

HOLDS £85,000,000

ECONOMY URGED

London, April 17.—The seventh report of Mr. C. J. Stewart, Custodian of Enemy Property for England and Wales, shows £85,000,000 enemy income received £701,276. Enemy property registered: Property held on behalf of enemies, £54,000,000. Enemy capital in partnership and businesses, £1,600,000. Enemy capital in companies, £29,000,000.

Montreal, April 20.—The need of strict economy among the working people of Montreal is urged by Mayor highness the Duke of Connaught. The mayor declares that he can foresee that conditions next winter will be no better, and perhaps may be a great deal worse than they were last winter. "Save every cent you can," is the advice given by his worship.

One of the Strikers on 'Terra Nova'

States His Case in the Matter of Their Arrest and Detention

Strike Was the Wish and Will of One Hundred Dissatisfied Men--Was Carried Out in an Orderly Manner--No Sealing Agreement Was Broken, He Says

(Editor Mail and Advocate.)

Dear Sir,—I am one of the strikers of the Terra Nova, also one of the six victims whom Bowring and Bartlett railroaded to prison. I am requested by my fellow victims and strikers to state the facts of our case to the public, and without any untruth or exaggerating, as I can get a hundred men to bear me out in what I state, and I think that any fair-minded person, who reads the facts, will agree we were justified in what we did, and will also agree that the powers that be, perpetrating one of the meanest little low-down actions in the history of the country in sending six toilers to jail in order to satisfy their mean two by four minds.

For generation Bowring has been supplied by half starving fishermen and toilers, with all the luxuries of life, including a palace to live in, a million dollar bank account, motor cars to ride in, an annual tour to Europe and elsewhere, silks and jewels for his family, the fat of the earth to live on, and a lot of other things, while the toilers who sweat produced all this for him, went half starved, ill clad and in ignorance of even the ability to write his name, and after seeing his family half starved, in order to supply comforts to the masters, went to an unknown or paupers' grave.

It is not surprising that the lords of creation who have fared so well at the expense of labor, will kick when the slaves of generations attempt to break their chains or defy their authority, for they know well enough that freedom for the worker means smaller profits for themselves, hence their action in sending us to prison, as a lesson to the toilers in future; but the world is advancing in civilization, though rather slow in this country, and with intellectual development of the toilers, the days of the Bowrings and other overlords will soon happily close and the worker will enjoy the full benefit of his labor. We have a good pilot at the helm, and if the crew of workers stand true to him, there's good prospect of weathering the breakers of prison and starvation and reaching smoother water ahead.

The strike on the Terra Nova was carried through in an orderly and manly manner, and not a violent word was used, and it was merely the wish of a hundred dissatisfied and disgusted men to give up a played out voyage and get home to their dependent families to try and do something for them, and get fishing gear, etc., ready for the summer. When we went off with our ropes and gaffs, Bartlett of course tried to bully us, and complained that we were taking bread out of his mouth. We didn't know whether to take this as a joke or not, considering the crowd of poor men standing around, many no doubt thinking of children at home, who perhaps were hungry, while Bartlett's family were well provided for, as he has been using fishermen for years, and last year cleared three or four thousand dollars on the sealing voyage alone, while the worker cleared about seventy-two dollars.

Bartlett said that he always looked out for his men's interest but many of us remembered last spring when we slaughtered fifty or sixty thousand seals, while the Terra Nova lay burned down in open ice, waiting with signals hoisted for the Viking, for a whole week, in which time we could have had her loaded with fat, and home before the last of March. In the meantime when the young Bartlett got to us we were down to Byron Island with our pans rafted on the ice barricade and we worked like slaves hauling to the ship, which was then in a solid jam; and instead of one week's work we had two and a half, and instead of getting twenty-eight or thirty thousand seals we got about twenty-four, while the Viking got ten or twelve thousand of what we killed, so that Bartlett in addition to giving us more than a week of

unnecessary hard work, cheated us out of fifteen or twenty dollars, and it was the opinion of old sealers that we were very lucky in not losing all our fat through the skipper's neglect in waiting for his son to share the fruit of our labor, for if the ice wheeled in the opposite direction, our pans would have ground to bits on the rocks and we would have been worse off than if we had never found the patch.

It was the general opinion that the skipper of the Terra Nova being an old man, with his reputation secure, on account of previous good luck, would sacrifice our interests so that his son, who is a young man, may get a good trip and make himself solid with Bowrings, and it is the opinion of sealers that the Bartletts, like the Keans, are becoming a nuisance, for if either one of the three find a patch, no matter if it contains 200,000 seals, will work their crews till the whole lot is slaughtered and give each other a load, and like us, perhaps, run chances of losing all through delay in picking up. Nothing was said about this last spring but as Bartlett put us in jail, we are justified in showing him up.

When we arrived in Channel, Bartlett ordered us to get out of the ship, but we refused to do so, till our fares were provided to our homes, or some preparations made for us ashore, and some of the men telegraphed to their Government members and were advised to stay in the ship till fares were provided. Later we applied to the Magistrate, and were by him advised to leave the ship, and he would communicate to the Government. We were directed by him to get the names of all strikers and their destinations, which we did, but were told later that neither Bowring nor the Government would do anything for us.

