



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, --- Proprietor
C. T. JAMES, --- Editor

Wednesday, October 1, 1919.

Guaranteeing Codfish Prices.

The sound sober sense of the business community, and the intelligent thinking, reading and observing public, who weigh public questions thoroughly and impartially, has been seriously disturbed by the astounding proposal put forward by Mr. W. F. Coaker last week for a guarantee by the Government of codfish prices this year, he specifying that shore fish should be guaranteed at \$12 and Labrador at \$10 per quintal, and justifying this course on the ground that it is a simple matter for the Government to take this step without risk of seriously affecting the country's financial position. There is no doubt of the rejection of this proposal by the elements amongst us who can seriously deliberate on the pros and cons of a proposal of such a character, and evidence is already accumulating that even in the centers where he professes to possess the almost idolatrous support of the F.P.U. members, he is finding it difficult to satisfactorily explain this particular policy. It is also significant that his fellow principal in the political conspiracy now being hatched to secure control of the public affairs of this country, R. A. Squires, is too much alarmed at the resentment which his advocacy of this policy would arouse to identify himself with it in any fashion. But there are people simple and unsuspicious to whom Coaker's plausible reasoning may appeal in some way, and it is to these that we address our arguments on this important subject at the present time. There are men who will say, as Mr. Coaker says, that it is easy for the Government to give this guarantee; that the price will advance; and that no loss will come; and that if a loss should come, it would be the fishermen themselves who would have to bear it. Nothing is easier than for some political mountebank to advocate a policy of this kind, hoping to secure place and pay as a result of it, but without any intention of carrying the policy into effect if elected, and men of that type are not to be taken seriously. But Mr. Coaker is the kind of man who, if in a position to enforce his will upon a majority party in the Legislature, might insist upon such a policy being actually put into effect, and therefore it behoves our people to view every aspect

of this matter calmly and dispassionately during the next few weeks, so that they may know exactly what this proposal represents, and where it may lead this country.

Our annual catch of codfish is about one and a half million quintals. To guarantee the prices which Mr. Coaker calls for would mean that the colonial treasury would have to make arrangements with the banks for providing an enormous sum of money to meet the possible losses that would be faced on such a transaction. The banks would not furnish such money without having security, and that security could only take the form of such possible assets as could be turned into cash at the shortest notice in order to meet any losses that might be incurred. In other words, the banks would ask for securities of various kinds, all the debentures, bonds, bank deposits and other resources which the Colony possesses, and which to-day are the sole protection of those who have money invested in any way in this country that implies governmental association. Therefore, the first step necessary to carry out Coaker's policy would be that the Government would have to pledge every security possessed by it, in order to have available the money necessary to pay the losses, which might be faced in giving the guarantee Coaker advocates.

If the amount thus realized is insufficient to meet the losses that might be met, the Colony would then become bankrupt. It would have to default on its interest payments, and we would see ourselves confronted with similar conditions to those which existed at the time of the Bank Crash, twenty-five years ago. Is it desirable, we ask, that the country should be placed in that position? That the prosperity, comfort and eminently desirable conditions of life which prevail at present in Newfoundland should be destroyed, and our Island almost given over to destitution and misery, in order that a crack-brained scheme of Coaker's advanced in the middle of an election campaign, might be tried under the pressure of demands from those who would look for the fulfillment of this promise the moment Coaker & Company were installed in office? We submit to the people of this country, most sincerely, that the policy of wisdom on their part to-day is to keep in power a party which, through all the stress and strain of the past ten years, periods of depression before the War, and during the War, with all the strange and disturbing conditions of local and external trade, has kept this country under full sail on the ocean of prosperity, and with such a condition of good times as never was faced here before; or will the people agree to allow Coaker and his followers to get control of affairs and attempt experiments of the character indicated, when it must be apparent to everybody that the only result of such can be the undermining of the edifice of public credit, and the bringing about of a collapse, the ruinous effects of which would be felt in every home and family through the length and breadth of this Island?

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Fearful Safety.

The Opposition papers are daily clamouring of the certain defeat of the Government candidates and the consequent victory of the Opposition forces at the polling booths on election day. In fact so sure are the Opposition powers of success, in their own opinions, that it seems unnecessary to have polling booths at all, but merely a change of parties on the plan of changing guards in an army camp. Each move of the Government is commented on, and pronounced to be a suicidal act, and but another emphasis on the Opposition plea that "the people want a change." Deathbed repentances are looked upon as dying wails on the part of the present Government by even medical doctors.

