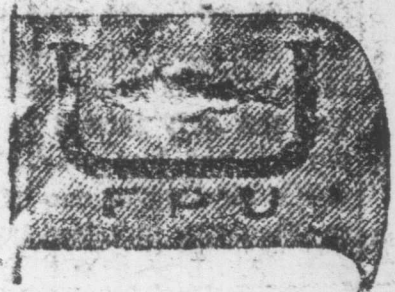


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The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., JULY 12, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW**The Russian Drink**

PROHIBITION of the sale of vodka in Russia has already brought results. One is the reduction of national revenue; another is the increase of savings deposits in the banks.

Under the above system of administration in Russia, the sale of this popular, this immoral, intoxicant is possible of suppression. Hence it is credible that the amount sold in European Russia has dropped from 24,000,000 to 300,000 gallons a month; and in Siberia from 1,900,000 to 7000 gallons. This includes such as has been used in medicine or in the industries.

Where has gone the saving in peasant expenditure, indicated by this enforced abstinence? The rate of deposit in savings banks before the edict of suppression was about \$9,000,000 a month; during March last the amount was some \$23,000,000. The net gain in savings, if continued through the year, will be \$175,000,000 to the depositors, largely of the peasant class.

There is a deficit in the national revenue of some \$260,000,000, due to the war. More than one-half of this can be met by the allowance of savings through the anti-vodka decree.

Debates of the House

WE have protested continually against the outrage hurled upon the public and the country by publishing parliamentary debates three months after delivery. The farce still goes on.

Huge sums of money have been paid The Herald and The News for the publication of those debates. How can The Herald or The News take money from a starving country for such a farce. To take money for this farce as now performed means nothing more or less than robbery. No real value is given and no genuine attempt is being made to hasten the publication of these matters. Occasionally, those papers condescend to get out a page of this matter. The Herald have recently cut out the whole thing. The News continue to publish occasionally in a manner that remind one of an old grandmother aged 90, sawing wood.

Do those papers realize that if they do not get out at least three pages daily from the time the House open to the time the debates are completely published they are not giving the country fair returns for the money they receive for this work. To publish as they have means nothing short of actually robbery of public monies, accepting money for work

not performed or if performed, performed contrary to every maxim of common sense and honesty.

The final debates of the Upper House in connection with the Logging Bill is only now appearing in The News. What use can the publication of such matter at this date serve. The only purpose is to give The News a chance to get a grab.

The whole system of publishing official debates is an outrage and it must end. The people wish to read the debates but not three months after the date of the discussion.

S.S. Can't Lose Arrives

THE "Can't Lose" arrived from Bonavista Bay on Saturday with the F.P.U. motor boat in tow. The "Can't Lose" will sail for Halifax to-morrow to load kero oil for the Union Stores between Bay de Verde and Nipper's Harbor.

President Coaker will join the "Can't Lose" at Bay de Verde or Catalina on her return from Halifax and visit the Union Stores as far as Nipper's Harbor. He will be absent North a week. On return from the North, the President will visit the Labrador in the new "F.P.U." and will be absent about two weeks.

The "Can't Lose" will take a load of salt North to Union Stores on arrival from Nipper's Harbor. The Nascopie with salt will be due about Sunday, and will bring the first supplies to relieve the Salt Famine.

The new "F.P.U." is a fine staunch boat, capable of withstanding almost any weather, and will be fitted with two oil engines, which will ensure safeguards against engine troubles. The boat will cost the F.P.U. very little money as her hull was built at half cost by the loyal Unionist W. Moss. A few of our Union sympathizers have contributed \$1000 towards her engines, while the sale price of the old "F.P.U." will go far to square the balance due on the new boat, which balance is being contributed equally by the F.P.U. and Union Trading Co.

The builders are to be congratulated upon their work, for the outlines and style of the boat are equal to any turned out by the professional builders in the States and Canada.

The new "Coaker" oil engine, manufactured by the Missouri Eng. Co., will be installed in the new boat in order to demonstrate its merits.

