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J. J. ROSSITER

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

Issued every day from the office of publication, 167 Water Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, Union Publishing Co. Ltd., Proprietors.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., JAN. 28, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Starvation

THERE is no destitution in the Country, so say the patriots. Collect money to send to Belgium, says some patriots, while our own Countrymen are left to starve.

Day by day we receive letters appealing for aid to save families from starvation. Here is one received today:

"I haven't got a bite in my house but some caplin and potatoes. I have four children and it is hard to see them hungry. Unless I can get some work or some help I must starve. I did nothing last summer with fish, and the Grabbals won't help anyone who can't pay as they go. What am I to do?"

Now you men and women who are collecting funds to send to Belgium, why not first take a peep homewards and if all is well then help the outsiders. The cry of hundreds of hungry children in Newfoundland is daily ascending to heaven.

The author of this letter is a Methodist man, yet the Methodist clericals are sending some thousands of dollars collected on Monday as Thanks giving offerings to Belgium.

We advise all those men in want to apply to the Chairman of the Local Road Boards and demand work or advances under guarantee to be worked on roads in the spring.

The Road Boards will all have spring grants made to them and they can well afford to expend these grants in aiding the destitute. Either that or go to the Magistrate, if one is near you, and demand work or assistance, and if not forthcoming tell him squarely what the consequences will be.

If Morris intends to compel the starving people to loot he will remain inactive, and be cursed as the greatest villain that ever held a position of trust in this Country.

We received information today from one town intimating that 60 families were in a starving condition. Will the Government open the House and give the people a chance to make their condition known and take some proper steps to meet the demands of the situation?

Something must be done or looting will result. No one can blame the hungry people for taking food to satisfy the cravings of hunger.

Morris don't care a cobbler's curse. He is well fed and so are all his clique, and he has as much sympathy for those in need as the Devil has for his dupes.

Why don't the clergymen in the outports move?

The Government has lots of money for every other purpose, and there is no reduction in the extravagance or waste going on in every public department and the clergymen should see that assistance for the destitute is forthcoming.

The Sealing Commission

At Coley's Point Convention the following resolution was unanimously resolved:

RESPECTING THE WORK OF THE SEALING COMMISSION:

RESOLVED—That this meeting composed of Delegates representing the Fishermen's Union in the Districts of Harbor Main, Harbor Grace, Port de Grave and Carbonear protest

against the proceedings before the so-called Sealing Disaster Commission, as useless, ineffective, and calculated to instill amongst the people a contempt for law and order;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED—That we place on record our disapproval of Dr. Lloyd's action in appearing before the Commission as the representative of the sealers because of an appointment by the Government and in return for a professional fee paid by the Government done in defiance of the protest of President Coaker.

In view of what has transpired since this Commission was appointed about the 25th of November or about 10 weeks ago it is not surprising to find the fishermen of Conception Bay placing on record their disapproval of this huge piece of bluff.

Nothing has been done in the way of examining witnesses for over two weeks, yet no report has yet been made, or if made, unheard of. It ought to have completed its work at least in a month and a report of its findings should have been in the hands of the Government by Christmas.

No fisherman has any confidence in the proceedings or in what the findings will be. The public look upon it as a dodge of Morris to fool the people once more and the general regret is that the Judges of the Supreme Court should have allowed themselves to be used in such a manner by such a pastmaster in political insincerity as Premier Morris. The Country is unanimous in its opinion that the Judges committed a serious blunder when they consented to act as pitchforks for Morris.

Then again, the two lawyers in charge of the case are utterly incapable and therefore their appointment is considered nothing short of an outrage and an insult.

No good can come out of this Commission's investigation, nothing but mischief, and just as sure as the sun shines this disaster business will not end with the work of this Commission. The evidence produced and the questions asked prove to the practical man the great trickery attempted by the Government through this dodge.

Every sensible fisherman is indignant over the manner in which the important and far reaching issues of this awful massacre of 78 men has been hoodwinked. Silly and childish questions that would reflect upon a school boy have been put to the witnesses, out of which no material benefit or improvement can ensue.

No serious effort has been made to get to the bottom of the causes of the disaster or of how such might be averted in the future.

No sealing captain of experience not concerned in the disaster has been placed in the witness box. Why was Captain John Parsons, who was right on the spot during the whole trouble, not examined or asked to give evidence? Why was Captain George Barbour not availed of to demonstrate the knowledge he possesses of the sealfishery and asked for his suggestions regarding laws for the guidance of the future?

Where are the experienced second hands and master watches who have faced the Northern winds of 40 springs to secure whitecoats? Why was such care taken to ascertain the opinion of a young snipe like Wes. Kean on such matters that sealing experience could be the only true guide? Why hundreds of old officers have forgotten in a year as much as Wes. Kean learnt all his life time about sealing?

Why was Ab. Kean permitted to give new evidence to explain his wonderful chart of the graveyard of the 78 heroes his blundering sent into eternity? If Ab. Kean did not know the ground and the courses in April when he made that famous chart, how came it that he could remember the facts more or less months later?

All of these questions are being asked and discussed by the public outside of St. John's.

The public will never forgive Morris for appointing three Judges as a Commission to enquire into those awful catastrophes. They will never forgive Morris for placing Squires and Lloyd in charge of the case.

They will never forgive Kean for the part he played in the losing of those men and they will never rest satisfied until a full searching and sufficient enquiry is made by a Commission of practical men with sealing experience, aided by counsels who know as much about those conditions as lawyers can know, who would be appointed by the Commission and the Fishermen's Protective Union.

Until that Commission sits and renders its impartial report, there will be no let up about the sealing disaster.

