

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.

The investigations of the police have

failed so far to find any evidence of poisoning, but the authorities decline to express any opinion pending the result of the autopsy and the analysis of the bottle of bicarbonate of soda. A box of capsules was also found in the room, and these are being analyzed.

Miss Berner has been Mrs. Stanford's secretary for 26 years. Ex-Judge W. L. Stanley represents the Stanford estate here.

Mrs. Stanford took a drive over the Fall road yesterday, accompanied by her secretary and her maid. When she returned to the hotel she seemed very cheerful and went immediately to the dining-room, where she ordered only soup, saying that she was not hungry, as she had eaten a hearty luncheon. She spent the evening on the veranda of the hotel, and apparently was in good spirits.

Mr. Henrich, who, as already told, was the first to see Mrs. Stanford after she was taken ill, said to the correspondent of the Associated Press:

"I retired soon before 10 o'clock last night and soon fell asleep. My room is next to that occupied by Mrs. Stanford. I had not been long asleep when I was awakened by hearing a groan and then another groan. I opened my door and saw Mrs. Stanford standing in the doorway of her room. She threw up her arms as if suffering great pain and said:

"Oh, I am so ill. Get me a doctor, get me a doctor."

"I ran to the elevator and summoned Dr. Humphris, who was a guest of the hotel. Mrs. Stanford at that time did not seem to be very weak."

Soda Tastes of Strychnine.
Dr. Humphris and his wife today took very small portions of the contents of the suspected bottle of bicarbonate of soda and said that it tasted very bitter and that they believed it contained strychnine. The doctor says there were indications of strychnine.

In accordance with the local law, a coroner's jury was immediately summoned and viewed the remains in the hotel at 1:30 o'clock this morning.

Dr. Humphris appointed ex-Judge Stanley, who is a guest of the hotel, to look after the interests of Mrs. Stanford's estate temporarily, and then called Professor David Starr Jordan, president of the Leland Stanford University, asking for instructions. President Jordan replied, approving the action of Dr. Humphris and requesting Judge Stanley to act.

Former Attempt at Poisoning.
Mrs. Henry Highton told the Associated Press correspondent that Mrs. Stanford said to her shortly after arriving here:

"The reason I left San Francisco was because an attempt had been made on my life, an attempt to poison me; and enough poison was used to kill 20 persons."

"Mrs. Stanford seemed to be greatly affected," said Mrs. Highton. "I sought to disabuse her mind of the idea, as I feared it might be only a delusion, but Mrs. Stanford talked so rationally about the attempt on her life that I do not now hold the belief that it was a mere fancy of hers. I was very uneasy after this talk with Mrs. Stanford and wrote to mutual friends in San Francisco regarding the matter. They told me they feared such attempts had been made, no names, however, being mentioned."

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

tried it. They tried it last January and I came here to avoid them."

"I tasted the contents of the bottle," continued Dr. Humphris. "Before making an analysis I am unable to swear that it contains strychnine, but I am perfectly positive that it does contain strychnine."

Bottle Bears Australia Label.
The bottle containing the bicarbonate of soda bears the label of Charles Felix & Co., 50 King William street, Adelaide, Australia, but it is believed that it had been refilled since purchased there. Miss Berner, Mrs. Stanford's secretary,

tried it. They tried it last January and I came here to avoid them."

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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.

SPECIAL CABLE.
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 position, 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.

It is reported that at the conference one of those present, who is recognized as one of Russia's ablest military experts, declared that matters had now so far progressed that the Japanese would probably be able to take Mukden, no matter how good a defense General Kuropatkin put up. He is said to have pointed out the superiority of the Japanese artillery, their greater numerical strength, and to have stated that in his opinion it would be better for Russia to abandon all of Manchuria to the Japanese without much more than a perfunctory resistance, rather than to lose several thousand men and

finally decided to wait and see how the present movement was likely to turn out.

CANNOT HOLD HIS POSITION
Military Critics Believe Kuropatkin Must Soon Retreat.
ST. PETERSBURG, March 2 (A. M.).—The curtain of a rigid censorship has settled down over events in Manchuria. There is no news of the results of yesterday's fighting. Dispatches describing the picturesque events of the night retreat from I-a Pass and the all-night combat at the railroad bridge across the Shakhe River have been allowed to come through, but nothing to show whether General Kuropatkin is withdrawing or is determined to stand his ground. It is significant that no news has been received from the threatened left flank, the last dispatches leaving the Russians clinging desperately to Ouhensu against strong forces of General Kuropatkin's veterans.

Although it is not admitted at the War Office, the general impression in military circles is that General Kuropatkin may be forced to withdraw. Not only is General Kuropatkin threatening his communications, but the redoubts at Poutloff and Novgorod Hills, and even the hills themselves, keys to the position of the Russian center, appear to be crumbling away under the impact of the terrible shells cast as leveled the fortifications of Port Arthur and rendered the fortress untenable. No troops will be able to retain the position long if the bombardment continues.

It develops that the Russians were unable to hold permanently the southern end of the railroad bridge across the Shakhe River. The advance of the right wing seems for the moment to have come to a standstill. Magnificent Spring weather set in today.

