

POISON IN VIAL

Mrs. Stanford Drinks Fatal Dose.

DIES IN GREAT AGONY

Strychnine Was Put in Stomach Tonic.

SECOND ATTEMPT ON LIFE

Aged Philanthropist Was Just Recovering From First.

VISITING HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

Guest in Honolulu Hotel Is Awakened by Her Groans Late at Night, and Summons Help Too Late to Save Life.

RESULT OF THE AUTOPSY.
HONOLULU, March 1.—An autopsy on the remains of Mrs. Stanford was performed this afternoon. The physician who conducted the autopsy says that the cause of death was tetanus of the respiratory organs, but that he cannot state how the tetanus was brought about until after an examination of the contents of the stomach.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 1.—Dr. J. F. Dillon, professor of materia medica at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of this city, when informed of the result of the autopsy on Mrs. Stanford's body, showing that her death was due to tetanus of the respiratory organs, said to-night:

"Where there is a suspicion of poisoning to a death caused by tetanus (or strychnine) of the respiratory organs, it may be regarded as almost a certainty that death was due to strychnine. The administration of strychnine in fatal doses is always followed by tetanus of the respiratory organs."

HONOLULU, March 2, 9:56 P. M.—The chemist's report of the analysis of the bicarbonate of soda of which Mrs. Stanford took a dose shortly before her death states positively that the soda contained strychnine.

HONOLULU, March 1.—Mrs. Jane Lathrop Stanford, of San Francisco, widow of United States Senator Leland Stanford, died at 11:10 o'clock last night, 46 minutes after she was taken ill at the Moana Hotel here, under suspicious circumstances, pointing, in the opinion of the physician who attended her in her dying hour and seemingly in that of others, to poisoning by the administration of strychnine in a vial of bicarbonate of soda given just before retiring.

Mrs. Stanford herself, when found by a guest of the hotel who had heard her groaning in her agony and suffering from convulsions, declared, "I have been poisoned," and her last words were:

"This is a horrible death to die."

The physicians say that between convulsions Mrs. Stanford repeated the assertion that she had been poisoned, and said it was the second time the attempt had been made, the first time in her San Francisco home, and it was this attempt which caused her to come to Honolulu.

An autopsy on the remains showed that the cause of death was tetanus of the respiratory organs, but how this was brought about will not be known until after an examination of the contents of the stomach.

It is probable that the inquest will be delayed for several days awaiting the analysis of the contents of the stomach. High Sheriff Henry and Deputy Sheriff Rawlins are both conducting the investigation with the assistance of the police officials.

At 11 o'clock A. Henrich, of San Francisco, a guest at the Moana, who occupied an adjoining room, heard Mrs. Stanford groaning, and running to the room, found her lying on the floor. She had evidently tried to summon help. When her death took place, less than three-quarters of an hour later, Miss Berner her secretary, and Miss May Hunt, her maid, were present. Both are prostrated.

Mrs. Stanford came to Honolulu from San Francisco on the Korea February 21. She admitted to Mrs. Henry Highton, of San Francisco, who is now in Honolulu, that an attempt had been made to poison her in San Francisco and that she had settled on the Korea for this reason. Mrs. Highton says Mrs. Stanford told her enough poison had been used in the attempt to kill 20 people.

Mrs. Stanford retired shortly after 10 o'clock last night. She had attended a picnic during the afternoon, and then only soup for dinner.

The remains were taken to an undertaking establishment, where they are awaiting an autopsy.

TALK OF RETREAT

Russian Armies in Tight Place.

IT MAY BE CRUSHED

Furious Battle Being Fought All Along the Line.

BOMBARDING POUTILOFF HILL

Military Experts in St. Petersburg Deliberate on Wisdom of Ordering Retreat to Harbin to Avoid Disaster.

Soda Tastes of Strychnine.

ST. PETERSBURG, via the frontier, March 2.—Official circles at the Russian capital have been seized with great alarm, owing to the ominous news from the Far East, and a conference has been held of the military experts, who discussed the Japanese movement and debated at length what action the Russian government should take at the present time to uphold General Kuropatkin.

It is felt that the Japanese have him in a very precarious position and one in which it may be necessary for him again to order a general retreat. It is recognized that the Japanese movement at this time is prompted by a desire to crush General Kuropatkin in the belief that a Russian defeat at this time would compel the czar to sue for peace because of internal conditions in Russia.

