

The Evening Advocate

THE EVENING ADVOCATE THE WEEKLY ADVOCATE

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Our Motto: 'SUUM CUIQUE'



(To Every Man His Own)

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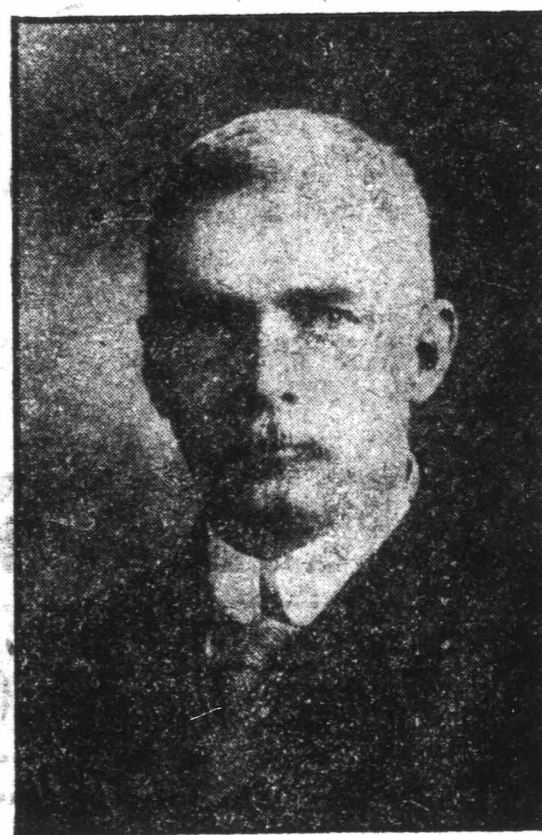
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1917.

NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION CONTINUED UNDER DR. LLOYD'S LEADERSHIP

At noon to-day, the Governor accepted Dr. Lloyd as Sir E. P. Morris's successor, and the National Administration will be continued with Dr. Lloyd as Premier.

Three members of the Executive have retired, viz., Messrs. J. R. Bennett, R. A. Squires and M. P. Gibbs. These vacancies and the departmental offices affected thereby, will be filled shortly.

Mr. J. G. Stone, at the Fishery Department, and Mr. Woodford at the Public Works Department, remain at the head of their departments.



HON. W. F. LLOYD, K.C., D.C.L.
Premier and Min. of Justice.

WHAT J. S. CURRIE SAYS

THE NEWS wishes us to answer a question or two put this morning. The assertion is made that the building of the spur line to Catalina is the most flagrant misuse of public monies ever known. The News better visit Port Union and see for himself before he satisfies himself that such a statement is true. The spur line won't cost \$25,000. It not only connects Port Union with the railway but it supplies a terminus for the railway that will enable the public North to receive the proper benefits from the Reid coastal service, which service during past years has been so unsatisfactory.

That the need of this spur is genuine we may state that during the past two weeks 10,000 barrels of flour have passed to Port Union, beside the vast bulk of material gathered from all sections of the country for ship-building. Port Union business will amount to \$5,000,000 in three years, and why should not such facilities be allowed any business of such importance whether controlled by 23,000 toilers or one man?

The News was silent last year when the Colony expended \$25,000 on a terminus at Heart's Content for the A.N.D. Co. that is not used nor will be of any benefit to country or company. Why spend \$25,000 for the convenience of Lord Northcliffe's interest and deny it to Port Union? Why, because Port Union has been established by Coaker and his 23,000 faithful supporters for the use and benefit of the Northern people in order to break the shackles of Water Street influences, that for 300 years have bound the fishermen toilers to the Grab-all dealers of Water Street.

The F.P.U. is not Coaker. The U.T. Co. is not Coaker. He is not benefitting from any expenditure at Port Union. He does not become rich to the extent of one penny. His efforts are for Country and for the Underdogs that have always had to lay low because of such sneaks as John Currie and other Blue-blood influences at St. John's. Coaker has triumphed and has placed the toilers where he said nine years ago they should be, and while Mr. Currie was willing to use Coaker and the F.P.U. to keep his own Party in power, he finds out he can become a sneak when Mr. Coaker's turn comes to put the boot on the other foot.

The bounty on ship-building injures the Union Shipbuilding Co. more in proportion than any others' in the business, for it is now ready to turn out many vessels in a year and the more vessels the more bounty. If any one suffers it certainly must be the Shipbuilding Co. Why should Newfoundland be forced to pay \$250,000 a year as bonus for vessels built for foreign owners and foreign trade at a time when every vessel built for foreign trade meant a clear gain to the builders of from 50 to 70 per cent? Why should the Shipbuilding Co. at Port Union be paid \$7000 bonus on a 350 ton vessel that without the bonus could to-day be sold at a profit to the Company of \$20,000 at least?

