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(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., JUNE 14, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Dancing To Our Tune

THE STAR pretender to the throne occupied by President Coaker continues to amuse the few readers of his classical Mutt and Jeff paper, and he has promised to keep it up indefinitely.

He is a wonderful performer and seeing that he is anxious to dance to our tune, we have no objections to playing for him.

So long as the poor creature is happy in his enchantment, who could deny him the little pleasure.

His insanity makes him fancy all sorts of things. His poor mind unhinged conjures up for him delightful visions. After all, who can say, but that the insane are really the best off. If by the breaking down of a thin mental wall, one can enter realms of pleasure undreamed of by the sane, well, who can tell that the fancied existence is not as comforting as the real.

The Star man fancies himself, the new leader of the F.P.U. "Help us fishermen, to save your Union" is his slogan.

The Union is in danger so we are sure the fishermen will respond to the appeal, and save the Union.

Humour the poor creature, and let us not try to dispel the vision which tottering reason has raised up in the mind.

We may order a dress for The Star dancer to our tune. Cap and Bells has been suggested to us, but we do not wish to incur the expense till we know how long he may keep up the performance.

He may be able to keep up his style for a long time, so long as we suggest the tune for him.

The trouble with the poor fellow seems to be that he is unable to fasten on a theme for his editorial remarks, in an independent way, and being forced to write something, must fall to silly criticism of what The Mail and Advocate says, and this is what we mean by, dancing to our tune.

Let us here suggest to The Star man a topic. The same subject made him notorious a year or so ago, i.e., Home Rule For Ireland.

This theme might furnish a little relaxation, and give the fagged energies a bit of rest.

It is our desire to see The Star man continue his dancing, but he must have a change of tune, or he might fall us, and that would be too bad.

Now Home Rule For Ireland might very fittingly be discussed at this time, seeing that Carson, has received an appointment in

the Coalition Cabinet, and we feel assured that St. John's readers will appreciate anything The Star man may have to say on the subject.

While the editor of The Star paper was on The Mail and Advocate, he had somebody to fill his editorial space for him, with original matter. He misses that kindly help in his present position, and is thus forced back upon the pally expedient of attacking our remarks.

It is easy to get a name, but if one is to hold it, he must continue, as our American friends remark, to deliver the goods.

The Star man is unable, he has not the stuff, and so has taken the most dishonourable and the cheapest course. He is eating crow day by day. He is denouncing Coaker to-day, whom he praised without stint a little while ago.

He is repudiating his own words, in a most sickening and revolting manner. No man with the least shred of character would do as this unstable creature has done.

But as we said before, the poor creature is not all there. There is a screw loose. As long as it gives him any pleasure, we will be delighted to furnish the music.

His snapping at our heels is harmless, and it pleases him. Poor fellow!

Where Are the Police?

WE beg to draw the attention of the Inspector General of Constabulary to the following item (editorial) in The News of Monday: "A little girl was knocked down on LeMarchant Road, and the rider was not sufficiently manly to stop and render the necessary aid."

Are the children of the workers of this city to be crowded to the sidewalks by reckless and incompetent drivers and chauffeurs? Have the children of the poor whose only play-ground in certain sections of the city is the public square no rights?

Owing to gross municipal mismanagement and civic extravagance, such as providing oil sprinklings for the benefit of a few motorists, some of whom have had to mortgage their homes, or perhaps "do" the fashionable? milliners of the city for their last costume we have no public playgrounds. Surely the day of Jugernaut no longer is tolerable!

The great thoroughfares of the city, notably Military Road, Harvey Road, and LeMarchant Road, are no longer safe for children; hardly even for adults.

Only a few evenings ago we noticed a dear, venerable old lady, presumably going to the Catholic Cathedral for service, who barely escaped being maimed by a auto, driven by a city highflier. We venture to assert that there is a large mortgage on the said gent's home!

Wake up, Inspector General, or, as The News (usually so conservative in its utterances) says: "If persisted in this deliberate disregard of the rights of citizens will give rise to a feeling of resentment that may take an unpleasant form."

