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Curtain Corners
Selling at
12 cents
Each.

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36 pieces White and Cream Scrim with Pretty Border selling at 10, 12, 15, 20, 25, 30 c. per yd.

20 Bds. Scrim Remnants, assorted patterns,
all one price. 12 cts per yard

LADIES' COSTUMES. - - - - - One-third off Original Prices.

LUNCH BOXES.

10 only Lunch Boxes, or Small Suit Cases, suitable for Picnic Parties. New York price \$1.20 ea
Our price---75 cents each.

LADIES' BOOTS.

40 Pairs Ladies' Dongola Kid Blucher cut Laced Boots. Value \$2.20 per pair.

Selling at **\$1.60** per pair.

SILK NECK CORDS.

20 dozen Silk Neck Cords to be worn with Middy Blouse. Prices **8** and **15** cents each.

WALL PAPERS,

Job, at 7, 10, 12, 15, 20 cts. per piece,
16 yard Rolls.

Marshall Bros

AMERICAN GINGHAMS.

2000 yards
Wash
Ginghams
for
Children's
Dresses and
Overalls
Only
8 cents
per Yard.

At the House.

WEDNESDAY, April 21.
Owing to the keen interest manifested in the Prohibition Resolutions there was a large audience in evidence at the Assembly Chamber yesterday afternoon. Many clergymen, ladies and prominent laymen were present. Not a single member from either side of the House was absent.

Information was tabled by Messrs. Bennett, Cashin and Piccott and, notices of questions given by Messrs. Grimes, Jennings, Abbott and Half-yard.

The Bill to amend the Customs Act was read a third time and ordered to be sent to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

Mr. Hickman then asked leave to introduce a Resolution expressing the desirability of the Government bringing in a Bill prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of spirits and wines in the Island of Newfoundland and its dependencies.

On motion of Mr. Hickman the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Hickman.—In introducing this Resolution he had the object of stamping out the liquor traffic so injurious to the moral welfare of the community. He was not posing as a teetotaler himself but as an advocate of a measure to help the unfortunate who are so addicted to drink and unable to help themselves. After hearing the opinions of others he concluded that Total Prohibition would be too drastic a step at the beginning so he decided to take out the clause relating to light ales and beers, not because he was not in favour of total Prohibition, but with the object of providing the House with a middle course. He dwelt upon the numerous evils consequent upon the excessive use of intoxicating liquor. It is the cause of most trouble and crime, he continued and responsible for the filling of our public institutions, such as the Reformatory, Lunatic Asylum, Poor Asylum and Orphanage. He referred to the steps taken by France and Russia for the abolition of alcoholic drinks. Liquor, he said, was the source of nearly all our economic and social ills. It materially affected the workmen of St. John's and their homes. He referred particularly to seamen, who are constantly holding up vessels with cargoes on account of rum drinking. He knew of tradesmen walking around the streets of St. John's particularly the whole year in an intoxicated condition, earning practically nothing whereas if the temptation was away from them they could earn from \$10 to \$20 per week. Liquor, he contended, was a greater source than any disease known. He compared the man who has reached the allotted span of life (70) and who has always been sober, with the man 60 years of age, who has been intemperate. The latter is a miserable specimen of humanity while the man, a decade his senior has a brisk walk, a clear eye and an upright form. In dilating further on the evil effects of alcohol he said that no good can be expected of the children of drunken fathers and that the dread disease consumption makes easy ravages in the country on account of the debilitating effects of liquor. There is a strong argument raised that we cannot afford to do without the Revenue. To this the member for Bay de Verde said that if we cannot run

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St. John's, Newfoundland.

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a country without exacting revenues from the importations of liquors at the expense of poverty, degradation and ruin it is not worth while being in the country. He disagreed with the idea that there would be a falling off in the revenue if we had prohibition but on the contrary, firmly believed that the revenue would be increased. The annual revenue from liquors was something like \$347,000 and our drink bill \$1,250,000 whereas if that money was spent by a sober people in groceries, provisions, clothing and other necessities of life our revenue would be in the vicinity of \$500,000, or approximately \$150,000 more than it is at present. In concluding, the hon. introducer emphasized that the measure was not a party measure, nor had he canvassed any member of the House to support it, but left it to the dictates of every one's conscience. He hoped that the measure would receive hearty support as he believed that when we have Prohibition in this country a new era will spring up.

