

Legislative Council.

The Council met at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when the Address in Reply to His Excellency's speech was presented, and the Speech from the Throne and replies to various questions debated. In reference to the Municipal Charter, Sir Patrick McGrath explained the Council's claim to 150 feet of right of way on the reclaimed land near the Railway Station and also mentioned that he had been informed by the Mayor that many amendments to the bill as it now stands are necessary. He thought that the bill should be sent to a Select Committee. The first and second readings of the Address in Reply were moved by Hon. J. Anderson.

Hon. Frank McNamara, speaking to the motion said. He would like to make a few remarks on the gracious speech of His Excellency the Governor and also his support to the resolutions of condolence on the death of Hon. W. B. Grieve, C.B.E. It was not to find words to express further comments on deceased's character, but he could not let the opportunity pass without referring to the loss sustained by the community by his passing. Men like Hon. W. B. Grieve were sorely wanted in the present crisis, and without men of the wisdom and experience of the deceased, Newfoundland will have a difficult task to recover from the trying position which now confronts her. Referring to the Speech from the Throne, the speaker said:—"Outside of the paragraph referring to the Fishery Regulations, there is very little worthy of serious comment. The statement that the Act passed the House without dissenting vote is not strictly accurate, as in the Lower Chamber Sir John Crobblet relentlessly opposed the measure and in this Chamber Hon. Mr. Grieve, Hon. D. A. Ryan, and I think, Hon. S. Milley, also opposed them, myself also registered a vote against their enactment."

"I was rather amused at the Hon. Mr. Mews' statement on the opening of the Assembly that he was in doubt as to whether the Regulations were harmful or not—surely the Hon. Mr. Mews was not serious in his conclusions."

"If he has any doubt about the harm these Regulations have done, all he has to do is to ask the business people of the South West or West Coast or North East Coast or even here in St. John's and he will have no difficulty in learning of their injurious effects."

"I have no hesitation in saying that Government interference in Trade is all wrong and should not be tolerated."

The Honorable gentleman then quoted from President Harding's inaugural speech. "As far as the fishery is concerned," said the Hon. Mr. McNamara, "it has resulted in irreparable harm. Our Southern European customers as well as those of Brazil have been lost, a good many of our supplying merchants have become impoverished and the industry of the business that have occurred here since December may be traced to the Regulations."

"I need hardly enlarge on what the Government experiment on sugar has meant to the public as it is well known to everybody. Sugar that could be bought and sold here within the last month or so for 11 to 12c. per pound, is costing the consumer to-day 24 to 25c. per pound, or in other words twice its value."

"This Government experiment in sugar is costing the average household \$75.00 to \$90.00 per year in increased taxation and I say that it is a shame and an outrage that this scandal is allowed to continue indefinitely."

"We have the railroad experiment, operating at a tremendous loss. The shipping experiment showing an estimated deficit of \$1,000 per day and last, but not least, we have the Experimental Farm, the loss in connection with this Farm I do not know."

"There is no doubt in my mind that when the obituary of this administration is written that it will go down in our history as the 'Experimental Government of Newfoundland.'"

"There is only one thing left for the Government to do now and that is to remove from the Statute Book the Fishery Regulations. If these are not removed there will be no supplying and that I think is the whole thing in a nut shell. If they are removed there will be limited supplying."

The Labrador Boundary question, the Revenue and the German indemnity were also dealt with by the Hon. gentleman, as was also Inland and Coastal Transportation.

Hon. Sir P. T. McGrath—"At the last session I asked some questions of the leader of the Government and I would like to know if he could furnish us with the desired information."

Hon. George Shea—"These questions were what a lawyer would call leading questions. However, I have a little information, which I could give. Regarding whether it is the intention of the Government to deal with the Fishery Regulations during the early stage of the session, I may say that the matter will not come before the Government for some time. As Sir Coaker will be here shortly, he may have information regarding the markets abroad."