We shall keep tab on the cheap individuals who imagine that the possession (we wont say ownership!) of a motor car gives them the right to run rough shod, or Dunlop-tyre shod—it amounts to the same—over the children of our working-men.

In Prince Edward Island there is a law prohibiting the use of motors in certain sections. We shall begin an agitation for its introduction here.

We trust that these words will not be construed by the "Holy Writ" Sheet into "another vile attack on the respectable? people of this city!!"

Wake up, Inspector General! Wake up!

Don't forget to ask your grocer about LaFrance & Satina Tablets. —ap12,1f

Two Pictures

THE Island Colony of Newfoundland—truly the oldest gem in Imperial diadem—has sent nearly three thousand of its sons to the war theatre. This is the largest contingent of any Colony, proportionately; and the dashing young soldiers and sailors are practically all native-born. They are said to be the finest body of men who have come from our overseas dominions." (Exchange).

Yes, we have sent the cream of our manhood to fight the cause of the Motherland that for so many centuries seemed to regard Newfoundland as a big ship moored to the Banks, for the convenience of English fishermen.

Now, read this: "Baron St. Davids, Lord Lieutenant of Pembrokehire in a debate on the Munitions Bill said: 'Among members of the Upper House (The Lords), he ventured to say they would find men, who had never done a day's work for themselves or for anybody else' since they were born, and that some of them still were hanging around theatres and music-halls. While that was going on . . . they might save themselves the trouble of looking for workingmen.'"

This certainly is a severe indictment, and urgent calls are being delivered to ourselves and others to rally to the Standard.

We are being denounced as lacking in patriotism when we dare tell the truth about English apertendism; and we are being reminded daily of the SACRIFICES which the scions of nobility are making to defend the Empire!

Who are the Lords anyway? "Toby, M.P., of "Punch," answers the question: "The most ancient searages come from Henry VIII., and draw their revenues from Church robbery. For example: the Earl of Pembroke inherits Wilton Abbey from William Herbert, and he got it from Henry VIII, who stole it from the Benedictines. The fortune of an Earl of North came from the St. Cross Hospital, whose founder had provided for thirteen poor, men within the walls, and one hundred without, the balance to go to the poor."

"The Duke of Portland has for his country seat, Welbeck Abbey—one of the wonders of England. The Duke of Devonshire owns in England and Ireland over 195,000 acres, with a rent-roll of \$800,000, and counts among his SEVEN seats Chatsworth and Bolton Abbeys—more stolen church property. The houses of Russell and Cavendish, according to Edmund Burke, devise their revenues largely from possessions voluntarily surrendered by the lawful proprietor, with the gibbet at the door!"

"The list of other spoiliations is lengthy. The Lords now own in the aggregate 15,500,000 acres of land with an annual rent-roll of \$65,000,000, or an average of \$115,000 a-year, each. Children who are to inherit this land are labelled law-makers in their cots; and a bankrupt, a voluptuary, an idiot, or the hanger-on-of-a-music-hall, though himself suspended, hands on to himself or his successor, the power of legislation. "Even the German Kaiser does not tolerate such iniquities as this, as in conferring the title of Count, Prince, or Duke, he invariably makes the honor ad personam; i.e. for life only, his object being that he may be free either to revive the dignity in the person of the younger son of the original grantee in the event of the eldest son proving himself unworthy, or else to permit the title to lapse altogether."

"Truly Lloyd George must find himself in strange company just now; for, it is not long since the doughty Welsh commoner confronted some of his present political associates with certain unpleasanthistoric facts, and told them very bluntly that "their hands were dripping with the fat of sacrifice."

Coalitions usually spell weakness; and from present indications the new British Cabinet is not a happy family. If the Irish members become disgruntled, it bodes ill for the cause.

AN OPEN LETTER TO H. M. MOSDELL

A Failure in Every Walk of Life-- A Servant of Water Street Czars and Spar Venders

To H. M. Mosdell.

