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Dear Sir: Re: Wm. Armstrong, Deceased.

I have your letter of November 19 on the above matter.

I do not know that I have seen all of the evidence before the Coroner's Jury but I have read over a transcript which purports to contain all of the evidence. From this I gather that there had been trouble between the two Doukhobor sects and that there was a possibility that a bomb might have been placed in the car, but I have not read any evidence that such was the fact. In other words, I believe that this is one theory by which the accident could be explained.

I do not believe that the verdict of the Coroner's Jury would be even admissible in evidence in the case of Mrs. Armstrong or any other person against the Canadian Pacific Railway as a result of this action. The cause of the accident, as I view it, would be a matter for the independent investigation of the jury which was trying the case.

The fact that the gas tanks were intact, it would seem to me, could have very little bearing on the question of whether or not gas had escaped in the coach. It would also seem to me if this explosion was caused by a bomb, the floor of the car would be blown to pieces and probably the gas tanks severed or blown up at that time. Inasmuch as the explosion seemed to be upward and the top of the car was blown off, it seems to me that the explosion was more probably the result of the accumulation of gas in the car than of a bomb. It would have to be a very heavy gaseous bomb to cause such an explosion as this, and then there would be a tearing of the floor of the car where the bomb was placed.

This letter is simply to reply to one or two of the observations in your letter of the 19th.

H:V

Very truly yours,

George F. Hannan