TREMENDOUS BATTLE RAGES
Shot and Shell Fly Along Line of One Hundred Miles.
SPECIAL CABLE.
ST. PETERSBURG, March 2.—While several reports have been received as to the progress of the fighting in Manchuria, nothing had been given out until a late hour last night by the General Staff. The fighting before Mukden continues to be general and the entire line is involved, the Japanese apparently making a desperate attempt to pierce the Russian position. The enemy throughout Wednesday concentrated a tremendous fire with shell and sniping artillery upon Poutloff Hill. The bombardment was so fierce that the entire hill was enveloped in smoke and the casualties were large, but

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CONTENTS OF TODAY'S PAPER
The Weather.
TREMENDOUS BATTLE RAGES.
The War in the Far East.
Russo-Japanese War Office considering retreat to Harbin.
Kuropatkin may be recalled.
Japanese tear Poutloff and Novgorod Hills to pieces with shells.
Shell bursts stolen by Japanese after savage fight.
Furious battle being fought along whole front.
Reconnaissance division escapes capture by long night march.
Affairs in Russia.
Car shows form of assembly, but hesitates to announce it.
Workmen's meetings in St. Petersburg controlled by politicians.
Poison under martial law.
Father George issues bloodthirsty manifesto in Paris.
National.
Both Houses of Congress pass large number of bills.
Senate increases appropriation for Columbia Jetties.
House lowers limit on Judge's expenses.
President urges passage of cattle quarantine bill.
European powers threaten intervention in Santo Domingo.
Politics.
Colorado contest committee will have four reports to Legislature.
Kansas begins suit for receiver of Prairie Oil Company.
Anti-discrimination bill passed by Kansas Legislature.
Domestic.
Successful experiment at Omaha with motor car for West Side road.
Ex-Senator Wolcott dies at Monte Carlo.
George Rice, the Standard Oil Company's greatest enemy, dead.
Railroads will fight Interstate Commission's decision on livestock rates.
Commercial and Marine.
Weekly review of local produce and jobbing.
Stock market shows evidence of strength.
Fluctuations in Chicago wheat market.
Decrease in California grain stocks.
Arrival of two foreign cargo ships.
Fears for overdue barkentine Elmhurst.
Schooner Alexander runs into buoy.
Pacific Coast.
Mrs. Jane L. Stanford, widow of the late California Senator, dies of poison from unknown source in Honolulu.
Drastic railway commission bill is passed by the Washington Legislature.
Steamer Oregon is beached at Eureka, Samoa difficult to subdue.
Astoria schoolboys found guilty of violation of local-option law.
Clackamas Grange will take up referendum on million-dollar appropriation.
Sports.
Board of Arbitration recognizes Lumber League and kills Pacific Northwest League.
John L. Sullivan knocks out a man in a boxing match.
Portland and Vicinity.
Replica of Bobbie Burns' cottage may be brought to the Exposition.
Convicted firebug tells Judge he is not ready for sentence.
Connell has lively session; reveals slot-machine license law.
Land-frog witness escaping from country is arrested on O. R. & N. train.
Municipal Association to meet tonight and discuss coming political battle.
Wholesale question may be settled soon.
Cars on O. W. P. lines crash together, injuring eight.
Defect in Senate calendar puts slot machines out of business.
Death of John Labbe, prominent merchant.

then to be obliged to surrender it anyhow.

Seeking a Good Excuse.
He is said to have pointed out that, were the Russians to retreat to Harbin, a good excuse could be given for the movement, but, were they to wait until they were defeated and compelled to retreat there, they would be able to do nothing and would likely have to accept humiliating terms of peace, and then be compelled to face a revolution at home.

This sentiment is said to have met with the approval of many of those present at the conference, but it was

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

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 are charged for the transportation of the products of livestock. By the advice of general counsel the matter will be tested in the courts, as the railroads have determined that it will be impossible either to lower the livestock rates or to increase the rates on packing-house products. There is an inclination to do the latter, but the contract which the Great Western road has with the packers for an 18-cent rate between Chicago and the Missouri River makes such action impracticable.

Loss to Livestock Great.
A reduction in livestock rates in compliance with the decision of the commission would mean a minimum reduction of 25 cents per 100 pounds and a maximum reduction of about 5 cents, and the reductions would affect fully 40 per cent of all the livestock traffic west of Chicago. A compliance with the commission's order by a reduction in the livestock rates would mean, it is now estimated, a loss to Western railroads of at least \$2,000,000 annually. They say that such a loss, in view of the contention of the railroad officials that the rates are even more unremunerative, is not to be thought of.

What Big Roads Would Lose.
The estimate of the annual loss is made from figures on livestock movement for the last few years. Take the St. Paul road, for example; last year it brought into Chicago 80,000 carloads of livestock, and the Northwestern 61,000. Each of these roads would, it is stated, lose at least \$500,000 annually if they complied with the commission's order by a reduction in the livestock rates. The loss to the Burlington, which carried 55,000 carloads, and to the Rock Island, which transported 51,000 carloads, would also be great. During last year 28,000 carloads of livestock were brought into the city by all lines, east and west, and fully 85 per cent came from the West.