In scanning the arguments of the Opposition press, there is, however, a little loophole of escape and consolation to the Government and its multitudinous followers, viz., the constancy with which the Government is told of its defeat, and the bitterness with which it is criticized, as though even now there were possibilities of the return to power of the present administration. The selection of titles for the opposing parties has been and is a bitter pill for the Opposition to swallow—bitter because of the applicability and vice versa of the sobriquets. The word Liberal Reform as applied to the Opposition is not the most aptly applied because there has been no outward sign of the conversion of its wearers, and people still see the appearance of the past in the present makeup of the Liberal Reform Party. The term Liberal Progressive is equally galling to the Opposition because it so fittingly describes the Government teams. Reform, like Charity, should begin at home, and such is at present doubtful, but Liberalism and Progressiveness are synonymous terms, and indicative in themselves of a sound and progressive policy.

In the light of such certainty of victory, it is more than strange that such an appeal should emanate from one of the dual leaders of the Opposition during the last few days. If the handwriting on the wall is as plain as it is stated, then surely the vision must be at times overstrained, and it must have been during one of these temporary hidings of the writing that the appeal was sent out. The mere fact that such an appeal was necessary is proof positive that there is grave uneasiness in the camp of the Opposition forces, while the wording of the appeal is such that the reader can easily see between the lines the desperate straits of those seeking to gull the electorate, under a false name and false pretensions, and who are horribly afraid of the outlook, as they see the tardiness with which they can secure even candidates to contest the districts, to say nothing of the voters, the majority of whom gauge the Liberal (?) Reform Party or parties at its true worth.

Truly we might ask at this juncture, Why so fearful? You, Opposition friends! Surely your papers must be hypocritically publishing what you know is not true, otherwise why in terms expressive of absolute certainty of victory do you advertise the defeat of the Government, and yet in terms equally strong you vilify the actions of the present administration. Verily, indeed, it is to laugh, to see the writers of such reputed turning out articles so contradictory. The pity of it all is that the average-minded person or reader is supposed not to see the contradiction, and therefore will it not be a poor return to those writers when the counting of the votes spell Liberal Progressiveness, and not Liberal Reform?

form (?) for another four years.

Mr. Shea Withdraws

The difficulty of the Coaker-Squires Party in their attempts to secure candidates for the Southern Districts, is aptly illustrated by the withdrawal from nomination of Mr. Patrick J. Shea, who had been selected for the Placentia ticket. The moment Mr. Shea learned that one of his colleagues was to be Mr. John M. Devine, "the John B. Gough of Newfoundland," he announced his withdrawal on the ground that as a matter of vital principle was involved, he could not conscientiously or sincerely run for Placentia District with such a rabid Prohibitionist yoked to him. Mr. Shea lost no time in acquainting the LEADERS of the Squires-Coaker Tory Party of his intentions, and that gentleman is to be congratulated on his integrity and his refusal to change sound principles for the catch-cry politics of the Opposition. Mr. Shea would have been a strong man in Placentia District, and would have been returned by a substantial vote. He was not, however, willing to be led around by the nose, and hence the Liberal Progressive Party secures the support of a strong man who absolutely refused when he saw the game, to be used as an instrument to further the ends of the "unholy alliance." This is but adding strength to the popular desire, and the augmentation of Mr. P. J. Shea to the ranks of the Liberal Progressive Party is another sure indication that

In the Field.

By express yesterday Hon. A. B. Morine, K.C., Minister of Justice, left for Bonavista where he will be joined by his team mates for that district, Capt. William C. Winsor and Dr. C. A. Forbes. Immediately the Liberal Progressive candidates will enter upon an aggressive campaign, one, perhaps, in which more interest will be shown, than in any other in the Dominion. Coaker's strength in Bonavista is now on the wane, and no better evidence of that is needed than the report of his recent meeting there, which was but sparsely attended by his followers. The threat contained in messages to the Advocate, that Morine will not be permitted to hold meetings in certain parts of the district need not be taken seriously. Bonavista has decided that one man rule must end, therefore Coaker must go.

By this morning's train Hon. J. S. Currie left for Burin via Placentia. On arrival there he will be met by his colleague, Mr. Geo. A. Bartlett, and together they will carry the banner of the Liberal Progressive Party to victory. No better selection could have been made for the prosperous and progressive district of Burin, and as the representatives of the Liberal Progressive Party Messrs. Currie and Bartlett will receive such a vote as will show that Burin district has no desire to be made a political football by the Coaker-Squires outfit.

Walsh, Sullivan and Sinnott are having a triumphal march through Placentia and St. Mary's, being hailed everywhere as winners. The important district has made up its mind that none other than Liberal Progressive Candidates will have the honor of receiving the suffrages.