Sir Patrick—"The information is satisfactory as far as it goes, and may be crystallized into 'Wait till Coaker comes back.' In giving advance information there is a precedent in the

case of the Eschequer, who gave in case of Austin Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Government's intention regarding the Budget. I believe that the supply merchants would like to know at the earliest possible moment where they stand in relation to the fishery regulations. Regarding the reported Government purchase of fish, I think the Government should have taken the public in its confidence and not try to blindfold the devil in the dark. The country should know why the fish was purchased and why only 2 or 3 firms had the handling of it. Regarding my question relating to the Railway, I realize that it could not reasonably be expected that the answer to it could have been given yet, in view of the fact that Mr. H. D. Reid is now reported to be in England and information given at this moment may cause embarrassment. Regarding the question of the financial condition of the country, that in turn will appear in the Budget. Turning to the Speech from the Throne, I think there is an effort to minimize the responsibility of the Government for the failure of the Fishery Regulations by shifting the responsibility to the Export Board. Sir Patrick then showed the analogy between the Government price control of fish and the Home Government's control of the coal industry. The foreign consumer for a time was forced to pay the higher price for the coal and the miner reaped the benefit, but the consumer very shortly stopped buying. Our Government created the same situation regarding the fish business. The British industry is faced with a similar condition, "comparing so small things with great." In Canada a similar condition existed in regard to wheat, but a year ago the Government abandoned the attempt at control. Regarding the fish situation at present, Sir Patrick said that about 1/2 of the total catch yet remained to be disposed of, and this principally because of the Regulations. Sir Patrick referred to the estimated losses to the trade for the last calendar year, which were figured at \$15,000,000. Hon. Anderson and Steer agreed that the estimate was not in excess.

Hon. Mr. Brownrigg and Hon. Dr. Campbell here asked Sir Patrick if the fishermen had not reaped a benefit. Sir Patrick replied yes, but it was at the expense of others. Hon. Mr. Mews interjected, and asked why, if the fishermen were paid in cash for their fish, and had the money, could they not buy their own supplies.

Hon. Mr. Steer replied that lots of the fishermen were paid in goods and some of this was not cash yet. Mr. Brownrigg asked where did the fishermen get supplies in 1914. Dr. Campbell—"They found it themselves and will probably have to do so again." Sir Patrick said he did not think they (the fishermen) would put their money into supplies. Hon. Dr. Campbell and Hon. Mr. Brownrigg replied that it was the proper thing for them to do. "Make them do it."

Continuing, Sir Patrick pointed out that it cost this country 13 million dollars for its share in the War and that the Peace Treaty did not provide for indemnity except for reparations. In these only those who lost shipping through act of the enemy would be compensated and possibly our pensions would be paid, but, said Sir Patrick, "the payments, if ever made, are to extend over a period of 40 years, and we will only get then our share of 20% of the amount paid over by Germany."

Hon. D. A. Ryan—"Mr. President, in reading His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, I noticed reference made on the subject of Inland and Coastal Transportation. No doubt the latter, (Coastal Service) needs some organization, because the past two years the mail service on the Northern Bays is really out of joint."

For about fifteen years or more the steamer "Ethie" did valuable service on Trinity Bay, the "Dundee" in Bonavista Bay, and the "Clyde" in Green Bay, all giving general satisfaction on the different bays, but the past two years the steamers from Green Bay come into Bonavista Bay, and go on to Port Union as the terminus, and vice versa, the Bonavista Bay steamer goes North to Green Bay, thence Bonavista Bay and winds up at Port Union as the terminus. This service is not at all satisfactory to Bonavista Bay, and I should think it is equally so for Green Bay, because the route for these small steamers is too long. A much better service would be given if the steamers in Green Bay were confined and kept there, instead of coming South. The same applies to Bonavista Bay, that steamer should be kept in the Bay, and I hope something fair and reasonable will be done with the Bay steamers when the proper time comes.

Coal Areas—"We have heard a great deal about coals on the West Coast for the past few years, but nothing so far as I know has been done. Now if the Government mean business why not go to work this spring and show to the public their earnestness in this matter, and get the coals out and supply those who want them. I hope and trust that they will do something good for all concerned, and supply part of the coals needed in Newfoundland and reduce the quantity imported from Sydney."