Mr. Emerson wished to state that he was opposed to the Resolutions and was prepared to take the responsibility for the way he was going to cast his vote. Every member of the House was entitled to his own opinion. He did not believe that the petitions presented last year contained a mandate for prohibition. These petitions prayed that liquor be kept out of local option districts and asked for machinery for a plebiscite and it would be a high-handed piece of business, he said, to bring into operation such drastic measures as are now suggested, unless backed up by the majority of the people. The people had not agitated for such legislation and prohibition had not been spoken of at the last general election. Continuing, he said, the country was faced with a heavy debt and could not afford to lose the revenue got from liquor. He agreed with the introducer as to the awful consequences of drink but would not support the resolutions for the reasons he had given. But he was in favor of a plebiscite.

Mr. Jennings had no hesitation

whatever in supporting the Resolutions and believed that the whole liquor business was contrary to the laws of God and an injury to all mankind. He was prepared to support any measure that would bring this evil to an end. So far as the district of Twillingate was concerned there was a mandate from the people and one with no uncertain sound. Regarding the loss to the revenue, he believed that temperance workers would be prepared to make sacrifices in other directions of tariff, and that he, personally, was satisfied to pay fifty cents on every barrel of flour he buys for the next year to help to make up the revenue if the Resolutions pass.

Mr. Higgins said he was an earnest advocate of Prohibition but would not vote for the Resolution in its present form. In relation to the nations mentioned by the introducer of the Resolution, Mr. Higgins stated that Russia and France were engaged in a great war at which it was impossible to get the voice of the people and the governments of both places were compelled to abolish the liquor traffic on their own initiatives. The Chancellor of the Exchequer of Great Britain had stated that the three greatest enemies to the nation were Germany, Austria and Drink, but the drastic measures submitted to the Government to deal with the liquor question could not be entertained, as they would interfere with the rights and liberties of men in advance of public opinion. Our answer should be that we would not interfere without consulting the people by means of a plebiscite.

Our social and economic conditions would be affected by the adoption of such legislation, as contained in the Resolution before the House. He thought that there was just as much liquor consumed in Local Option districts as in St. John's. He eulogized the work of our Temperance people but considered that moral suasion and force of example were the best methods of fostering temperance. He would not dilate on the financial aspect of the case, but expressed the opinion that there was sure to be a heavy temporary loss if the Resolution was adopted by the House and would be burdensome to the people if they had to meet the revenue by additional taxation.

Mr. Morine supported the Resolution. If beer was included he would vote for it or if a plebiscite is proposed an amendment he would vote for it. In his opinion members voting on any measure had a mandate from the people. It would be derogatory to get back with a referendum to the people at the polls with every question coming before them. That was American doctrine but not British practice. Dealing with the revenue he said that the loss by the liquor revenue could be met by the duties on other goods. He criticized Mr. Higgins' attitude at length and pointed out that the attitude of the Premier had not yet been disclosed. He was of opinion that a Finance Minister could make an adjustment of the tariff that would easily offset the amount lost through the liquor revenue.

The Prime Minister was the next speaker. He agreed with the evils that flowed from strong drink and that proper way to cure that evil was to get the voice of the people. Regarding the question of a mandate from the people he disagreed with Mr. Morine. In Canada, only a few years ago, it was put by the Laurier Government to the people. There should be considerable hesitation before enforcing Prohibition in advance of public opinion. There was no country in the world, he held, that con-

sumes so little liquor as we do. Speaking of the revenue he estimated that our drink bill was \$750,000 and not \$1,250,000, and that the annual liquor revenue was \$300,000. Our drink bill per head was \$3 a year compared with the United States, \$25; Great Britain, \$17; and Canada, \$12. The Premier held that there was no mandate from the people and they should be the one to deal with a question of such a far-reaching character. The Government had resolved to bring down a Bill during this session of the House to enable the people to say yes or no on the question of Prohibition. He would not support the Resolution introduced by the hon. member for Bay de Verde.

