

Boys' Wash Suits

Hot weather is coming when the boys need light suits that one can wash and wash. This season our price is extraordinarily low for such good suits.

Only 2.65 each

WHITE REGULATION SAILOR SUITS.

With Short Pants	\$4.00
With Long Pants	\$6.50
White Sailor Caps	\$1.30

WOMEN'S WARM WEATHER BLOUSES

2.98 to 3.98

A brilliant display of new ideas in cool White Blouses at values never before equalled in St. John's.

Bishop, Sons & Co., Ltd.,
St. John's

Bathing Suits

For Women, Boys and Girls. Don't let the holiday find you without a Bathing Suit.

**Boys', 1.35 suit
Girls', 1.35 suit**

Women's, 1.90 to 4.20 suit

Report of the Fish and Salt Enquiry Commission

His Excellency Sir C. Alexander Harris, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.V.O., Governor.

On the 21st of January last a Royal Commission issued directed to the Hon. M. G. Winter, C.B.E., Eli Dawe, Esq., and George T. Cart, Esq., setting forth that in the year 1920 certain quantities of fish and salt were purchased by and on behalf of the Government out of the public funds of the Colony; that it had been alleged that the Hon. W. F. Coaker, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, purchased on behalf of the Government a quantity of fish, which was afterwards shipped to market in a vessel named the "President Coaker"; and further that it had been alleged that a certain quantity of salt was purchased and stored in the premises of the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Limited, at Port Union; and whereas the said Commission directed the Commissioners to make a full investigation and enquiry into the matters and things referred to therein, and to submit findings thereon; the Commissioners now beg to report that they held a preliminary session on the 3rd of February last, the formal opening taking place in the President's Room, Colonial Building, on February 6th, when Mr. Arthur Mews, Deputy Colonial Secretary, and the Hon. W. F. Coaker were examined, and placed in evidence certain documents bearing on the matters under investigation. On February 7th Mr. Hazen A. Russell, the Assistant Manager of the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd., was examined, and recalled on the 9th on which day Mr. J. S. Keating, Deputy Minister of Finance, and Mr. H. V. Hutchings, formerly Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries, were also examined. On February 10 the evidence of Sir J. C. Crooke was taken, and on February 13th that of Messrs. J. C. Hepburn, H. R. Brookes, and E. A. Bowring. On February 14th Mr. Brookes was recalled, and Mr. W. H. Cave, Minister of Shipping, was also examined as well as Mr. J. Sellars. On the 18th of February Messrs. Brookes and Coaker were re-

called. On the 21st Sir R. A. Squires was examined and Mr. Hutchings recalled. The Commission then adjourned awaiting the return to the Colony of Messrs. R. B. Job and P. C. Barteau, Comptroller and Auditor General. These gentlemen were examined on the 4th and 5th of May last. No other witnesses were called.

SALT. The Commissioners find that at a meeting of the Executive Government held during the last week of April, 1920, owing to representations made to the Government by Mr. R. B. Job acting on behalf of the Salt Importers (commonly known as the "Salt Pool") the Executive, to quote the evidence of the Prime Minister, Sir R. A. Squires, "Realized the seriousness of the possibility of an insufficient supply of salt for the season's fishery and the responsibility of seeing that there was a sufficient supply of salt for the fishery was especially placed on the shoulders of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, whose duty it was to see that there was a sufficient quantity of salt imported. Mr. Coaker in pursuance of this general authority to deal with the salt situation attended a meeting of the "Pool" on the 17th of June, 1920, and at this meeting informed the "Pool" that he was negotiating for a cargo of from four to five thousand tons of Hamburg Salt to be shipped to Newfoundland, and he offered to allow the St. John's importers about one-half of the cargo, the other half to be delivered at Port Union. This offer was not clearly accepted. No evidence of acceptance was obtainable from the Minutes of the "Pool" or from the four members of the "Pool" examined.

