspect I know who it is. Some person who thought he was going to get in some sort of a blow at me which would be injurious to me, has communicated with the honorable gentleman, that is supposing it is a genuine despatch and was not made up in the office of the newspaper in which it is published. However, I am willing to admit that it was a genuine despatch.

I think that the honorable gentleman (Mr. McLean) ought, as a member of parliament; I think at all events, as a matter of fairness, he ought to have before he disseminates and before he takes the means which will disseminate all over this country accusatory statements of that kind which are calculated to affect the

public mind unfavorably wherever they are read, he ought at least to have taken some little pains to verify the correctness of these statements.

He told us that he read this very reluctantly and that he would rather not have read it. I did not see very much reluctance on his part. But whether that is so or not, he did not hesitate to publish it, and probably if he felt so very much adverse to disseminating these falsehoods, he would never have been so ready to make them public through the columns of his paper. If do not know whether it has a wide circulation; perhaps it has a limited circulation, but at all events it gave it all the circulation it could give it.

Coming now to the question before the committee, the honorable gentleman says that he waited to find out what was going to be done by the government. But the honorable gentleman heard on Saturday last what I had to say about it. I stated my views then and I have not seen any reason to change that view from listening to the arguments that have been made.

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