Mr. Coaker said we all recognize the curse and evil liquor is to the country and if the Government recognizes that curse why hesitate to deal with it. He was willing to vote for total prohibition and so that the Resolution would be satisfactory to all, he suggested that the word "and" be changed to "or" and the word "prohibition" be changed to "total prohibition".

Mr. Higgins opened the debate after recess. He was of the opinion that in such an important matter as that before the House a referendum should be resorted to, as the people's wishes should be considered. Many times in the history of the Legislature, legislation had been enacted that was not in accord with the popular will. He supported the principle of the amendment, and in doing so felt it was the wishes of his constituents and the majority of the people all over the Island.

Mr. Currie declined to support the amendment, as it threw a doubt on the bona fides of the Government. Mr. Morine did not think that the amendment in any way questioned the bona fides of the Government and expressed his regret that the question had resolved itself into a party measure.

Mr. Higgins stated that he would not support the amendment, in view of the Government having a Bill of that name under consideration.

Mr. Coaker was quite tired hearing of the proposals and promises that were continually being advanced by the Government which he thought was only evading the wishes of the people in this matter.

Mr. Devereaux thought the question at that stage was a very serious one and should be very seriously considered before action was taken. He questioned the capability of the country to carry out the law if such a measure were passed, and thought that the measure would only tend to encourage smuggling.

Mr. Halfyard supported the resolutions on principle, and regarded the remarks of the previous speaker as misplaced energy. He dilated on the evils of intemperance.

After some further debate by Messrs. Bennett, Lloyd, Morine and Kent, the amendment was put and lost and then Mr. Hickman's motion was put and lost.

When the Committee reported, the amendment outlined above was put and a division was taken. Every member of the Government side voted against the motion for a Prohibition Bill to come into operation in July 1st, 1916, on a plebiscite in favor of the Opposition side voted in favor of it.

that would be inevitable and make provision for the present embarrassment.

Mr. Kennedy would support the Government Bill but not Mr. Hickman's resolution.

Mr. F. Morris doubted if the present resolutions had the backing of the Temperance feeling of the country.

Mr. Kent did not believe in the principle of referring every question to the people, but he would support a plebiscite on this question. He would support the amendment. He did not believe that the consumption of alcohol was bad in itself. The evil was in its abuse, and he recognized the evils were serious, but we were not a drunken people. He held we were one of the most sober people on earth and that the licensed traffic was conducted by those engaged in it in an orderly and law-abiding way. He thought the time had arrived when the people should settle it one way or the other, and he thought a measure should enable them to do this definitely.

AFTER RECESS.

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The world-famous comedy produced in 3 parts—all Star cast.

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A most beautiful story, laid in the early days of the West, when Courts were scarce and Judge Lynch was the only law.

TWO SOLDIERS OF MIS-FORTUNE—A side-splitting Keystone.

HOWARD C. STANLEY, the Syncopated Singer—big hit. Hear him sing "Good-Night."

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A night of Fun. Three Prizes—1st prize, \$5.00; 2nd prize, \$3.00; 3rd prize, \$2.00. Saturday for the little ones. And the finest Feature Pictures ever seen.

NOTE.—Mr. Rossley has been asked by scores of people to show the Picture of the 1st and 2nd Contingents, as hundreds did not see it, and to oblige he will show the Picture for the rest of the week. LAST CHANCE.

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ROYAL PRINCES' T

Amongst the late Royal Naval Reserve Hansell, tutor to the and his Royal brother I am informed, as a recruit, and has now of A.B. Another same force is Mr. V some time was tutor and Prince George, earlier, and has now Palace for "some of the globe. Mr. Hans tallest of the force, six feet three inches.

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From Venice I am rangements were being

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S

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