

Sir Robert Bond's Speech ON THE COLD STORAGE AGREEMENT.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, Feb. 14. SIR ROBERT BOND—If reference is made to the Records of the House of Assembly, it will be found that I have ever been a most ardent advocate for the establishment of cold storage in this country, and my views in respect to the great value of the same have not undergone any change. The policy of which these Resolutions are in part an expression is not a new policy; the Legislature, both political parties, and the country, have long since committed themselves to the principle involved, which is the subsidizing of outside capitalists to enterprise the business. In the year 1898 a bill was introduced into the Legislature by Sir James Winter, then Premier, and became law, which provided that for one or more years, not exceeding five, the Government would guarantee the annual payment to any company engaged in the business of cold storage the sum by which the net profit of the company might be less than five per cent. on its paid up capital to an amount not exceeding thirty thousand pounds sterling, or one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The Act was availed of by a number of shareholders residing in London, England, who established their business on the Southern Coast under the style of "The Newfoundland Fish Industries Company." The subsequent history of that company is a chapter of deplorable management, extravagance and failure. In the year 1904 I introduced a cold storage bill into this House which became law. The bill extended the guarantee provided by the 1898 Act from five years to twenty years, and upon an amount of five hundred thousand dollars, instead of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, as provided in 1898. The bill that I asked this House to approve guaranteed payment only on the express condition that the company should satisfy the Government of the expenditure of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in plant, machinery and buildings, and a further sum of

Two Hundred Thousand Dollars Per Annum in the Purchase of Fresh Fish for Exportation, and which should have been exported in a fresh condition, and the manufacture of fish offal. The guarantee was also contingent upon the company erecting and operating 15 cold storage depots for providing and supplying bait fishes to the fishermen of this Colony alone. Foreign fishermen mark you, were not to be permitted to avail of bait supplies under the 1904 bill. Under the Agreement now before us no provision is made for supplying our fishermen with bait from cold storage, but on the other hand these subsidized cold storage plants may be used for supplying American fishermen. Further, while the Agreement before us subsidizes an American company, who may engage in the general fish business of the country, the bill of 1904 limited the guarantee to the export of fresh fish and offal.

Under and by virtue of the bill of 1904 certain residents of the United States and Canada, incorporated as "The Newfoundland Cold Storage and Reduction Company," engaged to carry out the cold storage scheme that I have briefly outlined, but failing in their engagement their charter became forfeited. I might add that the company required from the Government such a definition of their rights under charter as would have enabled them to export large quantities of fish for bait purposes; this the late Government declined to accede to, and the refusal was probably the primary cause of the withdrawal of the company. Now we are face to face with a new proposition. On this occasion the House is invited to confirm an Agreement entered into on the 27th December, 1910. In view of the majority at the back of the Government I fully appreciate a course that no matter how defective or oppressive to our established business houses, or to our fishermen this Agreement may be shown to be, because of the numerical weakness of the Opposition, it must pass in its present form unless the Government is open to conviction and amend it.

Now let us examine this Agreement, not in any mere chipping or fault-finding spirit, but in the hope that we may be able to discover defects if they exist, and if it can be shown that they do exist, that the Government themselves without any formal motion from the Opposition may deem it expedient, in the interest of the Colony, to amend the contract before it is ratified by the House. In the first place I would observe that the contract before us differs very materially in its scope and object from that which the Legislature Approved in 1904. The main object of the contract of

1904 was to secure the exportation of fish in cold storage so as to relieve the congestion in foreign markets of salt fish, which ever militates to a greater or less degree, against the successful conduct of the codfishery, an industry which is so material to the well being of the whole community; to secure the reduction of fish offal to a merchantable commodity, as it now goes to waste; and also to secure the cold storage and distribution of bait fishes for the benefit, the sole benefit, of the fishermen of this Colony. These objects commended themselves to the Legislature as sufficient to warrant the payment by the Colony of the subsidy I have named. It is an entirely new departure from any existing business in the Colony, and in no way competed with branches of the fishery business established for years by the enterprise of our commercial men.

