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SEATTLE



November 17, 1924.

Canadian Pacific Railway Company,  
Seattle, Washington.

Gentlemen:

I represent Mrs. Dollie Armstrong, whose husband, William Armstrong, was killed while a passenger on your train near Farron, British Columbia, some two or three weeks ago. The cause of the collision, as I view it, was the explosion of gas in the coach. The negligence of the company consisted of the following:

1. Providing the car with an antiquated lighting system which permitted the gas to escape in the coach.
2. Insufficient attention by brakeman or conductor to the comfort and welfare of the passengers.
3. An insufficient number of men to do the necessary work on the train.

I am aware of the theory that has been advanced that this explosion was caused by somebody placing a bomb in the car in order to kill the leader of the ~~Doukhobor~~ sect. I have gone very carefully into the circumstances of this and can find no evidence of this situation; nothing but a suspicion.

Of course, as to a passenger, the presumption arises that the company was negligent, and it is up to the company to overcome that presumption by evidence satisfactory to a jury.

Mr. Armstrong was thirty-nine years old at the time of his death, is survived by his wife, Dollie Armstrong, aged 37, and by two minor children, Dorothy and William.

The deceased was a traveling salesman, and customarily earned about \$200.00 per month. The family is left destitute. They do not own their home, and have no means of support. Mrs. Armstrong is not in physical condition to do any work herself. Of course, I understand that you are not paying out any money unless there is a legal liability, but I believe if you will take this case by all fours, you will conclude that it is both good business and good morals

to make a substantial payment to Mrs. Armstrong, which, of course, would be considerably less without suit than with suit.

Will you please advise me on this matter?

Very truly yours,

H:V

*George F. Hamman*