Mr. Coaker secured the bonus as it now stands on the Statutes for the encouragement of the building of fishery schooners and bankers, and when that law was made there was no thought of building vessels for foreign trade or for foreign owners. Newfoundland possesses but limited quantities of timber for ship-building and if the present rate of slaughtering timber for schooners continued for ten years, there would not be ship-building timber enough left in the Country to supply 20 per cent of the demands for fishery vessels.

The payment of a bonus to vessels of 120 tons and under provides aid to supply the Colony with a fleet of fishing schooners that without such aid could not be built. This fishing fleet is the mainstay of the Colony's trade, for if no schooners can be found for the fishery then the returns from the fishery must be cut in two.

We boldly assert that Mr. Coaker's attitude in protecting the Colony against the inrush of speculators who would eat up in little time as much bounty as now paid for educational purposes, and to stand by the Country at a loss to his Company of at least \$100,000 a year is the act of a Patriot of the noblest sort and not the act of one who would grab from the Treasury because he happens to have some control over it. Every one is put in the same boat regarding bounty and we defy The News to show how in any manner the refusal to pay bounty on vessels over 120 tons can help or aid the ship-building Co. at Port Union.

We may assure Mr. Currie just here that no matter what his opinion of the F.P.U. or the Trading Co. or Mr. Coaker's position as President of them is, that all have come to stay and the more he objects and falsely accuses them the mightier and stronger the F.P.U. will grow. 40,000 fishermen—comprising four fifths of the electorate—must and will demand now and for ever the same political influence they now enjoy, whether Water Street or The News likes or dislikes it.

As for Mr. Hickman, he was present at a meeting of the Tonnage Committee held a couple of weeks since, so the statement that he was not present at a meeting since August is untrue. The buyers did write Dr. Lloyd and he consulted Sir Wm. Horwood, the Administrator, about replying, and both decided no reply could be given until permission was received from the Secretary of State. If that reply is forthcoming, Water Street will get the hardest blow it ever received, so far as making political capital is concerned.

Will Mr. Currie please make a specific charge against the Tonnage Committee concerning any one of its actions? Will it state any facts regarding a cargo of fish it refers to that reflects in any way against the Tonnage Committee? We reply re tonnage that Mr. Fearn, Secretary of the Shippers Co., wrote the Tonnage Committee a few days ago and intimated that no further steam tonnage was required and the Tonnage Committee has so informed the Home Government.

The steamer referred to is to take some fish for the Italian Government purchased through the Imperial connections in England, and some from the shippers. It matters little who ships the fish as long as the steamer takes fish and not rocks. What the Country wanted was facilities for freighting fish to market; the fishermen are not concerned as to who ships the fish. The question for the Country is to get fish across to market and if a steamer takes a load it means that much taken from stocks here. Mr. Currie will be enabled to ask for all the information he requires when the House opens and will get all he requires if the Secretary of State will permit the tabling of Imperial dispatches.

The report that Mr. Crosbie was to retire is another falsehood concocted by The News, for no one heard of such a rumour outside of The News office. We again assert in reply to The News that His Excellency did not request or in any way wish Dr. Lloyd to resign his position as solicitor of the F.P.U. Any school boy knows that no Premier could be expected to go into Court from day to day attending to the legal requirements of a body of men consisting of two thirds of the whole fishermen of the Colony. Dr. Lloyd had, weeks ago, decided to resign that position if he became Premier.

Mr. Bennett has given no reason for resigning. He probably felt that being a candidate for the Leadership of the People's Party he could not very well look on and see Dr. Lloyd replace him, or he may have considered his responsibility as Minister of Militia was such under present circumstances that he welcomed an opportunity to escape from such responsibilities, in view of the continuance of the war for another year or more.

The Telegram's Falsehoods

THE TELEGRAM'S statement yesterday that Dr. Lloyd was asked by the Governor to relinquish his position as solicitor of the F.P.U. before he became Premier is untrue. The Governor has not raised any objection to Dr. Lloyd's continuing as solicitor to the F.P.U., but Dr. Lloyd notified Mr. Coaker some weeks ago that in the event of becoming Premier he would relinquish the position of solicitor to the Union. This decision was reasonable and fully in accord with Mr. Coaker's opinion on the matter.

As for Mr. Coaker and Mr. Halfyard only a gasbag like Editor Winter could advance such an argument, for Mr. Coaker has as much right to hold a seat in the Executive and retain his position as President of the F.P.U. as Mr. Squires had when he was Grand Master of the L.O.A. or Mr. Ellis as President of the T.A. Society, or the late E. M. Jackson as President of the Star of the Sea. Mr. Higgins is not an aspirant for a seat in the Executive. Mr. Crosbie has now no contract with the Government, but when he did and the F.P.U. protested against him holding an Executive seat, The Telegram refused to endorse the F.P.U. and The Advocate's position. Consequently the effort of The Telegram to make capital out of such false and ridiculous statements reflects only upon itself and Editor.