Dear Sir,—In a recent issue of your paper you invite the fishermen of the country to help you save their Union. As one of them I emphatically decline to accept your invitation, and take this opportunity to inform you that I entertain a conviction begotten of very substantial facts that your utter unworthiness disqualifies you to the last extremity to extend a much lesser invitation to the men enrolled under the great spreading banner of the F.P.U.

A man of your type might achieve much success in the formation of a union of Bottle Washers, and your governing motive of self aggrandisement and riches that has engulfed you and severed your connection with us is your outstanding characteristic on which we base this conclusion.

The auspices of the F.P.U. drew you from obscurity, and provided the alpha sunshine in which you basked and matured somewhat. You greatly lacked that sincerity of purpose so essential for one in our vanguard ranks, and when you could not run President Coaker and pander to your heart's desire to your own self interest you quickly established yourself in quarters where you could serve only Mammon and began the swallowing of your own vomit and the crusade that will soon end your ambitions.

That you would Sir, eulogise Mr. Coaker and his great work as you have done in the past and now traduce and assail him as you are doing proves you to be the very selvege of humanity, devoid of sincerity, and utterly worthless where a man of principle and attachment to business policies is needed.

I read your "War on Coakerism" in The Mail and Advocate and beside it I also read your eulogy of Coakerism written—well it appears as yesterday or last week to us. Before I would stultify myself and prove myself possessed of such a barren soul I would absolutely forsake the pro-

fession of my lifetime to date and attempt again the ministry or, failing that a second time, the medical arena.

And you ask us to help you save our union. Well, I think you can save very little. You tried to be a minister and failed; you tried to be a doctor and failed; you tried to be a teacher and failed; you tried to run a paper at Bay Roberts and had to sell out; and, poor man, you are failing dismally as the editor of The Star, for, before writing the apparent wholehearted articles on Mr. Coaker and his Union of Toilers last year, and backing out this year at the behest of Czars who, perhaps, are basking in luxuries provided with the ill-gotten war profits and grabs on spars and consolidated statue fees.

I say, Sir; before acting in this wise I should think myself too soulless to be an associate of men, much less a saviour of unions, and should seek the wooded cloister there to opine a sapless, withered mis-compounded elemental portion of humanity.

You have no idea Sir, of the strength of the fishermen's attachment to the F.P.U. and its President, else your gall would not rise to the extent of offering the fishermen such an outrageous insult by proffering your services for anything in connection with the Union in preference to Mr. Coaker. We simply looked upon your offer with sheer disgust.

I got The Star from some friend with The Mail and Advocate in which I read your "War on Coakerism" beside your prayers and blessings on Coakerism, and do you believe I felt such disgust for the man who could so stultify himself, and prostitute his sense of sincerity and manhood that I consigned it to the fire without disturbing the wrapper.

Yours sincerely,  
ONE OF A FAMILY OF UNIONISTS.  
Harbor Main Dist.  
June 11th, 1915.

Rotten Condition of the Railroad

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—W. L. Butler, referring to the condition of the rail-road and engine, in his letter to the Mail and Advocate, hit the nail on the head (it not the spike) when he stated that he has pulled out spikes with his finger and thumb. That statement of W. L. Butler is certainly true, and stated condition of engines is also correct, for I have seen engines running over this road, and have been on them, which have been enveloped in a cloud of steam—due to leaky cylinders or cracked Saddles. The omission of steam caused by the said reason obscures the engineer's making it very dangerous for him and those who ride behind; but the driver dare not say or acquit the travelling engineer of the danger, lest he be believed of his job.

With reference to the road I beg to say that I have too, pulled out spike after spike with finger and thumb, and if some passengers who ride over Reid's two streaks of rust, knew the condition of it they would spend a very uneasy time and pass many a sleepless hour. The road is rotten to the core and yet, while there is such need for every section man employed thereon, these slaves

of Reids, are taken, or driven to unload coal ships, load coal in railway yards, and do many other jobs under their task-masters, when they should be allowed to stick to their section-work and nothing else.