Civic Matters

AT Friday night's meeting of the City Commission, Commissioner Anderson called the Board's attention to the disgraceful condition of Water Street in the vicinity of O'Dwyer's Cove. The Council decided to get busy and have the necessary clean up made.

We are glad to see that at least one of the Commissioners has got his weather eye open, and we trust the other gentlemen of the Civic Board will get busy and see if there is anything they can see around the city that requires attention.

If we remember rightly the present Board were not long enough in power to know their headquarters before one of them made the startling discovery that the grass was growing on Water Street.

Now had the Coaker Party been returned to power in 1913 this finding of grass growing on our main street might have been the fulfillment of a prophecy made during the late campaign by a "patriot" who not long after the ballots had been counted succeeded in stowing himself away in a snug job "far from the maddening crowd."

The same gentleman who discovered the grass on Water Street made a similar discovery as regards the condition of Rennie's Mill Road. No time was wasted by the Board in having the latter locality attended to. So far we have not heard of any of the

MOSDELL'S BOOMERANGS

Nothing more clearly indicated the true character of W. F. COAKER than his invitation to Sir Robert Bofd to lead the Union Forces during the recent campaign.

A less cautious man or one more self-conceited would, in COAKER'S position, have essayed the task himself. But, sinking personal ambition and keeping an eye single to the interests of the F.P.U., the President (COAKER) secured a practical politician for the position.

AND SO THE COUNTRY LEARNED THAT COAKER IS A MAN WHOSE HEAD IS NOT TURNED BY SUCCESS AND ALSO THAT HIS

Board finding fault with the condition of Plymouth Road, Hayward Avenue or that section of Catherine Street between Monks-town and Mullock Street. Unless repairs are made at least to the sidewalks? of these localities people will be compelled to stay in after supper unless they are fortunate enough to have an accident insurance policy.

These sections of our city were never in such a disgraceful condition and surely the residents there are entitled to some consideration from the hands of our civic authorities.

Whilst referring to this section of the city we venture to ask how it is that the whole brigade of sprinkling cars can leave the sanitary stable and come over Hayward Avenue, down Catherine Street and Monks-town Road without one of them at least sprinkling the streets just mentioned? Why are they allowed to wait till they reach the foot of Catherine Street before filling up with water, and then proceed to sprinkle Rennie's Mill and Monks-town Roads? Will somebody please answer?

In connection with the sprinkling of our streets it seems to us that there is no system in connection with this service. A great start is made, then suddenly some one falls down and forgets all about it.

Another "up-to-date" method employed by our City Fathers is the "man with the dust can" on Water Street. It is indeed a pleasure to go up Water Street some morning when the wind is blowing and get your eyes blinded with the dust when this up-to-date sweeper is at work. Instead of sweeping with the breeze he takes a great delight in sweeping against it, so as pedestrians can get the full benefit of the dust cloud.

If St. John's ever wishes to take its place in the ranks as an up-to-date city, we fear some considerable changes must be made. Now all is needed is common sense. There is no need for a committee to be appointed to enquire into and report on every riddle fiddle around town. Appoint a responsible man for each of these various works. Let him be the "boss" and make him responsible for the carrying out of the work. If he should prove unable to cope with the job, lay him aside and get another.

"Time and tide wait for no man," and in this 20th century we should have no trouble in getting men suitable for this kind of work.

Our citizens give little or no help to the council or its officials in civic matters. This is the most regrettable feature of the whole situation. We must remember the present board draws no salary. They have undertaken this work presumably for the best interests of our city. For this at least we give them all the merit that is due them. We may differ from them as regards their mode of operation, and we shall criticize their actions as we view them from a public stand point.

PRESENT POSITION DOES INDEED REQUIRE MUCH SELF-SACRIFICE AND NO LITTLE DIPLOMACY.

