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**The Mail and Advocate**  
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**OUR POINT OF VIEW**

**Publishing of Debates**

THE farce perpetrated upon the trusting public by the manner in which the debates of the House of Assembly are published is very apparent to anyone who will take the trouble to take notice. The debates of May 17th are now being published and at the present rate of progress it will take two months more to finish them.

What purpose is served by publishing debates 30 days old?

Who reads the debates? Not one man out of ten. Interest in the utterances of legislators is small ten days after they are delivered.

During the past session the Opposition Party endeavoured to get the Premier to change the present system of reporting. The Premier agreed to consider the matter and all admitted the uselessness of publishing the debates unless published immediately after delivery, but the Premier took no action and the farce still goes on.

The speeches of the Union members are reported worse than they were last year, and what appears in the official reports is absolutely untrue and do not contain a third of the matter reviewed by any of the Union members.

We warn the public against accepting any of the official reports of Union members' remarks in the House, for what is published is not recognized by Union members. Those speeches are not revised by the speakers.

The most surprising thing about this business is, that the speeches of all other members are splendidly reported. It looks as if the reporters were instructed by some one to bungle up the speeches of Union members.

The stuff appearing daily reporting the speeches of members of the Dumping Chamber delivered in connection with the Labrador Fish Price Bill and the Loggers' Bill prove that seven-eighths of the time of the Upper House the past session was occupied in discussing the Bills sent up from the Lower House which were the outcome of the exertions of the F.P.U. members.

The Union's Bills sent up to the Dumping Chamber were the Loggers' Bill, Sealing Bill, Local Affairs Bill, Labrador Fish Price Bill. Two were passed and two were killed.

It is strange that the Bills sent up by the Government during the session, which amounted to ten times more than those initiated by the F.P.U. members, were not discussed more than one-third of the time devoted to the discussion of the four Union Bills.

**MOSDELL'S BOOMERANGS**

And in these latter days has risen W. F. Coaker, who ranks with the greatest of the land in his efforts and achievements on behalf of his fellow-countrymen. To him belongs all the credit of initiating and directing the wonderful movement which has put our Toilers of the Sea in a position to enjoy to the full the benefits secured for them by his great predecessors. —Mosdell, in The Fishermen's Advocate, Dec. 20, 1913.

It was the old, old story of horn-y-handed Son of Toil being made a hewer of wood and a drawer of water for the middleman who marketed his produce abroad. —Mosdell, in The Advocate, Dec. 20, 1913.

For what isolated individual or groups of individuals found impossible of accomplishment was soon brought about when the great armies of Unionism entered the industrial field and did battle for what is but the common right of humanity. —Mosdell, in The Advocate, Dec. 20, '13.

**The Star Man's Ignorance**

THE STAR man has great faith in all that is contained within the covers of the Encyclopedia Britannica, for once again he attempts a rebuttal of our very plain statement, that Wilson neither invented the electric furnace nor calcium carbide, by citing from that work of reference.

We do not know whether the encyclopedia gives the credit to Wilson or not, for we have not taken the trouble to enquire, but we do not believe that it does, and if it does, then it will change the text in the next edition. This is the privilege of an encyclopedia.

What can be thought of a newspaper that uninvented enters into an argument with another, just for the sake of being heard?

His voice would not perhaps be regarded so absolutely as the braying of an ass, had he had some knowledge of the subject he attempted to debate.

We made a certain statement respecting Mr. Wilson and the discovery of the electric furnace and one of its products, when up jumps the ignoramus of The Star to say we are wrong.

He knew absolutely nothing about the question, but to arm himself, he and his minions flew all about town in the hope of finding a contradiction to our statement. Lo! and behold he found it, in some cheap work of reference, and down comes The Star on our heads, with an argument, that, as he silly fellow in his gross ignorance assumed, was to floor us.

We are not flattered by any means, the encyclopedia notwithstanding.

Our challenge to Wilson or any of his supporters issued some time ago, still stands. Will The Star man take it up? If he does not, then we ask him in the name of common sense to subside.

People are wondering, if when The Star man practiced medicine in Bonne Bay, he consulted Nelson's or somebody else's reference works, for a diagnosis or a prescription.

In all likelihood he did, and that maybe accounts for his being here now practicing newspaper quackery.

Had The Star man had even the least semblance of newspaper courtesy about him, he would have contented himself, if he really felt it incumbent upon to say something, with saying that such works of reference as he had had access to all were opposed to our attitude on the question.