Why don't the Government, especially the Government Engineer, see to such important matters? Is Morris waiting to hear of a train load of precious lives hurled into eternity to curb the Reids. What else can we expect while the road remain in such a deplorable condition as it is at present. I notice here this Spring that Roadmaster Ferguson, in the intervals of talking about General French, and Von Hindenberg, has ordered his section-men to put in a few new ties near Clarendville Station, which move of course is to try to bluff the public that the road is equal tied all along, but to prove the fact of rottenness, take a walk a few miles East and West, and there your eyes are met with the throbbing family of wood-fies and ear wigs, which proves beyond question that you are in the vicinity of rotten wood.

RESIDENT.  
Clarendville, June 9th, 1915.

Drowned

Deputy Minister of Justice Hutchings had a message from Magistrate Way at Harbor Breton on Saturday, stating that John Garland, fisherman of Pusthrough, was knocked overboard presumably accidentally and drowned. His body had not been recovered.

HALIFAX SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Meeting at Grenfell Hall

"Help Them to Help Themselves," Is the Heartfelt Appeal to the Charitably Disposed

A very representative and enthusiastic meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon, June 8th in Grenfell Hall in the interest of the Adult Blind of the Colony.

Mrs. M. G. Witter occupied the chair, and in a few wellchosen words outlined the purpose for which the meeting was convened, viz: the arousing of practical sympathy in the welfare of those deprived of sight and devising of ways and means of assisting the adult blind through the extension movement in connection with the Halifax School for the Blind.

Lady Davidson then addressed the meeting, and it was evident by her earnest words that the welfare of the blind of the Colony is hers at heart. She told of her daily contact for some years with one near and dear, who unhappily was deprived of sight; with what pleasure they read and conversed together, and the cheery optimism of the dear one so afflicted was not without the leaving of impressions of inspiration and hope.

Continuing, Lady Davidson said "I am familiar with the means used in the education of the Blind and view admiration and thankfulness the educational achievements of many of this class. When in London previous to my leaving for the Colonies, it was my privilege and pleasure to assist the National Institute for the Blind in its great philanthropic and humanitarian work."

Lady Davidson reads and writes Braille (which is the system by which blind persons study) she having acquired this knowledge in order to make her voluntary assistance really practical. In referring to the adult blind of the Colony—140 young men and women, she evinced a sincere desire that something be done to alleviate their present condition, and said, "Were we to learn as did the heroine in Florence Barclay's book 'The Rosary' what this deprivation meant we might appreciate more fully the inestimable blessing of sight."

Although the titanic European struggle was demanding the best in us all and so much had and was still to be done, yet in her opinion home responsibilities and duties must not be neglected.

Her Ladyship's pleasing words were full of hope and encouragement and the keynote of practical sympathy was sounded by her very clearly throughout. She felt that the Women's Patriotic Association might well take up this most important work, and should the Executive of that noble band of workers so decide, the Blind of the Colony must no longer sit in their dark corner in abject misery, helplessness and in some cases despondency.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. John Weir, travelling secretary of the Halifax School for the Blind, who is here in the interest of the Blind of the Colony. Mr. Weir, whose subject was the Education of the Blind, dealt with it from two points of view, first, the institutional training and equipping of the youthful blind and second the home teaching of the adult blind. He would that specific interest be manifested in this latter class numbering as they do 140 young men and women of the Colony. FC 16 of the former class, the Government of Newfoundland makes annual provision at the Halifax School at a cost to the Colony of \$4000. He felt confident that the State would not fail to realize its responsibility toward the remaining 24 of the youthful blind of the country, reasoning that money so invested in the education of the Blind—that they become useful men and women, producers rather than consumers—is money well spent, and in the best interests of the country.