It is a foregone conclusion that under his (COAKER'S) leadership the Fishermen's Protective Union will eventually become THE GOVERNING POWER OF THE LAND and thus in elevating the Toilers to this dignified position, which is theirs by every right of manhood, W. F. COAKER HAS WRIT HIS NAME LARGELY ON THE PAGE OF NEWFOUNDLAND HISTORY.—MOSDELL, in The Fishermen's Advocate, December 20th 1913.

Wobbly Walking

HAVE you ever noticed how much more steadily and firmly one moves when going up hill than when coming down.

"Markest thou the firm
Yet active stride
With which he scales
The mountain side."

Our remarks are not going to be directed towards correcting the wayward stepping in a physical but in a metaphysical sense. We intend to point out, how it is with the man who fails on the heights, and returns down the slope.

A man sets out on the path which leads upward to fair renown. His footsteps are well placed and his pace is steady and manly, and so long as he keeps his eye on the glowing summit ahead, and his mind attuned to honest endeavour, people have respect for him, for all honest effort is worthy of respect.

The strong and purposeful man looks neither to right nor to left, for he is not looking for anything but the attainment of his aim, which is upward and not found on one side.

The weak man soon falters, halts, and halting is soon to fall to dishonest promptings. He turns his back on the road he saw ahead, and returns down the slopes. Once he turns he becomes a painful and disgusting sight to all honest men.

His wobbly feet stumble wherever he essays a step. From wobbling he descends to making an exhibition of himself by his undignified flip-flopping and cart-wheeling, and the man has descended to the vulgar clown.

We have before our minds an example of this revolting state in the person of him who descended from the upward and honorable office of helping his countrymen to the attainment of a very laudable and perfectly justifiable desire.

The fishermen have enrolled themselves under the leadership of one who has sacrificed his life to an effort at reform that is meant to uplift them to a higher plane, both morally, and industrially.

They took into their ranks and confidence, one who was to prove not only a recreant, but a characterless renegade. For a time this man strode along, marching and stepping to the tune that has aroused our country to a high sense of devotion to a great cause.

But he tired soon, the climb upwards proved too much for his weak knees. He deserted the cause and is now wobbling down from his high estate, and making a pitiful exhibition of himself.

When he wrote of Coaker and the Union how firmly he placed his feet, and how sensibly he sustained the cause of the fishermen, because he was writing something which assailed his very senses on the upward move.

But take him now, read his various effusions, and how wobbly and disjointed they seem.

When he essays comment on the educational question, then

surely he betrays the weakness of the man who has thrown honor to the winds and made a plaything of that code of ethics to which men of noble mien cling with the tenacity of life.

Educated men, says the sage who sits up near the great Wobbler of Adelaide Street, are not of the criminal class, by virtue of their education. In other words the poor unlettered fisherman or laborer is a potential criminal, and it is from the ranks of the uneducated that criminals are recruited. An uneducated man cannot be a useful citizen. Could any argument be more ridiculous, and more insulting and harmful to the poor man who never has had an opportunity of going to school.

Who are they who have by their toil built up this country, are they not the very men whom this scribbler of Adelaide Street characterizes as the criminal classes, i.e. the uneducated. Are they not the men who toil to produce the wealth of the country, and are they not the poor men, who by virtue of their lack of learning have been for generations, the victims of the more nearly criminal classes—the educated fish merchants, and the glib-tongued wily and semi-educated politician.

Now if Mosdell owns The Star, and as he edits it, why does he permit such stuff in his columns. The only answer as far as we can see is that he agrees with the arguments of the scribbler who doles out the nauseous stuff.

We have heard the editor of Adelaide Street time and again assert that Kaiser William is a Criminal, and one of the blackest type. Can it be that he is also a dunce. Surely, the editor of The Star will not go so far as to take such a position.

TO THE SHIRKER

"Now of your free choice, while the chance is yours

To share their glory who have gladly died

Shielding the honor of our island shores

And that fair heritage of starry pride—

Now, ere another evening's shadow falls,

Come for the trumpet calls.