The Trinity team, Hon. J. G. Stone, Messrs. Robert Matthews and Andrew G. Carnell are now ready for the fray, and will be in the district very shortly. With Hon. Mr. Stone representing the north side of the Bay, Mr. Matthews the south side and Mr. Carnell on the spot in St. John's Trinity will have the strongest possible force to look after district interests in the House of Assembly, and Trinity intends to return the Liberal Progressive Candidates with the largest vote ever polled.

From everywhere comes the encouraging news that Liberal Progressive Candidates are the popular favorites, and that the Tory Reform nominees are not wanted.

Sagona's Report.

A message was received yesterday via Holton, reporting that the S. S. Sagona had arrived at Indian Harbor and that weather was stormy and foggy. Arrived at Nain Sept. 25th. Winds from west to south west, with fine weather going north. Returning variable winds with bad weather was encountered. All fashers returning south well fished. Cape Harrison crews all left for home.

Mrs. W. Moncrieff-Mawer will receive Thursday, 2nd October, from 3 till 5.30 p.m., 59 Gower Street.—sept 30, 21

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Shrapnel.

To-day's best laugh: Leo Carter as Minister of Militia.

Who is the prominent Canadian politician at Ottawa who instrumental in arranging a two months' vacation for one of the Opposition nominees at R. A. Squires' request?

And how much money in Canadian bank notes did this same gentleman bring with him, and from whom?

Little drops of moonshine, Little cakes of yeast, Will make a hasty pudding For the "Dicky Birds" love-feast.

Who had the heart to send that "most irresponsible youth" to St. George's?

The returned men realize that John R. Bennett is the soldiers' real friend despite the endeavours of those "Who Could But Wouldn't" to disprove the fact in order to serve their own base desires.

And won't Petty Officer Matthews give them the answer in Trinity Bay?

In view of all he said the last time, how is Harry Bartlett going to explain his alliance with Coaker?

People are still waiting for Squires' explanation of the paltry sum in cold bucks he received from Reids.

And the twenty thousand dollar note which Coaker wanted H. D. Reid to endorse.

The fighting trio—Higgins, Vinnicombe and Fox—the two thousand majority team.

Ottawa's "pork barrel" must be getting low these days at the rate which Squires is handing it out. Some of his friends say it's better than coal-hauling.

If you are on the Squires Line, Get a transfer.

If you're inclined to fret and pine, Get a transfer.

Get off the track of Doubt and Gloom; Get on the Cashin Train—there's room.

Get a transfer.

Horse Runs Away.

A horse owned by an East End Baker, took flight on New Gower St. yesterday afternoon, and bolted for the West. Near Adelaide St. the van hit a telephone pole and was demolished. The horse was captured later not much the worse for his wild career for freedom.

When you want Roast Beef, Roast Veal, Roast Mutton, Roast Pork, try ELLIS'.

C. C. C. Band Concert.

The C. C. C. band concert in the "Casino" last evening was fairly well attended. The following programme was faultlessly rendered under the direction of Capt. Arthur Bulley. March—"The Directorate"—Band. Song—"Madam Timmons-Eadie." One-step—"Oh Frenchy"—Band. Violin solo—Mr. Eadie. Waltz—"Mighty Lake's Rose"—Band. Song—Mr. Adelin. Fox-trot—"Ta-Da"—Band. Two-step—"Mickey"—Band. Selection, "Hunting Chorus" Band. Song—"Mr. Carl Trapnell." A Characteristic Trombone Smear—"Trombonology"—Band. March, "Laurentian"—Band. Banks of Newfoundland. God Save the King.

Stafford's Drug Store, Theatre Hill, is open every night till 9.30. sept 1, 11

VICE REGAL VISIT.—His Excellency the Governor left by this morning's train to connect with the Portia at Placentia. He will visit important points on the West Coast.

When you want Sausages, why—get ELLIS'; they're the best.

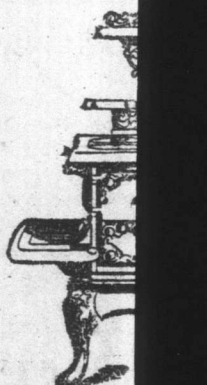
MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES DISTEMPER.



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Liberal Ready mourning astic V dresse Mulal

The laborers and and craftsmen of St. made up their minds not going to permit in their industrial ing votes for the party of destruction and last night's Com the St. John's West ive Candidates and that intention. The been created by the Coaker with Squires layed until these tritica elements are public life. Such take them in about a when they will be the shower of adve night the spirit of again became incur tide of Liberalism which have been swept over the moun sembled in the T. increased strength, voter present to holeral traditions alve John's West. That organization has re which it will not testified to to-day, be heard on the st sentiment that ne Squires can be true West is first, last, Liberal, and being STRAIGHT TICKET Mullaly and Marti. Punctually on sch Fitzgibbon, Chair opening remarks, R. Bennett, and m ing was only called



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