Mr. Weir said that the early philanthropists who addressed their attention to the help of the Blind were moved by the spirit of compassion and aimed at rearing the Blind under sheltered and protected conditions. Good as were their intentions, the result was not satisfactory, but about the year 1877 a new spirit involving a new method arose. He claimed that while this new method had not restricted the flow of compassion it had allowed enterprising blind youths to enter into open competition with their seeing brethren. This was a great point gained. He stated, too, that the utmost freedom in the choice of profession or vocation should be allowed to the Blind under reasonable limitations.

He graphically outlined the work of the Halifax School in its several departments and passed a well deserved eulogium on Sir Charles Frederick Fraser, Superintendent of the School, whose life has been devoted to the service of the Blind and of whom it might truly be said "If you seek his monument look around you."

Mr. Weir showed clearly that blindness is not an insuperable obstacle to success, that is, when the person so handicapped is educated and equipped to face the battle of life.

In dealing with the second part of his subject, the Home Teaching of the Blind, he said it was little to be wondered at that these men, suddenly plunged as it were into a new world, in which their whole previous training unfitted them to dwell, take a hopeless view of life. He felt that the people of Newfoundland as a class, were perfectly unaware of the true condition—the abject misery and helplessness—of the 140 adult Blind in their midst, and added, "Now that this representative gathering knows the extent and importance of the work to be done through the extension movement of the school I feel assured of the ready and hearty co-operation of all."

The extension movement needs some \$80,000 as a maintenance fund that will make possible the home teaching of the adult Blind of the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland. Organized and concerted action is needed that this amount be forthcoming and the work begun without delay. An auxiliary society to the extension movement was, in his opinion, the way by which Newfoundland might do its part in the raising of this amount, thus helping others to help themselves. What more noble purpose could be ours?

Mr. Weir thanked Lady Davidson for her kind and sympathetic words of address, her promise of practical assistance, and for her excellent suggestion that such a Society be affiliated with the Women's Patriotic Association, that body being well established, having more than 1000 members in this City and 165 branches around the Island.

He closed with an impassioned appeal to all present to assist in promoting the welfare of the Blind of the Colony.

The Secretary, Mrs. T. J. Duley, in a clear and convincing manner, spoke of the pressing obligation resting upon us to see that this humanitarian endeavor be carried to a point, which defies the infliction of a blow, as hard as any that mortals have been called upon to bear. Mrs. Duley said "It is no less lamentable than true that speaking generally, thanksgiving plays a pitifully small part in our daily devotions. We become so accustomed to the many benefits that we enjoy that the thought of recognizing and thanking for them specifically seems to occur to us but seldom. Hence eyesight and a thousand things are accepted by those who have them as a matter of course and not until one or the other of them is lost do we realize the great value of what we had prized so lightly. The moving appeal that Mr. Weir has just made should not fall on deaf ears and all who enjoy the blessings of sight should do all that lies in their power for those who do not share that blessing."

Lady Horwood, in pleasing terms, moved that this meeting be constituted the Newfoundland Auxiliary Society for the Home Teaching of the Blind, through the Extension Movement, in connection with the Halifax School for the Blind and that it be affiliated with the Newfoundland W.P.A., should the Executive of that body at its meeting to be held on Monday next decide that such affiliation be advisable.

Mr. John Browning seconded the motion, endorsing all the previous speakers had said.

The motion was unanimously carried and those present enrolled as members. This movement must have the hearty approval and support of the whole country, and we bespeak for the Society's plan of raising funds to carry on this philanthropic and humanitarian work, such financial assistance as should be the outcome of their proposed appeal.

Mr. T. D. Carew, the veteran newspaper reporter, we beg to announce has joined the staff of The Mail and Advocate, in the place of Mr. P. J. Kinsella, resigned, and takes up his new duties to-day. Mr. Carew is so well known as to need no introduction from us.

We recommend him to friends of The Mail and Advocate, and feel assured that his numerous friends about town, will be pleased to see their old favorite in the position of reporter so ably sustained by him for many years, previous to his dropping out of the line a few months ago.