Mr. President, I cannot congratulate the Government on the policy, which they have adopted since taking office, because so far their principal measures up to the present time have helped to bring disaster on the whole country.

Now what is the condition of Newfoundland to-day? I think sir, we all know the condition too well.

The Fishery Regulations have placed many Exporters of codfish in a deplorable state. We have all heard about the West Coast merchants, and how their cargoes of fish were held up last spring and summer, and not given a chance to sail for a considerable time, and on arrival at destination some of the fish was really bad and unfit for food. Meeting with such heavy losses in some cases resulted in ruin and insolvency. When such bad results were experienced on the West Coast, the North East Coast also came in for its share of losses.

I consider, Mr. President, that these men of the West Coast, who met with such heavy losses on these particular cargoes should be compensated by the Government, because they were handicapped in every way in not being allowed to handle and sell their produce as was customary. They, as well as others who have lost by such bungling with the trade of the colony, deserve compensation and should get it. What results were experienced on the West Coast, the North East Coast also came in for its share of losses.

I regret exceedingly the death of our late esteemed friend, Hon. W. B. Grieve, C.B.E., who is absent from amongst us to-day, and who if he were alive now would take part in this discussion, in which was so much interested. A man of such great experience in fishery matters could see so far ahead, and knew exactly what would be the result of such arbitrary measures. He could see that the Government were digging a pit into which we had to fall. He, with some others, strongly protested against those regulations, but all to no purpose. The Government was bound to force them on the country, and the general public know to-day the reason too well.

I am glad that all the regulations on codfish are rescinded, although it came too late. I saw by the press a few days ago that a vessel loaded with 3,518 quintals of codfish for Brazil in January last by Messrs. Hollett of Burin, but was delayed in sailing owing to the owners being unable to comply with the Brazil Regulations. The Regulations have since been lifted, and the ship has sailed, but it is very probable that a big loss will be incurred by the delay in sailing of said vessel, which is now reported in port at St. John's, having been in contact with ice, and obliged to return.

It is generally understood that the Government arranged with some merchants here last fall, to purchase a large quantity of codfish from the fishermen at eight dollars (8.00) per quintal, beside the cost of storage, labor, insurance, etc., etc.

This is a new scheme for a Government to undertake, and one which will no doubt end disastrously for the Government. I am informed, is still held in St. John's to-day unsold. If we had no regulations this fish, with many other thousands of quintals that are still unsold, would have been marketed, and gone into consumption long ago.

Now I hope the Government will repeal the Act governing the Fishery Regulations, so as they will never come in force again, and have same removed from the Statute Book forever.

Astonishing the Natives.

In that most interesting book, "Some Experiences of a New Guinea Resident Magistrate," Captain C. A. W. Monckton tells an amusing story of how he succeeded in impressing the inhabitants of a cannibal village who, incited by their sorcerers or witch doctors, had been giving no end of trouble.

Entering the place alone, save for a native interpreter, he faced the mob of savages, and fixed their attention by telling them that he was going to show them that he was a greater sorcerer than the best of their witch doctors.

"Look at my mouth," he commanded, and expanded it into a grin, showing a complete set of false teeth.

Then, turning his back for a second, he dropped the teeth into his handkerchief and, swinging round again, exposed a double row of toothless gums.

A yell of horror and amazement went up, and fearful glances were cast behind for somewhere to bolt to.

Captain Monckton swept his handkerchief before his mouth, and again grinned a glistening toothful grin.

"Now," he said, turning to the interpreter, "ask them whether in all their villages there is a sorcerer that can do such a thing as that?"

"No," was the answer, "the white chief is greater than them all."

Shipping Notes.

New York on Thursday at 11 a.m. Sch. Ina A. Moulton has arrived at Burgeo from Gibraltar with 260 tons salt to J. T. Moulton.

