

ALIEN ENEMY SHOTS UP LODGE MEETING

WOUNDS 2 MEN AND KILLS SELF

Under Surveillance By Military After Being Charged With Sedition

WILDNESS OF AIM PREVENTS FATAL INJURY OF VICTIMS

Anton Lofy, 813 Dufferin avenue, who shot and killed himself after wounding two officers of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen at a lodge meeting in the Travellers' building Tuesday night, was an alien enemy who had been under surveillance by the Military Intelligence department for some time, The Tribune learned today.

Lofy was arrested in December, 1915, and charged with sedition. He was tried at the provincial police court and was allowed to go on suspended sentence.

For several months thereafter he was closely watched by the military authorities.

Commits Suicide

Lofy died in an ante room of the Travellers' Building, where he shot himself through the temple after an attempt to murder officers of the Brotherhood. His action was the culmination of a long standing grievance. For months he created trouble at lodge meetings by repeated attempts to air the details of his discharge from the Canadian Northern railway, other members of the lodge said today. He had been employed by this line as a trainman. He was dismissed for disorderly conduct. The brotherhood did not agree with his view of the case. This made him angry.

He is believed by police to have brooded over his imagined grievances until his mind became deranged. Military authorities had no intimation that he carried a weapon or that he was a menace to the community, or they would have forestalled the possibility of his running amuck in a public meeting.

Tuesday night he went to the meeting with the intention of getting satisfaction. Several times he rose to speak. Each time he was called to order by Chairman Manley Wilkinson. Finally he would not be seated. He started to speak. Uproar ensued. It was then he drew a revolver from a hip pocket. He fired wildly.

Shot Through Shoulder

Edward Cook, chairman of the Brotherhood, was shot through the shoulder. A second shot struck a watch in Mr. Cook's pocket.

William R. Todd, treasurer, sustained a wound in the left arm. Another bullet struck a button on his vest and was deflected.

Albert Knox tried to close with the maniac. A bullet was fired point blank at him. Lofy was wildly excited and his aim was bad. Knox escaped uninjured.

Suddenly Lofy turned and dashed from the room. He entered an ante-room. A shot was heard. Members of the lodge rushed in and found him lying on the floor with a bullet

wound in the right temple. The pistol lay empty beside him.

Condition Is Favorable

Chairman Cook is now at St. Boniface hospital. His condition is reported to be favorable. The bullet smashed his shoulder blade but inflicted no injury to the lung as was at first feared.

Mr. Todd's wound is superficial. He is confined to his home today but will be fully recovered in a day or so. Dr. B. J. McConnell, provincial coroner, has not yet decided as to when the inquest will be held.

The body of Lofy was removed to Barker's undertaking rooms, Broadway, as soon as the authorities had inspected the scene.

Was Railroad Brakesman

Lofty, though of late he has been acting as a motorman for the Winnipeg Electric Railway, is a railroad brakeman by trade. He was dismissed from his employment with the Canadian Northern railway in October, 1915, for fighting in the yards. The man had been urging the brotherhood to take up his case and have him restored to his position as brakeman. He is survived by a widow and one child.

Messrs. Cook and Todd are both popular and well-known in railroad circles. Mr. Cook helped to settle the big dispute between the Canadian Pacific railway and its employes last October. His home is in Moose Jaw, but he makes Winnipeg his headquarters.