Some of the roads were in favor of raising the rates on packing-house products and permitting the Great West to carry all it can. By doing this, it is stat-

ed, the loss would be very much less than by permitting the packing-house rates to remain and lowering the livestock rates.

Pay No Need to Peace Rumors.
TOKYO, March 1.—Marquis Saionji, president of the Constitutionalists, one of the two great political parties, the other being the Progressives, headed by Count Okuma, in delivering a farewell address today to those of the

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.

AMENDMENTS TO BILL.
The commission bill was amended in accordance with the agreement before its passage.

The salaries of the Commissioners were cut down to \$40,000.

In section 17, that portion limiting to \$500 the amount that may be recovered from damages to persons, firms or corporations on account of violations of the act is cut out; also the privilege of pleading as a defense that such violation was unintentional. The section as it now reads simply gives the injured party the right of recovery of damages, and is considered much harsher than before amendment.

The third amendment gives the railroad the right to grant reduced rates or 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 having 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 hollering 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.

Find Fight is Hopeless.
That the Senate had taken up the bill was practically unknown in the corridors or in the House, so much of a surprise was the sudden move of the anti-Commission Senators. This morning it became apparent that the Senators who in the caucus last night agreed to force the House to pass Earles' sockeye protection bill could not make good. The promise had already gone out from the steering committee of the House to the opponents of the Earles bill that they would kill the measure.

Although the matter had not been fully settled with Earles, an agreement was reached.

(Continued on Third Page.)

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Pay No Need to Peace Rumors.
TOKYO, March 1.—Marquis Saionji, president of the Constitutionalists, one of the two great political parties, the other being the Progressives, headed by Count Okuma, in delivering a farewell address today to those of the

party who are members of the Diet, warned them to pay no attention to false rumors of peace between Japan and Russia. He said it would be necessary to prosecute the war until the complete attainment of the National object—namely, the securing to Japan of the guarantee of a permanent peace.

RUSSIANS LOSE SHAKHE BRIDGE
Gallant Charge of Chasseurs Rendered Fruitless by Japanese.
RUSSIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, HUAN MOUNTAIN, March 1.—After an all-night battle the Russian forces which seized the railroad bridge across the Shakhe River retired after having destroyed the Japanese fortifications at the further end of the bridge and thrown the enemy's forces into consternation. The Japanese losses were heavy.

The attack of the bridge began at 8 o'clock Tuesday evening. Under cover of a heavy bombardment, Russian chasseurs dashed forward and crossed the bridge, drove back the defenders and occupied the further end. There the chasseurs threw up hasty entrenchments and soon drove the Japanese from their defenses at the head of the bridge.

An hour later the chasseurs rushed across the bridge and seized and fortified a thickets opposite Lamuting, overcoming a number of wire entanglements, and blew up the Japanese redoubts. An artillery company kept up the bombardment and succeeded in demolishing the Japanese searchlights.

Then a stubborn fight in the darkness began. The Japanese brought up their quick-firing guns and forced the Russians to abandon the thicket, whereupon the Japanese proceeded to bombard the regiments holding the head of the bridge. The fight was desperate and at close quarters. The Japanese rushed up heavy columns of reinforcements and charged repeatedly across the river, striking the ice with the bodies of their dead.

At dawn the Russians retired across the river, carrying their wounded, but leaving 100 dead bodies.

The Russians are exultant over the losses inflicted upon the Japanese in this rally and are eager to renew the fight.

EMPEROR WILL NOT YIELD
Kossuth Party Insists on Recognition of Hungarian Rights.
VIENNA, March 1.—The last 10 days, which have been filled with endeavors on the part of Emperor Francis Joseph and the Hungarian political leaders to effect a solution of the political crisis in Hungary, especially the formation of a neutral Cabinet to render possible legislation and routine business, have brought no result and no improvement whatsoever.

Today the situation is more uncertain than ever. The extreme element of the independence party insists upon concessions from the throne on the military question, particularly the use of Hungarian words of command in the Hungarian army.

Francis Kossuth, leader of the united opposition, however, counsels moderation, and even a postponement of the extreme military demands. To these the Emperor gives no direct sign of conceding. His continual silence is drawing all Hungarian eyes more or less anxiously toward Vienna. He is evidently waiting to see what the Hungarians will do. Each side seems trying to exhaust the other's patience.

The Hungarian Diet, reassembled March 8, and the combined opposition does not conceal its determination to maintain its present strong position.

EUROPE MAY TAKE A HAND
President Will Urge Prompt Action on Dominican Treaty.
WASHINGTON, March 1.—The Pres-

FORMER SENATOR DIES IN ITALY



EDWARD O. WOLCOTT, OF COLORADO.

ident will urge prompt action on the Dominican treaty. He is led to supplement the strong representations contained in his first communication by important developments, which, it is understood, relate to the possible action of European powers peculiarly interested in Santo Domingo in the event of the failure of the treaty to secure approval before the adjournment of the extra session of the Senate.