The contract that the House is now invited to confirm is one to subsidize for fifteen years an American company which is about to engage in the general fish trade of the Colony, provided they establish and operate 5 cold storage plants, 5 smoke houses, 2 glue factories and 2 fertilizer plants. This contract does not confine the company to the export of fresh fish, in fact fresh fish is not mentioned from first to last, but, on the other hand, from a perusal of Section 6 it is abundantly clear that salt fish and canned fish and smoked fish is to enter very largely into the business, and the preamble to the Agreement, or contract, leaves no room for doubt as to the intention of the company to handle other products. The main object which the Legislature has ever had in view in holding out a consideration for the establishment of cold storage was the export of codfish in a fresh condition, so as to relieve congestion in the salt fish markets. By this means it was hoped that we should obtain higher prices for our staple production. But under the Agreement now before the House the company need not place codfish in cold storage or send a single fresh codfish out of the Colony. The whole of the cold storage plant for which the Government have contracted may be used by this American company as an engine of destruction of our own fishery industry, inasmuch as it is competent for the company to use the whole of the cold storage plants in connection with the freezing and shipping of bait fishes for the supply of American and Canadian fishermen. There is nothing in this Agreement to prevent them from so doing, but on the contrary by Section 8 they are facilitated in carrying on such a business.

Now let me put my objections to this Agreement more clearly, if possible, and more succinctly.

Firstly—I contend there is nothing in this Agreement to prevent the company from using the whole of the cold storage plants exclusively for the freezing, storing and distribution of bait fishes for the use of American and other foreign fishermen, and from confining the distribution of such fishes to foreigners, thus leaving our own fishermen unprotected for. If this is admitted, and it must be admitted, then under this Agreement we shall be subsidizing a huge foreign instrument that may operate with disastrous effect to the interests of our fishing population and the trade of the Colony; or these cold storage plants may be used exclusively for the freezing of herrings for the American markets.

If This is Admitted, and it Must be Admitted, then we shall be subsidizing a foreign company to compete most unfairly with our own people, for the company will not only have the benefit of the guaranteed payments from the Government of the Colony, but they will also have the benefit of a free market in the United States, for under the recent United States Treasury Order or decision all fish caught by American crews shall enter the United States free of duty. There is no stipulation in this Agreement, as there was in the 1904 Agreement, that the company shall purchase supplies of fish from our people. They are left free to employ their own crews to fish for them, and by so doing they may claim and obtain a free market in the United States, while our people are barred from that market by a prohibitive duty.

Secondly, I contend that under this Agreement this subsidized American Company will compete most unfairly with our merchants and planters in the general fish business. The company's business as set forth in the Agreement is not alone the freezing of fish and the exportation of frozen fish, but includes "the handling, canning, smoking, packing, and market-

ing of fish and other products." They may handle salt cod in bulk, or in barrels, drums, casks, or cases. They may can lobsters, salmon, codfish, trout, and all other kinds of fish. While our merchants and planters have to pay the manufacturers price for fish casks, boxes, and drums, the Government have agreed under this contract to provide this American Company with free supplies of material to make such packages, and with free power to drive the machinery for making them, while our fishermen and merchants have to pay twenty-five per cent. duty on tin-smiths tools and ten per cent duty on tin and solder imported for the canning of lobsters, salmon, codfish and other produce. This American Company may import such supplies free of duty. While our fishermen and merchants have to pay fifty per cent duty on the printed labels imported for these fish, this American Company may import all they require free of duty. This is a great injustice, and it may mean driving the poor man out of the fish canning business, and it certainly will mean the curtailment of the business profit of the local supplier, exporter, and of the tinsmith.

Thirdly, I contend that this Agreement means the Removal of the Fishing Policy that Has Been Followed in This Colony Since the Passing of the Bait Act in 1887.