Why he felt that he should butt in like a billy goat, cannot be ac-

He (COAKER) was born of the common people; he was inexperienced in business or in politics; he was obscure and unknown. BUT HE (COAKER) WAS THE MAN FOR THE TIME AND FOR THE WORK. What birth and experience denied was more than made up for in PERSONALITY, in BRAIN and in GENIUS. —Mosdell, in The Fishermen's Advocate, December 20, 1913.

Having the knowledge of the need; having ideas and schemes to accomplish the work; having faith in himself and confidence in the ultimate success of his (COAKER) great undertaking HE (COAKER) BOLDLY LAUNCHED HIS (COAKER) HUMANE ENTERPRISE. —Mosdell, in The Fishermen's Advocate, Dec. 20, 1913.

Men scoffed at COAKER, but they were men who did not know him. —Mosdell, in The Fishermen's Advocate, December 20, 1913.

**The Aftermath**

WE have received the accompanying poetic effusion from a teacher who seems to have been ruffled by our remarks about the Academic distinction "A.A." being of no import beyond the three-mile-limit. He assures us that the Ars Poetica receives considerable attention in his school section, and he says:

"Owing to the exigencies of the Exams we have entirely dispensed with such USELESS and commonplace subjects as NAVIGATION, Reading, and the THREE R'S."

**A SOLILOQUY**

"TO SHEAR, or not to shear: That is the QUESTION: Whether it were better to be real-ly honest, Or relegate the gull'd electors to - Gehenna Shorn of every asset that Dame Nature lavish'd Upon this Newfoundland of ours Alas! I need to lay a devious course, forsooth, For both my pocket and my wallet do feel empty. This cursed WAR: Thou, brutal, murderous Kaiser Hast clean cut off my reg'lar trip to Albion, With feastings rare, and copious DRAFTS upon The Finance Minister! CARBIDE's the THING: it hath a gladsome JINGLE— It boots me well, although it be a SWINDLE! Promoters' Favours erstwhile had passed unnoticed: Confound that FISHERS' FRIEND, the watchful COAKER! Hehah! me so disgraced, I'd e'en condone The deep damnation of his taking off!"

We were so impressed with the item regarding Navigation, that we wished to verify the statement

of the "A."; and we find that the teaching of Navigation in our schools is almost as dead as the Dodo. Reading, it seems, is a lost art; and the Three R's are almost forgotten!

Of course, to offset these trivial omissions in the curricula of common schools we have such interesting subjects as Nature Studies, Prophylactic Measures against the aggressive onslaughts of the genus Cimex, Hygiene, Natural History (with reference to the habits of the Ornithorynchus and the Platyplus, of Australia. Newfoundland History is no longer considered essential. The story of Babylonian Cuneiform Inscriptions, of course, is far more interesting. These subjects are decidedly instructive; and the young children of our outports are to be congratulated in having such opportunities to acquire a HIGHER Education.

We are going to save up the few dimes that we can spare, and invest in some of these textbooks; for really, we are getting so old fashioned, that we do not find it agreeable to be living amidst such surroundings. Alas! when we sat on the old school form, we were actually obliged to learn Geography, Grammar, Navigation, and other such commonplace things!

**Fishery Supplies**

SEVEN-EIGHTS of the Fishermen who take supplies at St. John's have at last transacted their Spring's business and are returning home. Very few returned without what they came for. Probably 50 per cent. of the supplies this Spring were purchased for cash. A great change is apparent in this respect, and no one is sorry that such changes are taking place.

The failure of the firm of A. Goodridge & Sons caused some inconvenience to many of the dealers of that old firm, but nine-tenths of them secured supplies from other firms.

A few schooners were left here with the receivers of the estate.

Most of the Labrador Fishermen from Conception Bay secured the necessary supplies after a long Spring of worry and indecision, yet it is probable that 1000 less Fishermen will this year prosecute the Labrador fishery than were engaged last year.

Out of the 2500 Volunteers and Naval lads enlisted, 1700 to 1800 are Fishermen, consequently if the catch this year is normal, there will be a shortage of 75,000 qtls., owing to the withdrawal of those men, which will mean \$500,000 less earnings from the fishery.

The Lobster fishery will not produce 2500 cases this season, the price of which will not exceed \$12 per case, according to present prospects.