I must state that the skipper and the magistrate are great friends, the skipper spending all his time at the magistrate's house and we were told by a reliable citizen of Channel that last spring the magistrate gave a dinner at his residence in honor of the Bartletts, and that plates, knives, forks, etc., were laid for Bob, who was then in the North Pacific.

On the night of the sixteenth of April, we again went to the magistrate to enquire if he received anything new in regard to our case, but things were about the same. We asked him if he was aware of a force of police being in Port aux Basques. He was surprised to learn it. We asked him if Bartlett intended to try some of the crew as he had told us previously of such intention. The magistrate assured us that he hadn't heard a word about it. Yet on the next day six men were summoned to the court, the summons being made out by the magistrate, dated the 16th, the skipper having laid his deposition before we saw the magistrate, as we met Bartlett going aboard ship, on our way to the magistrate's late at night.

We appeared before court, with all the strikers in attendance and we could have refused to plead our case outside of St. John's or could have pleaded not guilty, but the fact of our being in Channel showed we were unwilling to continue the voyage, though too, Bartlett had a score or so of his henchmen sworn, or who were ready to swear against their shipmates, in the owner's interest. There was John McCarthy, John Penney, Bill Lang, J. Clark, J. Windsor, J. Porter, S. Cushue, J. Connolly, and several others, mostly from Carboncar and Briggs. They didn't get a chance to testify against us, but I have no doubt they would if called upon to do so, as they were a servile, scurvey crew and kow-tow ed and scraped to their masters.

From a reasonable standpoint these men are not so much to blame, considering the generations of slaves who have cringed to the merchants, and very likely cringing is born in them, and they can't help it, as it is a case of hereditary and environment, and the

system under which they were born and raised is all to blame. We can't blame an African for being black or an Asiatic for being yellow, and it is likely that given education and a chance to use their reason, these men would act quite differently. The six men who were victimized, are J. Squires, A. Snow, J. George, R. Stamp, J. Murphy and J. Wall, and it is a puzzle to solve why some of these men were picked out, but as the skipper kept abusing Bowrings' dealers on every excuse and was prejudiced against all whom he didn't supply with a birth, this is no doubt his reason.

As no one was inclined to speak when the strike occurred, I undertook to explain our conduct, and no doubt Bartlett through petty spite picked me as a suitable victim. I don't think there was a quieter man aboard than A. Snow, or one who is less to blame, and the other men equally so, but any man with red blood would do as they did, after being abused as we were, and for days before the thing happened. I doubt if there were ten men aboard the ship, after guard included, who weren't clamoring and agitating to give up the voyage, but when it came to executing, they who talked the loudest backed out. The skipper drew our attention to the fact that none of his men were striking, but we had a lot of them with us. He was told that those men were perhaps under obligations to him, but he denied this and said not a man owed him a five dollar bill, but one of them told us later that he owed Bartlett \$30 or \$40.

We were accused of breaking a sealing agreement between masters and servants. We said that we were no more guilty than any of the hundred and eight men who took part in it and objected to be victimized as ringleaders. All the hundred bore us out in this and told the magistrate that they were equally as much to blame and protested that we should not be made victims of, and that all hands should be tried. This protest was unrecognized and the trial went on. We said that for just reasons we were dissatisfied with the skipper and voyage and did not want to continue any further, but wanted to be put shore and sent to our homes. This was entered in the book of life.

Next, we were asked our reasons for being dissatisfied with conditions, and we gave the following reasons:— On or about the 16th of March we took three or four hundred young and old hoods, and the barrelmen and master watches were heard to state that as far as could be seen with the glass aloft, the ice was covered with hoods, and a load could be secured in a few days. We didn't take advantage of this chance but bore away to the West, and got jammed in Pleasant Bay, under Amherst Island. After several days we blasted out of the jam and skirted South around the floe and made in for Sydney and up the Cape Breton shore.

Off Cape North we met what appeared to be the whelping ice coming out the Gulf, and steamed for two or three hours through it, seeing quite a number of young seals on the ice and in the water. We took a dozen or so and put out a mark, but disregarded what appeared a good indication of seals, and kept on in for Cape St. Lawrence, hunting for the Bonaventure and found her. She reported that she just got clear and that the whelping ice and all his pans had passed out the Gulf, this no doubt being the ice we met off Cape North. We steamed South in company with the Bonaventure, but instead of trying to locate our mark, we lost valuable days searching under the land for her pans, and no doubt informing her of their location, as she would soon come and pick them up, and the barrelman often said that he was tired finding fat for the Bonaventure and wouldn't strain his eyes any more without being paid for doing so.

In the meantime we circled about in the slob ice and got pretty near every seal we saw, which only amounted to a few hundred, and the men who were anxious to fill their barrels with seal carcass, exerted every ounce of speed to get a seal from his

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