The members of the "Pool" assert that Mr. Coaker made a clear and distinct offer to deliver 2,000 tons at St. John's. Mr. Coaker states he made no arrangement to discharge any of the cargo at St. John's and that the offer he made concerned a cargo of 4,000 tons which he was negotiating for, and which fell through, as he wanted to lighten the ship at St. John's before sending her to Port

Union. He says the Importers thought the supply at St. John's was sufficient and he believed he would have to take 4,000 tons, and believing this built a new store to take 1,500 tons. The Salt, consisting of 4,000 tons, arrived in the steamer "Tuckahoe" late in the month of July, 1920, and was landed at Port Union and stored on the premises of the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd. The misunderstanding between the "Pool" and Mr. Coaker was satisfactorily settled after the exchange of telegrams between him and Mr. R. B. Job, when the St. John's Importers withdrew their claim for half the cargo, and allowed Mr. Coaker to have it all.

The Commissioners cannot find any direct authority from the Government to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to import this salt on Government account, other than that contained in the general authority to deal with the salt question, but it is clear that Mr. Coaker believed he had such authority (and this is confirmed by the evidence of the Prime Minister) for the salt was ordered on Government account, consigned to the Government, and was paid for by a credit established in London by the Deputy Minister of Finance through the Bank of Montreal, St. John's. There is no authority anywhere, either in the evidence or in the documents produced, for the assertion that the "Tuckahoe" cargo was ordered by Mr. Coaker for the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd., and afterwards passed over to the Government, when it was found that the salt was not required in the fishing season of 1920. All the negotiations leading up to the purchase and shipment were conducted by Mr. Barr with the Minister of Marine and Fisheries on account of the Government. It was disclosed in the evidence of the Salt Importers that a prolonged strike existed at Cadiz in the Spring of 1920, which continued well into the month of June of the same year. No salt was procurable there and it seemed a fortunate chance that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries was able to obtain a cargo at Hamburg, but when the "Tuckahoe" arrived at Port Union the salt was not required, as there had been a good early fishery but a poor fishery in June and July. The "Salt Pool" had secured 11,000 tons and that was sufficient to supply the requirements for the fishery at that time. Consequently, only 1100 hogsheads of the "Tuckahoe's" cargo went into consumption during the Fall of 1920. This was sold at the then current price of \$4.00 per hogshead to the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd., and the proceeds paid to the Government on the 18th of April, 1921. In the same month the balance, estimated at 13,000 hogsheads, was taken charge of by the Shipping Department, and subsequently disposed of by orders through the sub-collector at Port Union. This portion of the "Tuckahoe's" cargo was sold at prices varying according to quantity from \$1.80 to \$2.20 per hogshead. The salt situation became quite easy before the Spring of 1921, hence this drop in price from \$4.00 in the Spring of 1920 to \$1.80 in the Spring of 1921. No charge was made for storage of the "Tuckahoe's" cargo by the Trading Company, Ltd., at Port Union. The salt was purchased at 68½ C.I.F. and with additional landing charges cost \$4.40 per hogshead stored at Port Union. Compared with the cargoes of salt from Liverpool imported shortly before the "Tuckahoe's" this landed cost was not high. The percentage of loss in weight was described as exceptionally low by one competent witness; the loss on 14,000 hogsheads being only 170 hogsheads. It was a very heavy salt running 3 1/2 hogsheads to the ton.

We indicated above that the evidence adduced by Mr. Coaker and the members of the "Salt Pool" showed no binding agreement on the part of the former to deliver or the latter to accept half the "Tuckahoe's" cargo at St. John's, but the Commissioners are of the opinion that the Minister

of Marine and Fisheries showed poor judgment in discharging the whole cargo at Port Union, thereby causing a loss to the Colony of about \$16,000.00. The total loss on the cargo, which cost landed about \$4.40 per hogshead, and sold at an average price of \$1.90 per hogshead, amounted to \$33,136.00.

FISH. On November 19, 1920, His Excellency the Governor confirmed a Minute of Council passed on the previous day allocating a sum of \$500,000 for the purchase of 50,000 qtls. of Labrador fish at \$8.00 for choice and \$7.00 for prima. On the same day power was conferred on the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to purchase and sell 50,000 qtls. Labrador fish of 1920 catch, either directly or through an agent. Mr. Coaker elected to do this through Agents, and these Agents had no authority to disclose their principal's name. He explains this method was adopted principally to

encourage the Fish Exporters to buy some of the large numbers of cargoes awaiting sale at St. John's and other ports, Labrador fish being almost unsaleable in the Fall of 1920, and because he did not want the impression that the Government were buying to become general, fearing in such case the Government would be swamped with Labrador fish. He made Messrs. R. B. Job, George M. Barr and Joseph Sellars his Agents. The Minister states he advised the purchase to relieve the local and to steady the foreign market. He clearly employed Mr. Sellars to purchase a cargo for the "Jean Wakely" then in St. John's. Mr. Sellars produced the written authority from the Minister to do so. It is not so clear that he employed him to purchase the cargo for the "President Coaker." There is here a conflict of evidence. Mr. Sellars said he was not so employed, Mr. Coaker is positive he gave Mr. Sellars authority to buy the cargo at