The Spring herring fishery North will be 25,000 barrels less than last year.

The cod fishery prospects for Trinity, Bonavista and Conception Bays are much more favourable than last year, but in no case can it be said to be normal. Yet it is possible that these three Northern Bays will secure a share of fish this season.

The Treaty Shore Spring fishery which two years ago exceeded 50,000 quintals, is again a failure, owing to the ice blockade.

The Bank fishery is ahead of last year's catch to date, but it is so soon to crow too loud over results, for a poor supply of bait in July and August will take the cream off catches taken so far.

The supply of old fish in stock here was never less than at present, and very few quintals will remain by the end of July.

The foreign markets will be without stocks except that of Portugal.

The new fish will be freely purchased abroad if supplies can be dispatched by the end of September.

We trust buyers will offer fair prices for new fish and thereby

**Forcible and Brilliant Speech of Dr. Lloyd on Financial Outlook, Delivered in the House, April 27, 1915**

**In Telling Language Dr. Lloyd Showed up Morris' Tinkering With Tariff--The Point Blank Refusal of His Finance Minister to Give Every Department of the Government With Overdrawn Accounts--Using the Tariff for an Election Kite Played Havoc With Colony's Resources**

MR. LLOYD.—The position of the Government in connection with the estimates. They did not give the House a statement as to the manner in which they were going to raise the money to meet the supply bill. A few days ago we brought to the attention of the Government the desirability of furnishing financial statements before proceeding to vote four million dollars as asked for under those estimates. The answer that was given at that time was that it was not customary to show beforehand how the money was to be raised. I have before me statements furnished by the Minister of Finance showing the expenditure and the bank balances up to the end of March. This statement is prepared by the Bank of Montreal, which does the financial work of the Colony, and must be regarded as the report of the Finance Minister himself. The Colony has to provide about \$520,000 at the end of every six months as interest for the bond-holders, or a little over one quarter of a million dollars every three months. The statement which I hold in my hands shows that at the end of last June the Exchequer Account was overdrawn to the amount of over three hundred thousand dollars. That was the burden with which we started the year on the 1st day of July last, or in other words the balance standing against the Colony on Current Account on that date. That debit balance was wiped off by taking \$301,000 from the reserve of one-half million dollars which was lying in the Bank and known as, I think, the "nest egg." This I gather from the Speech of His Excellency the Governor. After collecting the revenue for nine months, that is from the 1st day of July last to the last day of March, we find that the Exchequer Account is overdrawn by the sum of \$364,000, whereas it should have been in credit by at least a quarter of a million dollars. There are also a number of spending departments which draw on that account for their requirements. On March 31st every spending department had overdrawn its account. The overdrafts of the spending departments amount to about \$175,000, so that we are overdrawn on Exchequer account up to the 31st of March over \$530,000. If the Government spend at the same rate until the 30th day of June, they will be over \$800,000 in debt on the year's running account. With such a showing as this it surely behoves us to consider what we are doing & to scrutinize every statement of a financial character before voting for these estimates. We would like to know how the Finance Minister expects to get out of this difficulty. There is only \$200,000 left of the nest egg to meet a deficit which will probably exceed \$800,000. There are only three ways by which the Finance Minister and meet this deficit. The first is by cutting down expenses \$800,000. You have refused to do this as shown by your estimates. The second is to meet this deficit by a loan. If so, your estimates are out because you have not provided for the payment of interest on that loan, and the third course is to raise extra revenue by further taxation. I do not know whether this latter course is worthy of serious consideration, when we consider the result of the past two years

experience. A fortnight ago I asked, sir, certain information from the Minister of Finance, a part of which I received a few days ago, the balance I received this afternoon. I may say that I agree with the hon. member when he says that I received them promptly - under the circumstances. This information shows exactly what may be expected from new taxation and new tariffs. It will be remembered that in March of last year the Minister of Finance introduced a set of new tariffs, in additions to which he imposed the 10 per cent. surtax, standing at the same time that he believed the surtax would be dropped during the year, as he would have sufficient revenue from the other new tariff. Notwithstanding this extra taxation, and the imposition of the 10 per cent. the Finance Minister has been unable to get sufficient revenues to meet his expenditures. The Minister of Finance calculated that the new tariffs and the surtax would bring him in about \$720,000 a year, and about one-third of that sum, or \$240,000 up to the end of June last. These figures relating to the revenue had nothing to do with the war, because no one in the House had the slightest conception that we were going to be engaged in war. The depression in trade of which we have heard so much from the Minister this session, was not existent, as the exports show clearly. But the extra taxation did not produce the revenue up to June 30th, the Minister anticipated. Instead of receiving \$240,000, he received only \$114,000; receiving only \$27,000 from alcohol, instead of the usual \$110,000. In short, the result on last year's revenue of putting on new taxation from March 11th to June 30, was actually to decrease the aggregate revenue. The experience shows how careful a Minister must be in dealing with tariffs, even in good times.

