

The Greatest of These

By Gene Fowler.

WHEN men are struck down by two-edged swords, I shed a tear above the battlefield. When women are made husbandless, I ask mercy for the widow. When children cry for fathers who are sped, I ask shelter for the orphan. I am the companion of all who are alone with grief. I am the comforter for the needy, the heart-broken, the friendless.

I HEAR the wail for bread. I listen to the dry call of throats that are athirst. I hearken to the rumble of the multitude of the poor, the dejected and downtrodden. Before me all men stand equal, for I am the ambassador of Heaven. I am the inspiration of good deeds. I walk not only among the poor, scattering alms or extending the hand of kindness; I am in the hearts of all men who think humane thoughts, who speak helpful words.

My tears are not maudlin weepings. My sentiments are not those born of fleeting impulses. My sympathies are practical, beneficial, deep-seated, and when I assist the lowly I do so in the name of Him who fed the multitude by the sea. So long as you take me to your bosom, the world may name you Fool and offer you a cap and bells; but I will call you wonderful and you will inherit the smile of the Creator. I am Love, I am the partner of Hope, the team-mate of Faith, the dispenser of sunshine. I teach the brotherhood of man and the uplifting of the race. Frown not upon me when you chance to meet me in the humbler places.

FOR I AM CHARITY.

Something About Shrapnel

Shrapnel possesses greater man-killing power than any other kind of ammunition used in modern field artillery, and that is why more than 1,000,000 a month are being used by the European armies now in the field. Thousands of shops in this country and in Europe are working day and night to supply this demand. A superficial examination of a shrapnel shell discloses little to indicate its destructive power—it is simply a small steel shell attached to the end of a brass case; but when properly adjusted and fired from a modern field gun, this steel shell becomes a veritable demon of destruction. Within the brief period of four and three-quarters seconds it has travelled over one mile, and seventeen and one-quarter seconds later it is nearly three and three-quarters miles distant from the gun. At any time during this rapid flight it can be made to explode with marvellous precision and deadly effectiveness.

Each shell has a time fuse that is made with the accuracy of a watch. This fuse is graduated in seconds and is set to explode at a given range as determined by the panoramic sight of other forms of range finder. As soon as the gun is fired, the fuse is ignited automatically, and when the explosion occurs in the base of the shell itself, the forward end is blown out and a shower of lead bullets hurled forward in cone-like formation, the shell acting as an aerial gun. The velocity of these bullets exceeds the velocity of the shell at the time of the explosion by from 250 to 300 feet per second, and they cover a zone about 30 yards wide and 20 yards long.

The first shrapnel shell (invented in 1784 by Lieutenant Shrapnel) was merely a cast-iron ball filled with bullets and powder, which was exploded by a crude fuse screwed into the shell. This type was unsatisfactory because bullets flew in all directions when the shell exploded; later this defect was partially overcome by inserting a sheet-iron diaphragm, which separated the bullets from the bursting charge. Modern shrapnel in principal to its early predecessor, but is a marvel of mechanical ingenuity.

The shrapnel shells used by different governments at the present time operate on the same principle, but differ somewhat as to size and in the arrangement of the fuse. A complete shrapnel comprises a brass case containing a heavy charge of smokeless powder for propelling the projectile, a hollow steel shell containing large number lead bullets and a bursting charge, and the combination time and percussion fuse which forms the point of the shell. The sudden motion of the shell at the time of firing causes a small plunger in the end of the fuse to fly back and strike a cap, which ignites the fuse. This fuse is composed of a slow-burning composition that is pressed into annular grooves. One of these grooves is in a stationary ring and the other in a graduated movable ring. By turning the graduated ring, the length of this fuse is varied so that the shell may be exploded at any time within a period of about 21 seconds. During this brief period a three-inch American shrapnel will travel about 6,500 yards, or nearly three and three-quarters miles.

8000 NUNS IN THE WAR

It is interesting to learn that eight thousand nuns are tending the wounded soldiers at the Italian front, and that close on thirty thousand Italian priests are serving as infirmarians, attendants, chaplains and soldiers in the firing line.