For as I have before said, it practically nullifies in part the operation of the Bait Act. Under and by virtue of the Bait Act we have excluded foreign fishermen from bait supplies at the hands of our people—I refer now to supplies outside the bounds of the Treaty Coast. Under this Agreement the American Company have to erect five cold storage plants, and they may erect them on any part of the Coasts of the Colony that they may choose. While the Agreement says they shall erect five, they may, if they feel disposed, erect twenty-five or more and thus have a complete chain of cold storage depots around the Island. Every one of such plants may be used exclusively in the freezing of bait fishes of all kinds; the company has specially authorized under this Agreement to employ Newfoundlanders in conducting the business. No restriction whatever is placed upon the company as to how they may dispose of such bait fishes, and we may suddenly awake to a realization of the fact that the whole banking fleets of New England and of Canada are drawing their supplies of bait from these cold storage plants all around our Coast. Thus, you will observe, we have practically an annulling of the Bait Act so far as this company is concerned, and a vesting in this company of the whole foreign bait supply, unless there shall follow this legislation a total repeal of the Bait Act. If this Agreement is approved by this House a total repeal of the Bait Act must follow, for this House could never permit the enforcement of that Act against our own people while it was suspended in respect to this company's business. It would be such a glaring outrage as no honest body of legislators could be guilty of.

Fourthly, I contend that this Agreement gives away the principal position in the fishery of the Colony to the Hague Tribunal. The award of that tribunal declared that American citizens had no right either under the Treaty of 1818 or under any other document to exercise the privilege of buying herring or other bait fishes; it declared that Newfoundlanders could not with impunity sell bait fishes to American citizens, or enter into their employ to catch fish for them while the laws of this country say "thou shalt not."

The Award of The Hague thus left the Government of the Colony masters of the situation. This Agreement reverses that order of things and makes this American Company Masters of the Whole Bait Supply of the Colony.

If they chance to exercise the full powers that it vests in them, Pass this Agreement, and all the expenditure of money and effort to maintain control of our bait supplies will be as much thrown to the winds of heaven.

Fifthly, I contend that while Section 3 of this Agreement limits the liability of the Colony to a payment to the American Company of the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars per annum for the next fifteen years, Section 5 leaves the Colony with an unlimited liability to face annually for the next fifteen years, in the general fish business. The company show a net profit of five per cent. on its capital instead, say \$500,000, we shall not be called upon to pay anything more than Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars per year to them.

But, suppose it is not successful, and instead of making a profit it sustains a loss of say One hundred thousand dollars, the Colony under this Agreement would then have to convert that loss into a net profit of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars; in other words, the Colony would have to assume the loss and pay the company One hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. I cannot suppose that this Agreement carries out the real intention of the Government. I don't know who drew it up, but it is the most remarkable document I have ever seen presented to this House, and I cannot possibly believe that the intelligence of this House will approve it as it now stands.

Taken Suddenly Ill.

Mr. A. F. Shirran was seized with a sudden attack of illness while attending the funeral of the late Mrs. Berrigan last evening. The procession was passing along Queen's Road, opposite St. Patrick's Hall, when he collapsed and fell near the street car tracks. He was taken in to Dr. W. Clouston's house where Dr. Keegan, who also was at the funeral, attended him. He rallied somewhat and was able to go home in a sleigh half an hour afterwards. He is now in his 79th year and the exertion in the cold, last evening proved too much for his energies. He is much improved to-day and no doubt will be out again.

Burn Caused Open Sore

Zam Buk Worked a Wonderful Cure. Sometimes a bad burn, a deep cut, or some similar injury, sets up a more permanent injury, in the form of an open discharging sore. In such cases Zam-Buk will be found of unequalled value.

Mr. J. Nixon, of 901 William Ave., Winnipeg, a blacksmith at the C. P. R. shops, had his foot badly burned by some molten metal falling upon it. He says: "The burn was a very bad one, and after the first few days it left an open sore, which showed marked signs of blood-poisoning. It discharged freely and caused me terrible agony. For three weeks I suffered acutely and could get no ease. At last I obtained a preparation from the doctor, which seemed to stop the discharging and made me quite hopeful, but finally the wound became as bad as ever."

