

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE."



(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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OUR POINT OF VIEW

The Great Convention

THE Catalina Convention of the F. P. U. just closed was the most important if not the most successful of the F. P. U. Conventions held the past six years. The delegates were a splendid type of men, practical, intelligent, and full of the true Union spirit. They assembled feeling confident that the F. P. U. was now fully established, and proud of the Union's remarkable achievements of the past year.

Since the last Convention the Union Party had proved its mettle and qualification in the House and had been favorably recognized by foe as well as friend. That gives the Union's prestige a grand forward motion which was apparent throughout the four days' constant discussion which prevailed at the recent Convention.

The fact that the prestige of the Trading Company, the Publishing Company and the Union had been fully maintained during the trying days which the Country have passed through since war was declared, was another grand incentive to all to go forward with faith and confidence. Never before was such confidence in an president so general and so freely manifested. The delegates had an abiding confidence in the president and all rely upon him in a degree that would surprise outsiders if they could realize the exact relations existing between the leader of the Union and the army of members supporting it.

President Coaker, of course, has a thorough grasp of all the Councils and all the Union's connections, and he is a union encyclopaedia, and all bow to his rulings and opinions when expressed. His tact when dealing with men is one of his greatest talents. He makes no slips and while the Convention is sitting he is continually at his post. He never leaves the chair, and he always speaks upon every matter coming before the Convention.

He explains every matter in a manner peculiar to himself, that enables the simplest mind to grasp his meanings. The Convention realizes that each year he greatly improves and the knowledge and experience gained year after year is easily discernable at the Convention and increases his prestige.

He is remarked for his indifference as to whether he is popular or unpopular, and his supporters feel sure that there is no more important actuating him and that is the uplifting of the toilers of the country. He closed the Catalina Convention a far stronger man than he was when it was opened. His opening address carried conviction to every heart and was an inspiration to all present.

During the four days the Convention was in session he has spoken fully twenty hours upon the various matters reviewed. There is no rest for the delegates at the Convention time. All work hard and have only enough time to eat and but half enough to sleep. He opened the Trading Company meeting on Monday at 9.30 a.m. It closed at 1 p.m. At 2.30 p.m. the Supreme Council opened.

The opening address was finished at 5 p.m. in order to permit the speaker to proceed to Bonavista by carriage.

Bonavista was reached at 7 p.m. and the mass meeting opened at 7.30 p.m. It closed just before 10 p.m. in order to permit the President to return to Catalina by the 10.15 train.

He visited his old hosts Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Groves and drank a cup of tea and was off to catch the train. At 11 p.m. he was presiding over a meeting of the Trading Company's shareholders at the Orange Hall, Catalina, which meeting closed about one o'clock the next morning.

His proposals to form an Export Company are considered the greatest of any of his proposals and if accomplished will stamp him as the most remarkable man Newfoundland ever produced. The faith in his idea may be calculated by the fact that at the Convention some \$2,000 was handed in for shares in the Exporting Company, and Catalina Unionists alone are resolved to purchase \$10,000 worth of shares in the new company. The Journal of proceedings when

published will reveal a thoroughness in the work and a knowledge of conditions that will stamp its records as the most remarkable of all Union proceedings.

The North is as firm as a rock for the Union and will back President Coaker as a unit in anything he appeals to them for and to accomplish.

A revolution has been accomplished in Newfoundland and it would be as well for all to recognize the changed conditions, and endeavor to meet them in a friendly manner.

One great factor was easily recognizable in the Convention, that was that all faith has been lost in the Government and Governor. The people are loyal and ready to die for the Empire, but cannot be convinced that they are not assisting Morris and the Governor by enlisting. If a change of Government came there would be no difficulty in securing 5000 recruits for the Navy.

Those who know President Coaker at a distance would have been surprised had they listened to his patriotic remarks at the Bonavista mass meeting. If his words were loyal at Catalina what he stated at Bonavista far surpassed anything he said at Catalina.

We hope the young men will forget at this time who governs the Colony and respond to the appeal for Naval recruits, for it is not Morris or Governor Davidson that is to be considered, but the honor of Newfoundland and the safety of the Empire. Come forward, boys, as President Coaker so eloquently asked you at Catalina and Bonavista to do and carry out the promise made by Newfoundland to our Gracious King.