Ireland and Recruiting

Lord Kitchener and the recruiting officers are calling for more and more men. The former has written a letter of appeal to the Lord Lieutenant praising the Irish for their gallantry and asserting that Irishmen will never allow their regiments to be left without reinforcements. General Friend in a report to the Lord Lieutenant states that since the beginning of the war Ireland has furnished 81,000 new recruits. In a recent Mansion House speech Redmond said:

Let me give you a few figures. In addition to some 22,000 Irishmen from Ireland who were in the army at the time the war began, Ireland has sent 81,408 recruits since the war broke out. The City of Dublin, where I am now speaking, alone has sent 14,151 men. Of these 81,408 recruits, 44,659 were Catholics and 36,719 were Protestants. And to-day, taking the number of men in the Army at the commencement of the war and the recruits who were called up, and the recruits who have since joined, there are in the Army now from Ireland 133,454 men; and of that great total 79,511 are Catholics, and 52,943 are Protestants. I have made inquiries in every direction, and from these inquiries I have come to the conclusion that at least 80,000 more men were rejected by the military authorities. In many places that I know two out of three recruits were rejected by the authorities; and if you take that figure that I have given you of 80,000 as approximately correct, then you will have the extraordinary fact that, in addition to the reservists and the old soldiers, 160,000 men in Ireland have since the war began volunteered for the British Army—America.

EMPEROR DOWAGER OF RUSSIA HATES GERMANS

The Stampa of Turin gives an interesting account of a conversation which the lady president of the Polish Red Cross Society had with the Empress Dowager of Russia. The empress said:

"Oh! How I hate those Germans! I am a Dane, and from the day they took Schleswig-Holstein I have hated them, and for the fifty years I had to wear a mask at court."

"Russia has been too confident in all those Prussian emigrants to whom the empire has accorded favors and high positions. A German even, though every kindness be shown to him, remains always German. I often said so when Czar Alexander was alive but he would not believe me. One man only foresaw this terrible German aggression. It was the late King Edward VII, who was a great monarch."

"Do you know that when I was taken by surprise by the outbreak of the war as I was crossing Germany, the Berlin people made specially hostile manifestations, when my train passed, by calling out: 'Russian pigs. They are a British people.' Here are the impressions of the same lady about the Czar's mother: 'The empress's look is far away, profound, sad and mystical. It is some time before she speaks. She expresses herself in French with a strong English accent. She says: 'You come from Warsaw, Warsaw which is now German. Mon dieu, what a war. What a deluge of blood.'"

A PLEASANT DAY.

Father—The last of my daughters was married yesterday.
Friend—Really? Who was the happy man?
Father—I was.

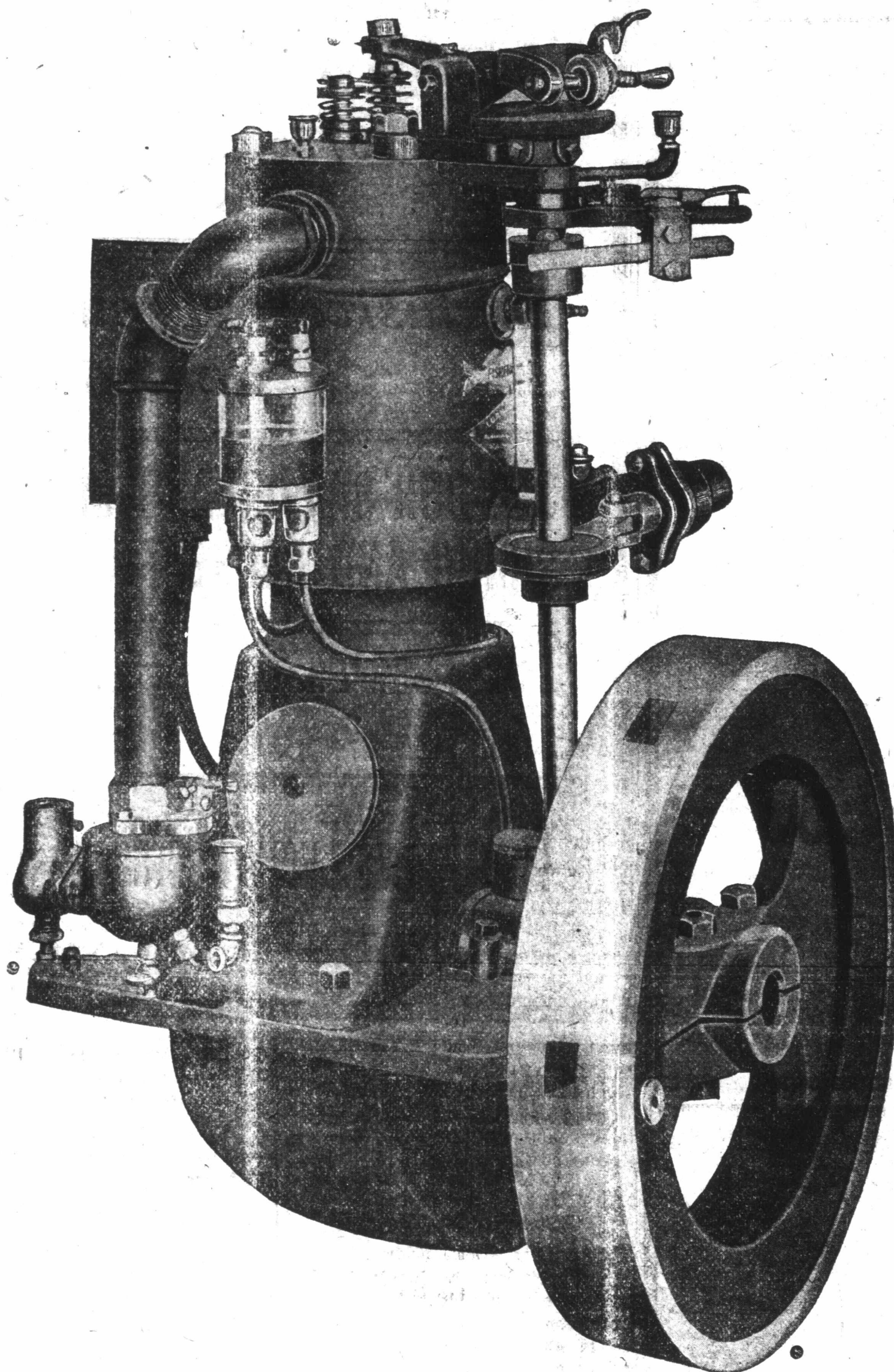
China will soon start to mint more than \$700,000,000 in silver.