"I was then advised to use Zam-Buk, and from the first application the pain gave me relief. The inflammation was thoroughly checked, and the poisonous matter cleared away in a very short time after beginning with Zam-Buk. Healing then began, and in less than two weeks the wound was thoroughly healed."

One of the main lessons of this case lies right here—try Zam-Buk first for any injury, sore, skin-disease or wound. It is equally good for p.i.l.e.s., blood-poisoning, festering wounds, chaps, cold sores, varicose ulcers, chilblains, etc. All druggists and stores sell at 50c. box or post free from Zam-Buk Co., St. John's, Nfld., upon receipt of price. You are warned against harmful substitutes and inferior preparations, which yield a bigger margin of profit and are sometimes peddled as being "just as good." Nothing is just as good.

Building Sand Scarce

Building sand, which heretofore was a very plentiful commodity in the city, is now very scarce, and contractors and builders find it very difficult to procure it for their work. Ninety per cent. of the more substantial kind of buildings now being erected are built of concrete and there is a great demand for sand which is an important constituent of concrete. Heretofore the supply was principally secured from vessels coming here from foreign ports with it in ballast, but now this cannot supply the local demand. There are large deposits of sand on the beaches along the Southern Shore and in Placentia Bay and no doubt this will be largely availed of in future for building purposes.

MILDRED'S QUICK RIN—The Mildred arrived at Macao, Brazil, yesterday, after a run of 39 days, which is a very quick one for this season of the year.

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GRAVEL, RHEUMATISM, BRUISES, DIABETES, BACKACHE
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MILDRED'S LIMENT CURE COLD, &c.

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SHADOW PLAID SILK.

We also offer a Special JOB LOT of
ARNOLD SUITINGS, value 20c. NOW 12 CENTS.

MARSHALL Bros.

Cable News.

Special to Evening Telegram. WASHINGTON, Feb. 14. The House of Representatives passed the Reciprocity Bill this afternoon.

Special to Evening Telegram. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15. J. Hay's Hammond has accepted the appointment as Special Ambassador at the Coronation of King George V.

Special to Evening Telegram. LONDON, Feb. 14. King George and Queen Mary are greatly worried over the illness of two of their sons, and the King has ordered two bulletins to be sent to him daily.

Special to Evening Telegram. RHIMES, France, Feb. 14. The Aviator Bussan has made a new speed record in a monoplane. With a passenger he flew a hundred kilometres, 62 miles, in one hour and one minute.

Special to Evening Telegram. NEW YORK, Feb. 14. A band of Suffragettes attempted to hold up Governor Dix to-day, with a view to exploiting from him a promise of his assistance. He was leaving for Albany at the time, and succeeded in escaping by a ruse.

Special to Evening Telegram. ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 14. Rioting at the University of St. Petersburg has been renewed, and it is regarded as possible that every student in Russia will go out on strike. The students of the other universities announce that they will pursue a policy of violence, unless their demands are granted.

Special Evening Telegram. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15. President's T. A. T's Reciprocity agreement with Canada was ratified in the House of Representatives yesterday, through the almost solid vote of the Democrats. The Bill carrying the agreement into effect passed with a vote of 221 to 92. The majority of the Republicans voted against the measure, the division being 78 for and 87 against. The Democratic vote stood 142 for and 5 against.

McMurdo's Store News

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 15, '11. Many people who suffer from tired feet, or who are threatened with breaking down of the foot arch, will find prompt relief and comfort by simply putting a pair of the "Foot Eazee" inside the shoes. This remarkable appliance forms a foot arch cushion and at once relieves strain on the muscles, ligaments and joints of the foot, giving adequate support to the arch bones. It is easily adjusted, light in wear, and simple in construction. If the bones or muscles of your foot ache, by all means procure a pair. Price \$2.25 a pair—any size—adv't.

Over 100,000 Kohler Pianos in use the world over. We are sole agents for this high grade instrument. CHESLEY WOODS.—Feb 13, 11

Franklyn and Hyatt Coming.