The F.P.U. has never had any connection in any way with the Reid Nfld. Co. or any one connected with that Company. The F.P.U.'s influence the past six months has been exercised in a manner that has been vigorously resented by the R.N. Co., and those who know are fully aware of the F.P.U.'s position and matters of public interest, whether Reid Nfld. Co.'s or any other interests.

Let Mr. Winter search the records and ascertain how many applications for timber lands and other concessions have been turned down by the National Government.

The charge that the R.N. Co. has lately formed an alliance with the F.P.U. for political purposes is absolutely untrue and The Telegram will be asked to retract that statement or prove it in the Courts.

The silly bunkum of street gossip which The Telegram apparently accepts as facts will not pass with impunity when such a serious charge is made, which if true would mean complete destruction to the F.P.U. and all its connections. Therefore The Telegram will either retract that falsehood or produce its proofs.

The Telegram is somewhat uneasy over our broad open challenge of Monday to produce proofs of any improper conduct on the part of the Government or the Tonnage Committee. It is silent and produces nothing but asks why Mr. Coaker is so concerned over statements that are a tissue of falsehoods and bare insinuations without a shadow of justification. Our reply is that while most people trust Mr. Coaker and repose absolute confidence in him and believe he would never be a party to wrong doing, yet some may conclude that statements such

as made by The Telegram on Saturday might contain some truth if allowed to pass without denial.

We again repeat: Let The Telegram or any one else produce one iota of proof of wrong doing on the part of the National Government or the Tonnage Committee and Mr. Coaker will at once resign his connection with the Government.

It is The Telegram's duty to produce proofs or be manly enough to confess its inability to do so and express its regret for uttering statements or casting insinuations that have no foundation in fact.

The New Government take charge to-day and Dr. Lloyd is now Premier of the Dominion of Newfoundland, and while he performs his duty as faithfully and sincerely as he has the past three months as Acting Premier, he will retain the position regardless of what The Telegram, News, or any other paper or person says to the contrary. We congratulate Dr. Lloyd upon his appointment to such a high position at such a trying period in the Country's history. Dr. Lloyd is a poor man's son, a self-made man, a man who possesses an education second to none of any man in the Colony; yet he never attended a University or College after he started to earn his living at the age of 12. His education he secured by night study through night schools. He is no aristocrat, consequently some consider him unsuitable to be Premier as they consider Mr. Coaker, unsuitable to be one of the big political factors in the public life of the Colony, because his father happened to be a fisherman and devoid of the blue blood that runs in the veins of the Harveys, Sheas, Bowings, etc.

Let those who dislike the New Government continue their opposition. The people placed Mr. Coaker where he is and the people will keep him there. Messrs. Cashin and Crosbie bring strength and experience as well as push, energy and ability to the counsels of the New Government and in spite of many influences and appeals made to destroy their loyalty to Dr. Lloyd and Mr. Coaker, they have remained as firm as Signal Hill and gladly extend their support to carry on a strong government at a period when the Country demands the best that is in all true Britons.

The New Government will be the strongest, most capable, and able of all its predecessors, and under its guidance the best possible for all interests will be done. The foes of democracy combined to prevent Dr. Lloyd from succeeding Sir E. P. Morris but without avail. The lessons taught them by the experience of the past week will not soon be forgotten. They will realize more than ever that the people now rule and not the few along Water Street, that the fishermen's voice in public affairs has come to stay and the fishermen's influence will stand solely and only for Country and Clean Government.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT To the Members of the Grenfell Association of Newfoundland.

The Directors beg to present herewith their Third Annual Report. Since the last Annual Meeting of the Association, His Excellency Sir Walter Davidson has departed from Newfoundland. Since the incorporation of the Association in 1914 Sir Walter Davidson has acted as President and has exercised the keenest interest in all matters pertaining to the work of both this body and that of the International Grenfell Association. We very much regret his departure and shall greatly miss the advice and assistance that he has so freely and generously given to all branches of the work of the Grenfell Missions.

It is with much satisfaction that we are able to say that His Excellency Sir Alexander Harris has kindly consented to accept the office of President, and we feel that much benefit will accrue from his valuable assistance and skilful direction of the affairs of the Association. The accounts for the year ending 31st. December, 1917, are submitted herewith. Reference to these accounts will show that we have contributed to the funds of the International Grenfell Association the sum of \$1040.00 and that the Newfoundland Government Grants, over the same period amount to \$4,000, making a total contribution by Newfoundland of \$5,040.00.