Sch. General Maude, 29 days from Oporto, has arrived to the Marytown Trading Co., in ballast.

Methtinks it is good to be here. Where? At "Ruddigore".

SEALS TAKING TO WATER.—Messrs. Job Bros. received a message this morning from the s.s. Thelie, but in part it was unintelligible. The message, however, conveyed the information that there was a few seals about but they were taking to the water.

Man o' warmen! Don't forget to see the Jolly Jack Tar at the Sailor's Hornpipe next week at the Casino.

KNOWLING'S

Central, West End and Duckworth Street Shoe Stores

MARK DOWN SALE

of

MEN'S BOOTS

These are not boots of indifferent quality, but are good, clean stocks, and include all local as well as imported goods of the very Best Canadian and American made Boots.

NOTE OUR NEW PRICES.

MEN'S VEAL CALF BLUCHER WORK BOOTS.	Reg. \$7.00.	Now 3.95
MEN'S GLOVE GRAINER BLUCHER	Regular \$5.60.	Now 4.75
MEN'S BOX CALF BLUCHER	Regular \$6.50.	Now 5.80
MEN'S KID BLUCHER	Regular \$7.00.	Now 6.25
MEN'S GUN METAL BLUCHER	Regular \$8.00.	Now 6.90

MEN'S TAN CALF BLUCHER	Regular \$17.00.	Now 10.00
MEN'S TAN CALF BLUCHER	Regular \$15.00.	Now 9.95

MEN'S BLACK KID BALS.	Regular \$10.00.	Now 8.00
MEN'S GUN METAL BLUCHER	Regular \$12.80.	Now 9.00
MEN'S BOX CALF BLUCHER	Regular \$ 9.50.	Now 8.50
MEN'S VICI KID BLUCHER	Regular \$ 9.70.	Now 8.70
MEN'S VICI KID BLUCHER	Regular \$10.30.	Now 9.30

MEN'S TAN CALF BUTTON	Regular \$11.00.	Now 9.00
MEN'S TAN CALF BUTTON	Regular \$10.00.	Now 8.20

MEN'S GUN METAL BLUCHER	Regular \$15.00.	Now 10.00
MEN'S BOX VEAL BLUCHER	Regular \$13.50.	Now 9.00
MEN'S BLACK VICI BLUCHER	Regular \$14.50.	Now 9.95
MEN'S BLACK VICI BLUCHER	Regular \$17.80.	Now 15.00
MEN'S GUN METAL BLUCHER	Regular \$14.00.	Now 9.75

MEN'S TAN CALF BLUCHER	Regular \$19.30.	Now 14.50
MEN'S MAHOGANY BROGUES	Regular \$14.00.	Now 9.50
MEN'S BROWN STORM BLUCHER	Regular \$13.00.	Now 10.00

MEN'S BOX CALF BLUCHER	Regular \$ 9.70.	Now 8.70
MEN'S BLACK VICI BLUCHER	Regular \$14.75.	Now 12.00
MEN'S TAN CALF BALS, Rubber Soles	Regular \$12.50.	Now 9.00
MEN'S CHOCOLATE "ELK" BLUCHER	Regular \$12.00.	Now 9.50
MEN'S TAN VICI BLUCHER	Regular \$ 9.50.	Now 8.20

G. KNOWLING, Ltd.

CENTRAL, DUCKWORTH ST., AND WEST END.

APR 5, 1921

Shipping Notes.

S.S. Sable Island left Sydney at 6 p.m. yesterday and is due here to-morrow evening.

S.S. Rosalind sails for Halifax and

New York on Thursday at 11 a.m. Sch. Ina A. Moulton has arrived at Burgeo from Gibraltar with 260 tons salt to J. T. Moulton.

Sch. General Rawlinson, 25 days from Lisbon, has arrived at Marytown, salt laden.

Sch. General Maude, 29 days from Oporto, has arrived to the Marytown Trading Co., in ballast.

Methtinks it is good to be here. Where? At "Ruddigore".