Port Union and when Mr. Sellars was unable to go there the Trading Company purchased from schooners in the port sufficient to load the "President Coaker," viz: 7,500 qtls. There is no written authority from the Minister to Mr. Sellars as in the case of the "Jean Wakely," but an inference that authority was given may be implied from the fact that Mr. Sellars chartered the "President Coaker" as well as the "Jean Wakely" on the 18th November, 1920—the day on which authority was given the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to purchase and sell 50,000 qtls. of Labrador fish—and by the further fact that on the 28th November when the "President Coaker" was loaded and ready for sailing the Trading Company sent the bill of her cargo, export tax, freight, and insurance to the Department of Marine and Fisheries per Joseph Sellars, and that cheque was made out in favour of Joseph Sellars for \$32,675.00, which he accepted

and paid into his Bank account, and then gave the Trading Company a cheque for a similar amount. The Commissioners are of the opinion that the weight of evidence on this point is in favour of Mr. Coaker.

The Commission took particular pains to ascertain that the fish loaded on the "President Coaker" was purchased directly by the Fishermen's Union Trading Company from schooner owners harboured in Port Union during the month of November, 1920, at the price of \$8.00 per quintal. On this point the Commissioners are fortified with the direct evidence of Messrs. Coaker and Russell, President and Assistant Manager respectively of the Trading Company that such was the case. This evidence has been corroborated by the list sent to the Department of Marine and Fisheries, giving the names of schooners, masters, residence, and quantities of fish shipped, and particularly by the production of the copies of "Fish Receipts," showing date of shipment amongst other details, 4,471 qtls. of the "President Coaker's" cargo were purchased from dealers of the Trading Company, the balance of 3,029 qtls. from fishermen dealing elsewhere.

The "President Coaker's" cargo consisted of 7,500 qtls. at \$8.00 (60c. extra per qtl. was charged for storage and labour) making \$60,750.00. Added to this were insurance and export tax \$9,175.00 plus half freight 9,750.00, making a total of \$82,675.00, the amount of the cheque paid to Mr. Sellars. The "President Coaker" arrived at Genoa on April 31, 1921, and her cargo turned out according to the account sales furnished by Fonseca Araujo & Co., Ltd., on November 16, 1921—7,239.83 qtls. Labrador Codfish made up as follows:—

Regular and Medium	4,306.75
Seconds	2,332.82
Thirds	43.97
Damaged	546.36
	7,239.89

The vessel was compelled to return to Gibraltar twice for refitting, having been caught twice in a hurricane in the Mediterranean. The Commissioners consider the loss in output under these circumstances not excessive. It was in cold storage from the 15th of February to the 15th of October, 1921. The proceeds of the cargo remitted to the Government amounted to \$25,949.43. The total cost to the Government was \$82,675.00, leaving a loss in realization of \$56,725.57.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries whose actions are the subject of this enquiry is also President of the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd., and it is suggested that he used his position as Minister of Marine and Fisheries to the advantage of the Trading Company. A most searching enquiry has been held by the Commissioners, all the evidence available in connection with the purchase of the fish and the salt in question, and the storage of the latter, has been obtained and all documents bearing on these matters have been put in evidence. After the fullest consideration the Commissioners are unanimously of the opinion that there is no foundation for the suggestion of charge that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries has been guilty of wrong doing, or has used his public office for the benefit or advantage of himself or the Company of which he is President.

Herewith is a transcript of the evidence taken at the Enquiry and the original exhibits produced.

We also return the Commission. Respectfully submitted,
M. G. WINTER, Chairman,
E. DAWE,
GEORGE T. CARTY.

MOTH BALLS (Best Quality) at STAFFORD'S, only 10c. per package.—jnel15

HIVARD'S LINIMENT USED BY VETERINARIANS.