What if to-morrow through the land there runs

This message for an everlasting stain?—

"England expected each of all her sons

To do his duty—but she looked in vain;

Now she demands, by order sharp and swift,

What should have been a gift."

For so it must be, if her manhood fail

To stand by England in her deadly need

If still her wounds are but an idle tale

The word must issue which shall make you heed;

And they who left her passionate pleas unheard

We have to hear that word.

And losing your free choice, you also lose

Your right to rank on Memory's shining scrolls,

With those, your comrades, who made haste to choose

The willing service asked of loyal souls;

From all who gave such tribute of the heart

Your name will stand apart.

I think you cannot know what need of shame

Shall be their certain portion who pursue

Pleasure "as usual" while their country's claim

Is answered only by the gallant few,

Come, then, betimes, and on her altar lay

Your sacrifice to-day!"

THE WORLD'S PRESS**War Profits**

London Daily Express:—It should be regarded as shameful to be one penny the richer through this great tragedy. War profits, indeed, are blood money, which no man of good intent would care to touch. We do not, therefore, believe that there is the smallest desire on the part of any considerable number of employers to exploit the patriotism of the workers. Just as the worker receives his wages, so the capitalist is entitled to the average prewar return on his capital.

A Rebuke for Byran

Westminster Gazette:—We do not presume to criticise Mr. Byran for a course of action which no doubt is quite honourable and conscientious on his part, but we must be allowed one word of protest, when he suggests that we are equally involved in the criminalities and cruelties of this war. We and our Allies have done our utmost to keep this war within the limits of law and humanity, and we consider ourselves to have the gravest ground of complaint against an enemy who is daily inventing new atrocities to practise upon us.

Submarine Murder Defence

New York Press:—Nothing could be more upside down in logic than the defence which Berlin still seeks to set up for the cold-blooded murder of American men, women and children on the Lusitania. We say this is singularly the defence of Berlin, not of the German people, because it has been made perfectly evident by the open and wide discussion of the subject in the German press, since President Wilson's note on the subject, that the opinion of the German nation does not support the stand of the Berlin government.

The American Note

Glasgow Herald:—Mr. Wilson, however, is engaging himself in the profitless occupation of casting pearls before swine. Neither the Imperial Government nor the Imperial Admiralty nor the German people as a whole care two straws for the laws of humanity. They are out to kill, and the American Government delude themselves if they think that the men who in cold blood sanctioned the Lusitania infamy will adopt as their own the humane sentiments

which the President has formulated for their acceptance. The Germans are mentally incapable of appreciating the patient attitude which exhausts every pacific method before resorting to the argument of force.

The Cost of Coal

London News and Leader:—It should be understood that to hoard coal at the present time—to follow the insistent advice which the coal merchants in their circulars are pressing upon their customers, and buy at "lowest summer prices" against a winter shortage—is a disservice to the country, and probably a grave wrong to the poor. But if this counsel is to be followed, and these economies are to be effected, the householder and the manufacturer have a right to be assured that they will not, when the winter comes, be handed over to the tender mercies of the coal merchant.

Ireland's Position

London Chronicle:—There is a good deal of soreness in Ireland, because the strength of the Irish Division is constantly being depleted to furnish drafts for quite other units. The military enthusiasm of Irishmen would be far better sustained if they felt that their own division was getting a full chance. No less curious in its way is the position of the Ulster Division. This was organized in September last from members of the Ulster Volunteers. It was claimed that they were far better fighting material than the Territorials. The Territorials began to go abroad in October, many of them after two months' training. The Ulster division remains at home.

The Object in View

London Times:—The object in view is to increase the output of munitions of war up to the highest standard possible. All the responsible technical authorities have in effect made the same demand for munitions with varying degrees of emphasis, and it has now been generally accepted as the most urgent task of the nation to supply their needs. Many things are wanted, but some are wanted more urgently and in greater quantities than others. The most pressing demand of all is for shells, and it is for unlimited quantities. Hence the supply of shells is the most prominent point at the moment, but the others must not be forgotten.

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