SEALS TAKING TO WATER.—Messrs. Job Bros. received a message this morning from the s.s. Thelie, but in part it was unintelligible. The message, however, conveyed the information that there was a few seals about but they were taking to the water.

Pope Benedict Approves

(By Annie Christian, B.A., in the Catholic Citizen.)

"Nous voudrions voir des femmes electrices partout." (We should like to see woman electors everywhere.) Such are the words of our Holy Father Benedict XV, exactly as they fell from his lips on the occasion when the present writer had the privilege of a private audience. Graciously permitted to lay before His Holiness the projects and problems of the day on which light is needed, it was a great joy to be able to bring before the Head of Christendom the aims and strivings of a brave little group of Catholic women in England. They had realized, at the outset of the agitation for the vote, its importance for Catholics, bound to defend the principles of the Church, through the seething ferment of new conditions and to imprint on modern reforms in so far as possible the unwavering code of morals propounded by the Vicar of Christ. The Catholic Woman's Suffrage Society provided a safe and fruitful field for Catholic feminists anxious for reform, yet loath to identify themselves with certain aspects of the movement which ran counter to Catholic ideals. Failing this Society, some women, discouraged, would have refrained from any participation in what is now acknowledged by all to be a necessary and rightful claim, while others would have let themselves be carried away by societies not in accordance with Catholic principles. Loyalty to the Holy Catholic Church was the primary motive actuating the founders of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society and when this writer had humbly given the above account of its object and activities and respectfully asked whether it had the approval of His Holiness, the reply came in emphatic tones "Oui, nous approuvons." ("Yes, we approve.")

All those who have the privilege of prostrating themselves before the Successor of St. Peter came away thrilled and uplifted. When the writer was afterwards asked about various details concerning the pomp and splendour of Vatican, she could only say that all else vanished from memory except the slight dignified figure robed in white whose ascetic face reflects such a depth of charity, solicitude, and heavy suffering. Who but His Divine Master can compute the cares that weigh upon the shoulders of Benedict XV? We all expect from him counsel, sympathy, and encouragement for the particular good work on which we are engaged; but do we realize the counter-currents, the conflicting elements with which he has to deal, the intricate problems that demand solution? Does one reflect that a gain to the Church in one direction may often mean a loss in another? Those who presumed to criticize the Holy Father's impartial attitude in the war would not have been so foolish and so heartless had they stopped to think that he is the Commander-in-Chief of Christ's international army which is fighting not for the world dominion, but for the Kingdom of Heaven. As in many other cases which one may recall, time makes right prevail. Already the judgment of the Holy Father is being recognized, and the Germans no longer call him "pro-Entente" even though he canonizes Joan of Arc; nor does our side call him "pro-German" because he gives heed to the religious claims of German Catholic colonists. When the history of the world-war will be written in calmer days, when passions have died away, and when truth is no longer distorted, it is the unassuming figure in the authoritative chair of St. Peter who will be held up as an example of intelligent humanity. He who prayed and worked rather than made fine declarations, who took no merit to himself for the success which he certainly achieved; but continued to encourage, exhort and inspire, he is the outstanding personality of the period. True to his divine Model, his first concern in the war was the alleviation of suffering. From the day of his accession he preached peace; and he never ceased to preach it, regardless of the calumnies and threats of those of little faith. The spiritual paternity which Benedict XV. has manifested in such a very special manner to all his children during the past years of bloodshed, can now be concentrated on social problems. Already the women of Italy, encouraged by his desire that they, too, should co-operate in public work for the furtherance of religion and morality, are bestirring themselves to use every capacity they possess for Catholic women the world over will not be less eager to comply with the wishes of the Holy Father who would fain see women voters everywhere, coming on the "devout female sex" to defend the cause of religion and of Christian morality. In England the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society will always look with especial confidence and gratitude to that Pope who raised to the Altar the humble maiden most fitted to be the model of modern woman-kind. May St. Joan of Arc, patron of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, ever watch over and pray for its members and their undertakings that they may justify the trust of Benedict XV.