"KEARNEY FIRST'S" Stepping to Time.

Back From America! With New York's latest expressions of dressy ideas.

Pick-me-ups from Broadway's crack shops.

A GREAT TRIP! A BIG NECKWEAR MANUFACTURER CLOSES OUT HIS COMPLETE LINE AT A SACRIFICE. NEW GOODS! SPICY, BRISK, SPICK AND SPAN.

Ready for Summer! Ready, aye, ready! No longer need a man look at a dollar with astance. A dollar looks bigger to us than to any store on the street. It was a blue town, but listen! There's nothing like the chink of the good old rhine to make a man think quick. That's what happened when I got over—something like this:

"I want Neckwear, old boy; something good, neat and full-ranged. Want a thousand dozen. I'll buy it all here if you make a price, if not I'm going. What's for this lot?? Quick! make a price."

That's how I bought the Neckwear. Wait, it's not opened yet. It's a big, big surprise.

SHIRTS that flow before your eyes in a long vista of exquisite patterns. Tap your chest—here's where your long-suffering pocketbook chortles with joy. You'll want more. There's plenty for all—wait!

COLLARS with many new ideas and some old ones popping up in new garb. The new Semi-Soft Collar that grew famous in the States over night. Here, too! The best of many shapes in stiff and soft from where men wear the latest.

CAPS—a startling new idea. A Cap that will fit any size head. Loosen or tighten the strap—that's comfort. Won't shrink—won't stretch. See them here—they're not elsewhere.

STRAW HATS that grip like velvet. Silks predominate in beautiful Summer Pyjamas, Socks that ease weary feet and charm the eye, Handkerchiefs of exquisitely blended tones. Novel, new and bracing, Summer has given us a bracing impetus to show the latest and best.

Watch for what Kearney shows every day. Kearney's first with the latest and only a step behind Broadway. Good Goods don't come back—"tell me on the floor."

Kearney's

Jnel15,16

Our Local People

HIS DIARY.

June 14.—The painters still at their business in the office and everything in great disorder. I find things mighty dull to-day, and people, it seems, do now begin to (sic) long in bed. I to see the play the Feldmans, that are from old school, at football, but the B. forwards are better, and did win the game. To the play "45 minutes Broadway" and mighty delightful seeing how it was more of a comedy than any other thing, nor was any plot.

Personal.

Mr. Mack Garland, son of Mr. Garland, of Lower Island Cove, V., who has been in the city for weeks, undergoing optical treatment, left for his home by train this morning, having benefited much by course.

HIGH TEST and LOW TEST

Gasoline

filtered from tanks on retail, also in cases and cases.

H. J. Stabb & Co.

Shampoo Your Hair Frequently

With COCONUT OIL SHAMPOO to keep your scalp clean and healthy. After a Coconut Oil Shampoo your hair is beautifully soft and silky and has that well groomed look that every one admires. You know that this preparation has given satisfaction to hundreds of our customers, hence we can recommend it with entire confidence. 40c. bottle. **PETER O'MARA** The Druggist, THE REGALL STORE.

Hams, Bacon, etc.

Sinclair's Fidelity Bacon

Sinclair's Bacon

Wilson's Certified

Wilson's Laurel Bacon

Irish Bacon.

Special for Saturday:

Turnip Tops

W. J. MURPHY

PAINTS!

EXTRA ARRIVED:

100 tins EXTRA QUALITY PAINT (in gallon and half gallon tins).

100 tins ELASTIC PAINT (suitable for roofs and basements).

100 tins WHITE ENAMEL (4 pint tins).

200 tins DORY PAINT (quarts, 1/2 pints, and 1/4 pints).

100 tins DORY PAINT (quarts, 1/2 pints, and 1/4 pints).

100 tins DORY PAINT (quarts, 1/2 pints, and 1/4 pints).

100 tins DORY PAINT (quarts, 1/2 pints, and 1/4 pints).

100 tins DORY PAINT (quarts, 1/2 pints, and 1/4 pints).

100 tins DORY PAINT (quarts, 1/2 pints, and 1/4 pints).

100 tins DORY PAINT (quarts, 1/2 pints, and 1/4 pints).

100 tins DORY PAINT (quarts, 1/2 pints, and 1/4 pints).