If Morris ever faces another election the strongest card facing him will be this outrageous sealing disaster, and we can assure him that if he doesn't hear enough about it at the next election to suffice for breakfast, dinner and tea, it won't be our fault.

As for Squires and Lloyd they had better never show their faces on a Northern platform again. Their only chance for political honors would be

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TO THE EDITOR

Lewisporte Local Council Officers

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir.—The annual meeting of Lewisporte Council took place on Saturday, Jan. 16th, when the following officers were elected:

Nathaniel Turner, Chairman.
Levi G. Layte, Deputy Chairman.
Stephen R. Joans, Secretary.
Joseph Anstey, Treasurer.

—S. R. JEANS, Sec.

Annual Parade Held At Red Cliffe

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir.—On Wednesday, January 20th, as is the usual custom, the F.P.U. of Red Cliffe held their annual parade which proved a great success, and they had the privilege of having one of the finest days for the year.

The parade started from the F.P.U. Hall at Red Cliffe, and from thence to Tickle Cove, and then to Open Hall and back. Tea was then served out by the ladies who are interested in the society.

After tea a dance was held by the young folk, when everybody enjoyed themselves. The dance broke up with the old style "kissing dance" which was enjoyed by all present. Everybody being pleased with their dancing, etc., returned home at an early hour Thursday.

—TRADER.

Open Hall, Jan. 20, 1915.

Rattling Bk. Local Council Officers

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir.—We held our annual meeting and the officers elected for 1915 were all re-elected as follows:

J. R. Bartlett, Chairman.
Robert Dawe, Deputy Chairman.
William Rowse, Secretary.
Freeman Toms, Treasurer.
C. E. Bartlett, Door Guard.

We all hope that the F.P.U. will progress as rapidly in the future as it has in the past.

The F.P.U. has been a great benefit to the people in the past and the people of Rattling Brook will derive great benefits from the Union contract of pit props.

There are 46 men working at it from this little settlement beside all that are working from other places.

—J. R. BARTLETT, Chairman.
Rattling Bk., S.W. Arm, Jan. 14, 15.

Pilley's Is. Loses Two Good Citizens

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir.—We regret to record the death of one of our Local Council, Mr. Martin Metcalf, at the age of 63 years. He was a devoted Christian and highly respected by all. He leaves a wife, three sons and three daughters to mourn their sad loss. One son, Albert, is with the First Nfld. Contingent in Scotland.

Mr. George Howell passed away at the age of 66 years. These deaths have cast a gloom over our little settlement that won't be removed very soon.

Mr. Howell was not a Union man but always ready to lend a helping hand. He was a devoted Christian and loyal Orangeman.

We cannot speak in praises too high of these two men for they will be missed from among us for a long time.

—R. VERGE.
Chairman Pilley's Isld. Local Council.

FORGING AHEAD!

That is the position of The Mail and Advocate, as each issue sees a larger sale. What about that WANT ADVT!

Harry's Hr. Alive With Patriotism

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir.—It is not often we have anything of interest to report from our little settlement, but we feel we must let the outside world know that the patriotic spirit is far from being dead here.

Just a few days ago the ladies arranged to have a social, the proceeds of which were to go to the Patriotic Fund. So they all with one accord came forward last evening, Jan. 13th, with an ample supply of cakes, pies, and everything that goes to make a social what it should be.

A goodly number gathered from the nearby settlements and all repaired to the Orange Hall which was kindly lent for the occasion where a most enjoyable time was spent.

It seemed that people were only too glad of an opportunity of helping, if only in a small measure, a cause so noble. The patriotic spirit evidenced by all present was really remarkable for a people so far removed from the more important towns where the war and all its possible consequences are being constantly presented to them.

At the close very hearty cheers were given for the Allies, and when the writer called for three cheers for our gallant Volunteers, one young man was heard to shout, "Let's give them three times three," and you may be sure that was done with great enthusiasm, even the ladies joining in. We are glad to be able to say we realized the sum of \$30 for the Patriotic Fund and \$2 for the Belgian Relief Fund, which has been forwarded to Mr. John S. Munn, Hon. Treasurer Financial Committee of the Patriotic Fund.

ONE WHO WAS THERE.

Harry's Hr., Notre Dame Bay, Jan. 14, 1915.

Time For Sealers To Make Own Laws

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir.—Will you please renew my subscription to the weekly edition of The Mail and Advocate. I feel that without The Advocate one is in the dark so far as the affairs of this country are concerned. And this is a time when our people should be awake to the doings of the Country and Government.

With regard to the war, I think the people are doing their very best to keep the Union Jack flying over us, but I would like to know what the Government intends to do. This has been a hard winter on the people of Newfoundland and every day one can hear the cry of the poor and destitute.

If the House does not open until April, I do not know what the People's Party, as they call themselves, are going to arrange in the way of employment for the men out of work. Rumor has it that the House would be open but for the Sealing Bill which our President has to present.

It is high time for the sealers and our countrymen in general to wake up to the fact that laws must be brought into force on the basis of life protection.

The disaster of 1914 will not be forgotten soon, for the Commission of Enquiry has come to no decision as to what can be done to prevent such a disaster, occurring again. And, further than that, the man who thought more of a few seal pelts than he did of the lives of seventy-eight men, is wanting a crowd of two or three hundred men to sign their names in opposition to the three thousand five hundred toilers who were connected with that affair of last Spring.

If the Government does not offer to make laws for the protection of the sealers' lives, I think it is time for the sealers to make their own laws for the icefield.

—SEALER.
New Perlican, Jan. 1915.

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