Franklyn and Hyatt, the vaudeville specialists, who so delighted St. John's folk two years ago in performing with the Klark-Urian Co., will again visit the city after Easter. Accompanying them will be other artists, professionals in the art of entertaining, and ladies and gentlemen of varied attainments. All will be glad to once more welcome this very popular pair to St. John's.

Hard Time Troutng.

Messrs. J. LeMessurier, W. Duder, F. Steer and several others were out fishing at the Nine Mile Post the past few days, and several good catches were made. The weather, however, was very frosty, and all were more or less frostituted—being nipped about the ears and face.

Entered Cape Broyle.

The S. S. Prospero passed Cape Race at 1.30 p.m. yesterday, and after reaching Fermanagh Capt. Fitzpatrick wired Bowring Bros. at 4.30 p.m. as to ice conditions this way. They reported that the ice was packed close inshore, and later the ship entered Cape Broyle and remained there for the night.

Scurrilous Valentines.

An assistant of an up-town office received a very scurrilous valentine yesterday. It contained matter not alone of a ribald nature but reflections on his character. The writer—though he tried to—could not thoroughly disguise his hand; he is, therefore, known and will be prosecuted.

Had to Return.

The S. S. Almeriana left here at 11 p.m. yesterday, steaming out to the mouth of the Narrows but found the ice so closely packed inshore that the Captain deemed it advisable to stoop back to port, and anchored in the stream. An off shore wind will enable her to resume her voyage to Halifax.

Make Hair Grow.

McMurdo & Co. has a hair-grower that will grow hair or money back. The time to take care of your hair is when you have hair to take care of. If your hair is getting thin, gradually falling out, it cannot be long before the spot appears. The greatest remedy to stop the hair from falling is SALVIA, the Great American Hair Grower, first discovered in England. SALVIA furnishes nourishment to the hair roots and sets so quickly that people are amazed. A large bottle for 50c.

Mock Parliament.

At the C. A. A. rooms last night the weekly session of the Mock Parliament was held. A new Speaker was first chosen to fill the place of the former one who had resigned. The choice fell unanimously on Mr. N. Burt. The House went into Committee on the "Elective Road Board Bill." After that petitions were presented and notices of questions were answered. The bill passed, was reported and read a third time. The Bill, "Initiative and Referendum" was read a second time. After some discussion it was deferred till next meeting.

Stafford's Liment cures Rheumatism within thirty six hours. Only 10c. per bottle.—Feb. 4, 11.

P. F. COLLINS' Annual Clearance Sale

Will commence on Thursday, February 16th, at 9 A. M.

This Sale will create a great sensation, so do not miss it.

We will publish prices on Thursday.

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Clipping Britain's British Shipown

At the present moment most British shipowners and merchants are in arms at the prospect of the coming into law of the Declaration of London. Many naval authorities are of the opinion that this treaty would upset our naval supremacy, and make it possible for an enemy to starve us into surrender during time of war, almost without firing a shot.

As the international treaty which governs naval warfare, there is a dreadful middle, the last of which, the conference discussed the possibility of certain proposals put forward by Britain were not accepted by the other powers. In not accepting the difficulty the British Government invited a congress of the maritime powers in 1908.

This congress eventually drew up the code called the Declaration of London, which was signed early in 1908, but as it altered the law of nations, it must first of all pass Parliament.

Although it is supported by most prominent members of both parties, the various chambers of commerce are dead against it as a restriction which alters the rules of international law, and which England has strenuously fought.

Here are a couple of instances. Everyone remembers that during the Russo-Japanese War two Russian trading steamers—the Sushki and Petersburg—were captured by Japanese ships on the high seas. The Russians began to seize British vessels during the contraband of war to Japan.

When the P. and O. steamer was seized in the Red Sea and taken through the Suez Canal with a crew on board, British vessels were such strong representations to the Admiralty to send British vessels to find the captured steamer, and tell them to return home.

Now, if we allow an international law to ship guns in mid-sea, and to come a proper warship, our navy would be taken at a disadvantage. Our mercantile marine is sometimes bigger than those of other nations, and hundreds of ships would

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