This must be done or our Country will be dishonoured before the world. A man has but once to die and if death comes standing behind the guns of British warships, what death can be more glorious or more creditable to men of our race.

The Commission

YESTERDAY we referred to the Sealing Disaster Commission and intimated that we would return to the subject again to-day. We therefore, fulfill that promise.

The respect in which the judges of the Supreme Court are held in British countries is due to their superior detachment from political matters. If they became mixed up in current partisan discussions, respect would cease, and with its termination their power if it would depart also. They are the possessors of a public trust and must guard themselves against any suspicion that they are susceptible to Government influence, in the form of insidious bribery. Such a suspicion reasonably arises when their salaries are added to by fees or rewards from the Government for extra-judicial work.

Messrs. Horwood, Emerson and Johnson are respectable citizens, but the specially high place they occupy in public esteem is due to the fact that they are judges of the Supreme Court, and as such are not generally regarded as partisans. They will be no more regarded than any other respectable citizens dabbling in politics for reward if they pass out of their proper sphere to act as Commissioners in what has already become a whitewashing trick for the Government—a bluff at an inquiry which should have been held many months ago, and has only now been undertaken as an excuse.

There is still a third reason why judges of the Supreme Court should not act in this Sealing Inquiry. It is this: That litigation connected with it has already developed, and more is not unlikely. There are half a dozen libel suits already commenced for remarks made about sealing captains and sealing ships. How can litigants submit with confidence to trials by judges who are sitting as commissioners in a public inquiry about the same matters, and who in the latter capacity are to be the jury as well as judges. No better illustration could be afforded of the impropriety of the judges acting on the Commission.

The F. P. U. will not stand for this. It will as quickly denounce the judges at it would politicians if they do not keep the precise place which they were appointed to, and confine themselves to judicial functions.

We demand that the judges of the Supreme Court now acting as a Commission of Enquiry under special pay of the Government for enquiry into a matter that should have been investigated last April resign their Commissions as commissioners of enquiry for the people will not hesitate to express their opinion freely upon this matter if such a course is persisted in.

Owing to the storm last evening, the telegraph lines in various parts of the country were interrupted. Repairs are being made today.

George St. Adult Bible Class—To-morrow afternoon, commencing at 2.30, Dr. Lloyd will deliver an address on "The Great War." Special music. Visitors and any out-port friends in the city will be heartily welcomed. Room for all.

Two Big Two Part Features at THE NICKEL To-Day.

A Vitagraph two-part social drama.
THE VANITY CASE
Innocently a young lady commits a theft. Her mistake is used by a rascal to induce her to commit a real theft. She learns a lesson from her horrible experience. DOROTHY KELLEY, JULIA SWAYNE GORDON and JAMES MORRISON are featured.

"HOW PICTURES ARE MADE."—A Keystone educational comedy. "THAT TERRIBLE KID."—A Lubin comedy.

The Domino players in a two-part comedy drama,
THE FILLY.
A charming Irish story—a tale of The Donnybrook fair.

ARTHUR C. HUSKINS sings—(a) "TWO EYES OF GREY"; (b) "AS I'D NOTHING ELSE TO DO."
AN EXTRA FINE PROGRAMME FOR THE BIG BUMPER MATINEE SATURDAY.
YOU'RE ALWAYS SURE OF A GOOD SHOW AT THE NICKEL.

VIOLENT GERMAN ATTACKS FAILED IN EVERY INSTANCE TO BREAK ALLIES' LINES

(Continued from page 1.)

left flank the enemy advanced in force against the French and were repulsed. Directly on our left, however, along the greater part of the front, shelling was less severe, and no infantry attacks took place.

Heavy Bombardment.
"To the southeast of Ypres, the enemy kept up a heavy bombardment against our line as well as that of the French. On our left centre the situation remains unchanged, both sides contenting themselves with furious cannonading. In the centre the Germans retained their hold on the small amount of ground which they had gained from us, but in so doing incurred a heavy loss from our artillery and machine gun fire.

"Incidentally, one of the houses held by the enemy, was so knocked about by our fire that the defenders bolted. On their way to the rear they were met by reinforcements under an officer who halted them, evidently in an endeavour to persuade them to return. While the parley was going on one of our machine guns was quietly moved to a position of vantage, whence it opened a most effective fire on the group.

"On our right one of the enemy's saps which was being pushed towards our line was attacked by us. All the men in it were captured.

A Day of Desperate Fighting.
"Wednesday, the 11th, was a day of desperate fighting. As day broke the Germans opened fire on our trenches to the north and south of the road from Menin to Ypres. This was probably the most furious artillery fire which they have yet employed against us. A few hours later they followed this by an infantry assault in force. This attack was carried out by the first and fourth brigades of the Guard Corps, which, as we now know from the prisoners, have been sent for to make a supreme effort to capture Ypres, since that task has proved too heavy for the infantry of the line.

"As the invaders surged forward they were met by our frontal fire, and since they were moving diagonally across part of the front, they were also attacked on the flank by artillery rifles and machine guns. Though the casualties before they reached our lines must have been enormous, such was their resolution and the momentum of the mass that in spite of the splendid resistance of our troops, they succeeded in breaking through our lines in three places near the road.

"They penetrated some distance into the woods behind our trenches, but were counter-attacked again, enflanked by machine guns, and driven back to their line of trenches, a certain portion of which they succeeded in holding in spite of our efforts to expel them. What their total losses have been during this advance may be gauged to some extent from the fact that the number of dead left in the field be-

hind our line alone amounted to seven hundred.

Failure of Another Effort.
"A simultaneous effort made to the south, a part of the same operation, although not carried out by the Guard corps, failed entirely, for when the attacking infantry massed in the woods, close to our line, our guns opened on them with such effect that they did not push the assault home.

"As generally happens in operations in wooded countries, the fighting to a great extent was carried on at close quarters. It was most desperate and confused. Scattered bodies of the enemy who had penetrated into the woods at the rear of our position could neither go backward nor forward and were nearly all killed or captured.

"The portion of the line to the south east of Ypres held by us was heavily shelled, but did not undergo any serious infantry attack. That occupied by the French, however, was both bombarded and fiercely assaulted. On the rest of our front, save for the usual bombardment, all was comparatively quiet. On the right one of our trenches was mined and then abandoned. As soon as it was occupied by the enemy the charges were fired, and several Germans were blown to pieces.

Partial Lull.
"Thursday, the 12th, was marked by a partial lull in the fighting all along our line. To the north a German force which had crossed the Yser and entrenched on our left, was annihilated by a night attack with the bayonet, executed by the French.

"Slightly to the south the enemy was forced back for three-quarters of a mile. Immediately on our left the French were strongly attacked and driven back a short distance, our extreme left having to conform to this movement. Our allies soon recovered the ground they had lost, however, and this enabled us to advance also.

"To the southeast of Ypres the enemy's snipers were very active. On our centre and right the enemy's bombardment was maintained, but nothing worthy of special mention occurred.

Picked Troops for a Final Effort.
"The fact that on this day the advance against our line in front of Ypres was not pushed home after such effort, as that of Wednesday, tends to show that for them, the attacking troops had had enough.

"Although the failure of this great attack by the Guard Corps to accomplish their object cannot be described as a decisive event, it possibly marks the culmination if not the loss of the second stage in the attempt to capture Ypres, and it is not without significance. It has also a dramatic interest of its own.

Having once definitely failed to achieve this object by means of the sheer weight of numbers, and having done their best to wear us down, the Germans brought in fresh picked

troops to carry Ypres by an assault from the north, the south and the east. That the Guard corps should have been selected to act against the eastern edge of the salient, may be taken as proof of the necessity felt by the Germans to gain this point in the line.

Worthy of Admiration.
"Their dogged perseverance in pursuance of their objective claims wholehearted admiration. Their failure of one great attack heralded as it was by an impassioned appeal to the troops, made in the presence of the Emperor himself, but carried out by partially trained men, has been only the signal for another desperate effort in which the place of honor was assigned to the corps d'elite of the German army.