Harbin is Impregnable.

Facing this fact, the Russian military experts feel that General Kuropatkin should go to any length to maintain his positions, for the present at least. Failing in this, however, there is a growing belief that the Russian forces should abandon Mukden and retreat to Harbin, taking possession of the well-known impregnable fortifications that have been built there. While this would mean the abandonment of all Manchuria to the Japanese, the Russians could retain all of the territory beyond that point and would also be able to prevent the Japanese from taking Vladivostok.

Remedies Are Applied in Vain.

Dr. Humphris made the following statement to the Associated Press correspondent:

"When I was called in I found Mrs. Stanford in convulsions and applied the quickest remedies, but it was not possible to save her life. Mrs. Stanford said to me:

"Doctor, I have been poisoned."

"Mrs. Stanford's condition seemed to indicate strychnine poisoning. Between convulsions her mind was unusually active and she said:

"This is the second time they have

WILL IGNORE LAW

Railroads Decide on Livestock Rates.

TEST CASE IN COURTS

Commission's Decision Means Heavy Loss.

PACKERS HAVE WHIP HAND

Order to Charge No Higher for Livestock Than for Its Products

Raises Direct Issue With the Railroads.

CHICAGO, March 1.—(Special.)—Executive officials of Western railroads today decided to ignore the order of the Interstate Commerce Commission requiring them to charge no higher rates for livestock than for its products.

TREMENDOUS BATTLE RAGES

Shot and Shell Fly Along Line of One Hundred Miles.

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CANNOT HOLD HIS POSITION

Military Critics Believe Kuropatkin Must Soon Retreat.

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SWITCH OF ANTIS

Railway Commission Bill Is Passed.

DRASTIC IN EXTREME

Senators Tire of Blockade Made by Friends.

ONLY FOUR STICK IT OUT

Amendments Made Are Concurred In by the House.

GOVERNOR AGREED TO SIGN

WASHINGTON, March 1.—(Special.)—The Senate today passed the bill to create a Railway Commission, which will have the power to regulate the rates of the railroads.

Measure Characterized as "an Act to Retard the Growth of Washington and Appoint Receivers for the Railroads."

The bill provides that the commission shall have the power to regulate the rates of the railroads, and to appoint receivers for the railroads.

AMENDMENTS TO BILL

The commission bill was amended in accordance with the agreement between its passage.

The salaries of the commissioners were cut down to \$4000.

In section 17, that portion limiting to \$500 the amount that may be recovered from any person, firm or corporation on account of violations of the act is cut out; also the privilege of pleading as a defense that such violation was unintentional.

The third amendment gives the railroad the right to grant reduced rates for free transportation to employees and to ex-employees in search of work and to their household goods and personal effects.

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 1.—(Special.)—The Legislature has passed a Railway Commission bill drafted enough in its provisions to please the most ardent advocates of Railway Commission legislation.

The Senate has advanced the bill under a suspension of the rules and adopted it by a vote of 38 to 4.

The passage of the bill was precipitated soon before 2 o'clock in the Senate, where it was lodged near the foot of the calendar, by the decision of the opponents of the bill to defeat further hold-ups of meritorious bills and to put an end to trading on special interest bills.

The attitude of the anti-commission men is explained forcibly by Senator Link Davis, of Pierce County, who, before announcing his vote in favor of the bill, characterized it as "an act to build up the State of Oregon, retard the growth of Washington and appoint receivers for the railroads of Washington," and then said:

"It seems that everything in this Legislature must stop until this bill is passed. Nothing else will be done until the Railroad Commission is granted. I believe with my friend from Jefferson (Clapp) that this is an iniquitous bill, but we have simply got to enter the fight over and over again until it is settled.

"I expect to be here two years from now, voting with my friends from Spokane to repeal this bill. Within six months I expect to hear Spokane holding the loudest against a Railway Commission. This matter has simply got to the proposition that the bill will pass, and that other legislation is affected by its delay. The sooner it passes the better.

"The bill provides that the commission simply moves in and takes possession of the railroads. There is nothing for the railroads to do but try cases in court and pay taxes, but I am going to vote for the bill."

The motion to advance the bill on the calendar was made by Senator J. J. Smith, of King County, who asked it in behalf of the committee on rules, which had given it another setback on the calendar at a meeting held last night. Senator Baker secured a call of the House and Earles and Van de Venter were excused on account of illness.