READ THIS!

TO THE FISHERMEN:--

"THE COAKER" Motor Engine is the favorite Engine with the Fishermen.

A Motor Engine made for the Union Trading Company by the largest Motor Engine Manufacturers in America.



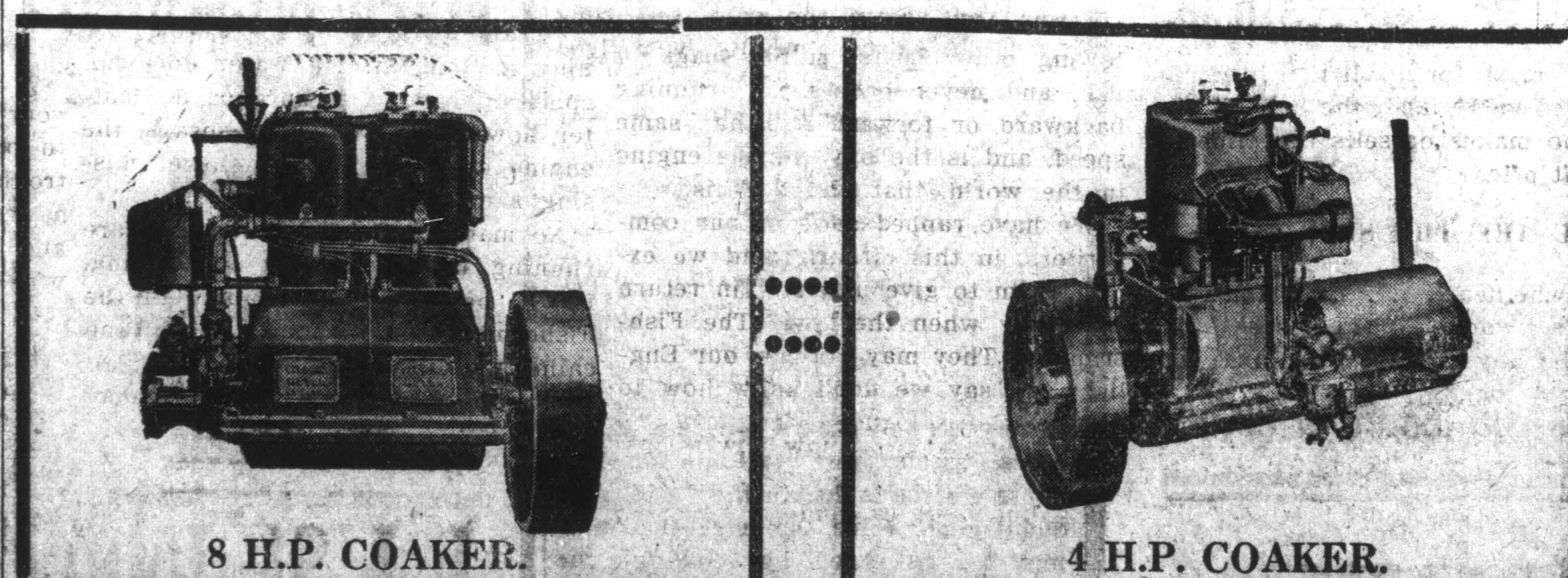
THE FAMOUS 6 H.P. COAKER ENGINE.