"It must be admitted that the guard corps has retained that reputation for courage and contempt of death which it earned in 1870, when Emperor William the First, after the battle of Gravelotte, wrote: 'My Guard has found its grave in front of St. Privat and the swarms of men who came up bravely to the British rifles in the woods around Ypres repeated the tactics of forty-four years ago, when their dense columns, toiling up the slopes of St. Privat, melted away under the fire of the French.'

Are Cunning Fighters.
"That the Germans are cunning fighters and well up in all the tricks of the trade, has frequently been pointed out. For instance, they often succeeded in ascertaining what regiment or brigade is opposed to them and because of their knowledge of English, they were able to employ the information to some purpose. On a recent occasion, having by some means discovered the name of the commander of the company holding that trench they called him by name, asking if Captain _____ was there. Fortunately the pronunciation of the spokesman was somewhat defective, and their curiosity was rewarded by discovering that the officer in question and his men were very much there.

"There have been reports from so many different quarters of the enemy having seen them wearing British and French uniforms that it is impossible to doubt their truth. One absolutely authentic case occurred during the fighting near Ypres. A man dressed in a uniform closely resembling that of a British staff officer, suddenly made his appearance and walked along the line. He asked if many casualties had been suffered, stated that the situation was serious and that a general retirement had been ordered. A similar visit having been reported by several men in different trenches, orders were issued that this strange officer was to be detained if seen again. Unluckily he did not make another appearance.

A Human Document.
"The following remarks taken from the diary of a German soldier are published, not because there is reason to believe they are justified with regard to the conduct of German officers, but because of their interest as a human document. Under date of Nov. 2nd this German soldier wrote:

"Previous to noon we were sent in a regular storm of bullets in the order of the major. These gentlemen (the officers) sent their men forward in a most ridiculous way. They themselves remain far behind, safely under cover. Our leadership is really scandalous. The enormous losses on our side are partly from the fire of our own people, for our leaders neither know where the enemy lies nor where our own troops are, so that we often are fired on by our own. It is a marvel to me that we have got on as far as we have done.

"Our captain fell, as did also all our section leaders, and a large number of our men. Moreover, no purpose was served by this advance for we remained the rest of the day under cover; we could go neither forward nor backward, nor even shoot.

"The trench we had taken was not occupied by us. The English naturally took it back at night. That was the sole result. Then when the enemy had entrenched themselves another attack

was made, costing us many lives and fifty prisoners. It is simply ridiculous this leadership. If only I had known it before!

"My opinion of German officers has changed.

"An adjutant shouted to us from a trench far to the rear to cut down a hedge in front of us. Bullets were whistling around us from in front and from behind. This gentleman himself of course remained behind.

"The fourth company has now no leaders but a couple of non-commissioned men. When will my turn come? I hope to goodness I shall get home again.

"In the trenches shell and shrapnel burst without ceasing. In the evening we get a cup of rice, and third of an apple per man. Let us hope peace will soon come. Such a war is really too awful. The English shoot like mad. If no reinforcements come up, we shall have a poor look out and must retire.

"The first day I went quietly into the fight with an indifference which astonished me. Today for the first time, in advancing, when my comrades on the right and left were falling, I felt rather nervous. But I lost that feeling again soon.

"One becomes horribly indifferent.

"I picked up a piece of bread by chance. Thank God! At least I have something to eat.

"There are about 70,000 English who must be attacked from all four sides and destroyed. However, they defend themselves obstinately."

Russians Make Many Captures

Petrograd, Nov. 21.—The efforts of the Germans seem to be aimed at trying to break down our front between the Vistula and the Warta.

Our offensive on Nov. 19th met with partial successes.

At the north-west to-day we captured a battery of heavy artillery, ten machine guns and several hundred prisoners, after a stubborn fight.

On front of Czenstochewa and Cracow things are developing normally. On Nov. 17 and 18 we took three thousand Austrian prisoners.

In Galicia we have occupied Wisniz, Gerlice, Gukla, and Ujok.

The One Dish That Agrees With The Aged



Kellogg's CORN FLAKES
Get the Original

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The schooner "Bessie Crooks" is due to arrive in a few days with a cargo of

350 Tons Prime Screened Coal
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The kind that will give you one Dollar's worth of Satisfaction and Comfort for 100 cents.
Sold by all Up-to-date Dealers.