It is a matter of some regret to your Directors that the Funds contributed by us to the International Grenfell Association should be so small in comparison with those of the other contributing bodies, particularly in view of the fact that the sphere of the Association's work is confined to Newfoundland and Labrador.

The following comparative statement of the contributions for the three years preceding that under review discloses this disparity:

	1916	1915	1914
England:			
Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen	\$ 9,908.17	\$ 9,113.60	\$ 7,251.04
United States:			
Grenfell Association of America, and New England Grenfell Association	34,042.88	26,000.00	29,266.08
Canada:			
Labrador Medical Mission	7,085.00	8,015.00	\$ 461.00
Newfoundland:			
Grenfell Association of Newfoundland	6,000.00	5,769.75	5,026.40
	\$56,614.85	\$48,838.44	\$50,044.12

It must, however, be stated in justice to the members of the Newfoundland Association that they have contributed generously towards the running expenses of King George's Fifth Seamen's Institute. In 1915 \$1,114.00 was collected for this purpose, in 1916 \$1,073.00, and in 1917 \$500.00; and a further call will shortly be made for the year which is now closing.

Special Appeals for funds have been addressed to the outport merchants of Newfoundland, but, we regret to report, with but little success.

During the year a special enquiry was made into the work of the International Grenfell Association by Magistrate Squary on behalf of the Newfoundland Government. The Newfoundland Government were requested by the International Grenfell Association to make this enquiry in consequence of a petition presented to the House of Assembly when last in session containing certain charges of misconduct on the part of the Association in the administration of its work on the Labrador.

It is hardly necessary to say that Magistrate Squary's Report is a complete vindication of the Association. The Directors have pleasure in reporting that the King George's Fifth Seamen's Institute has continued its excellent and progressive work, and is becoming increasingly used by the class for whom it was specially designed, viz.:—The Outport Fishermen. The Girls' Department of the Institute is also proving of great value. (Sgd.) C. ALEXANDER HARRIS, Chairman.
HERBERT R. BROOKES, Secretary.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 29th, 1917.



Police Court

Judge Morris delivered judgment this morning in two cases against Thomas Healey, an oil vendor, charged with storing oil on premises on King's Road and Harvey Road, contrary to the Inflammable Substances Act.

The court personally visited the King's Road site yesterday afternoon. On the charge in this case the defendant was fined \$10.00 and costs. Any further violation will be met by imposing the full penalty.

In the other case, viz., storing oil in sand pit on Harvey Road with the permission of the Municipal Council the case was dismissed; the site complained of was not covered by the section under which the prosecution was taken.

Four boys charged with disorderly conduct on Xmas Eve night on Theatre Hill also appeared before his honor. One of the boys bent on mischief kicked in the window glass in the Fleishman's Yeast store, Theatre Hill, and also drove his fist through the shop window of Mr. Patrick Wallace, further up the same street. One of the four blew the roof and the culprit in the case was fined \$20.00 or 30 days; the fine was paid.

On Xmas day afternoon a west end laborer entered the shop of an Assyrian who conducts a business on New Cover Street near Pleasant Street. The man rose a dispute over change given him and a fight in which the Syrian and a fellow countryman, the defendant and his brother took an active part ensued. The investigation this morning before the magistrate established the facts that three of the parties were really peace-makers in accord with the spirit of the festive season.

The alterations made in the faces of the belligerents had not been serious. It was simply a Xmas row and his honor was inclined to be lenient. The inebriate was fined \$3.00 and the other three were honorably acquitted.

Coastal Boats

Argyle. No report.
Chyde arrived at Lewisporte 7 p.m. yesterday.

Dundee left Greenspond 2 a.m. yesterday, inward.

Ethie at Lark Harbor.

Glencoe leaving Port aux Basques to-day.

Home left Lewisporte 11.50 a.m. yesterday.

Capt. Stevenson arrived at Port aux Basques 9.20 p.m. yesterday.

Capt. Cross is at North Sydney.

Capt. Tavenor is leaving Port aux Basques to-day.

Earl of Devon left Exploits at 11.10 a.m. to-day, coming south.

Fogata arrived at Cat Harbor at 11.40 a.m. yesterday and left at 1.25 p.m., coming south.

Prospero left Change Islands at 5.30 a.m. to-day and is due to-morrow afternoon. The Prospero will make another trip north, leaving here in the early part of next week.

Portia has not been reported since leaving Hr. Breton but is probably at Channel to-day.

Train Notes

The west bound express arrived at Crabb's 2 a.m. to-day.

The weather up country to-day is north west wind; light and fine; ther. 4 to 30 above.

The express which arrived at Port aux Basques this morning will await the arrival of the Kyle with mails and passengers from North Sydney.

An express with mails and passengers will reach here on Saturday.