the estimates prepared to meet only "indispensable requirements." We do not know what the existing conditions are, except in so far as may be revealed by the preceding paragraph, to which the attention of members is directed by the Government itself. I am impressing this point in order to show the unreasonable attitude of the Government in refusing to give the information on what we are invited to consider in connection with the estimates which are before us. We are told something in the Governor's Speech that "The revenue of the past fiscal year shows a deficit." That statement is proved by the Bank statement with the war, because it is a deficit that existed on June 30th long before the war commenced. And we are told now that the deficit occurred because of depression that had existed at that time. I should like to draw the attention of the House to the statement view set forth by the Minister of Finance in his last Budget Speech. There was no talk of depression then. Everything was flourishing. No indication was then given of the "Colony being on an area of depression, or even on the eve of it. On the contrary, the outlook was set forth as quite rosy. But now an excuse is needed and that excuse is sought in depression of trade. An excuse which is not founded on fact. The reason why the revenue did not come in was not owing to depression of times, but was due to the fact that before there had been an electioneering budget passed, and the electioneering budget cut off duties on articles which would have responded to taxation. And the Minister found himself unable to meet expense because the rosy view that he took in the election budget were not realized. I notice that the Premier smiles broadly. He smiles, I suppose, because it did the trick after all, and put him back in office and has kept him in the seat he now occupies—but although this shot was a good enough one to put the Premier and his friends on the other side of the House, it was a bad shot for the country. It nullified up the accounts of the Colony, and from an Exchequer standpoint, it was a complete failure. The returns of revenue from the election tariff and the new tariffs, both before the war and since the war, and the long list of adverse balances to the current accounts in the Bank of Montreal on March 31st last, establish this proposition completely. Freak financing met with the result that might well have been expected. My chief complaint against the Minister of Finance and his colleagues is that they did not profit by the mistake of the election year, but continued to blunder in the Budget succeeding the election. They did not have the pluck to retrace their steps. They went on with freak financing, and met the inevitable result on June 30th, 1914, and found themselves with a deficit of over three hundred thousand dollars in times of plenty, of thriving trade, and before the troubles came on us from the great war. The remarkable thing about the financing was that the only part of the taxation that yielded was the surtax; although all the changes made last year brought in \$140,000 up to June 30th, \$35,000 of this came

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induce the Fishermen to ship their early fish and enable it to get to the markets as early as possible. To expect to buy at a low price will result in having the fish held back for higher prices later in the Fall. Let a fair price be offered and the Fishermen encouraged to sell as soon as possible.

The Norwegian fishery is 17,000,000 short of last year's, which will have a beneficial effect upon local prices.

The Fishermen's one great objection now should be to secure every possible quintal of fish, then cure it well—as good as possible.

In using salt, care should be taken in salting for shore make, not to use too much salt, especially if Cadiz is not used. Last year's

shore fish was ruined through the excessive use of Santa Pola salt. Too much salt was used. When Cadiz salt is not used, be sure to curtail the use of salt.

Very little Cadiz salt has been sold this season; even less than the quantity sold last year.

In salting for soft Labrador, too much salt cannot be used. Care should also be exercised respecting the washing of fish from the knife. Every Fisherman should wash his fish before salting away, in clean sea water. Labrador fish especially should be washed before being salted.

We hope every planter will closely heed this advice.

Fish must be cured better than

it has been for the past five years or great injury must result. Too much care cannot be taken to properly cure an article that is an important article of food.

Do not think any trouble too much in connection with curing your fish. The time must come when talqual buying will be prohibited by law and all fish will be bought according to quality.

Do not pickle your fish, men; salt bulk it all. Pickle fish is a menace to the future sale of cod fish. Do not pickle your fish, for it brings considerable loss to shippers and causes no end of trouble in the warm climates. No fish can surpass a well-cured salt bulk fish.