THE "COAKER" 4 cycle can be operated on half the oil consumed by a 2 cycle engine. This Engine's power is equal to double the power of some 2 cycle engines. It is made for the fishermen's use and expressly for Trap Skiffs and large size Fishing Bullies. It is sold to Union members at wholesale prices, all commission and middlemen's profits being cut out. We have them on exhibition at our wharf premises; we carry parts and fittings in stock. We guarantee the Engine. Write for particulars and terms, applying to Chairman of F.P.U. Councils concerning this Engine. We confidently recommend the Engine, as being of the very best make and material, of being exactly what is needed for the fishermen's use and **GUARANTEED TO GIVE SATISFACTION.**

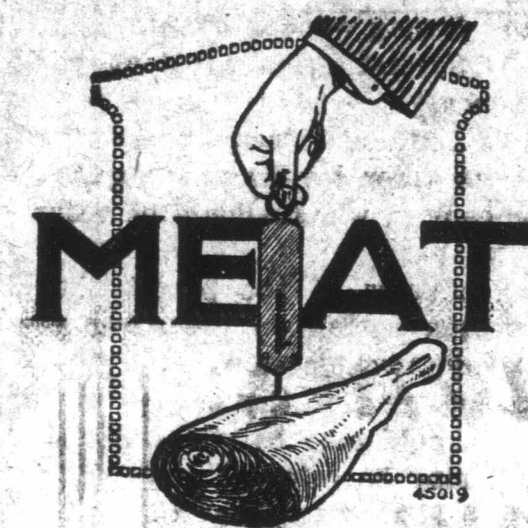
It is above all durable, simple and capable of doing heavy work, it is not a toy engine. The Engine starts on gasoline, and when started operates on kerosene oil. The very latest improvements on Motor Engines will be found on the "COAKER." The man who buys a "COAKER" Engine from us saves \$50.00 on a 6 H.P., \$80.00 on a 8 H.P. and \$40.00 on a 4 H.P. Engine.

We have the 4, 6 and 8 H.P. Engines on exhibition at our premises. We also sell 12, 16 and 24 H.P. "COAKER" Engines; all 4 cycle make. Send along your orders for spring delivery.

For full particulars, prices, etc., apply to



Fishermen's Union Trading Co., Ltd.



YOU CAN SEE FOR YOURSELF that there is no trickiness in our weights. We not only make it a point to accord every patron courteous service, prompt delivery and the choicest cuts of the

BEST MEATS,

but we may make every effort to give you honest weight and a square deal in all our business transactions with you.

Why not give us a trial?
M. CONNOLLY,
Phone 420. Duckworth St

Tests by Irish scientists have shown that the wind will carry disease bacteria 200 feet and as high as sixty feet in the air.

At Lowest Prices

Gasolene
"Veedal"
Motor Oil
In Casks and 1 and 5 gallon Tins.

SMITH CO. Ltd.

ADVERTISE IN "THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE"

WHY BRITISH SUITS EXCELL!

BECAUSE:—We produce the best ready to wear suits in that they not only fit and hang well when you put them on but continue to do so until they are laid aside.

To turn out such suits it is necessary to have everyone experts in their line—Knowing their work thoroughly—Having a taste for their work—Qualified by Experience and Observation—and trained to do such splendid work.

Such Experts are to be found only in our Factory trained by a manager who has had over 25 years Experience in the Chief Clothing Centres of the world.

BECAUSE:—We select only the highest grade wool cloths in each particular class having an eye to such patterns and designs as will satisfy each individual taste.

BECAUSE:—We have Expert cutters and give careful attention to Linings, Trimmings, and inner Constructions.

BECAUSE:—British suits are the ones with the best fit and longest life of any suits sold in Newfoundland.

INSIST ON BRITISH SUITS.

THE BRITISH CLOTHING Co., Ltd.
Sinnott's Building, St. John's.

HAVING enjoyed the confidence of our outport customers for many years, we beg to remind them that we are "doing business as usual" at the old stand. Remember Maunders' clothes stand for durability and style combined with good fit.



John Maunders
Tailor and Clothier
281 & 283 Duckworth Street

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE