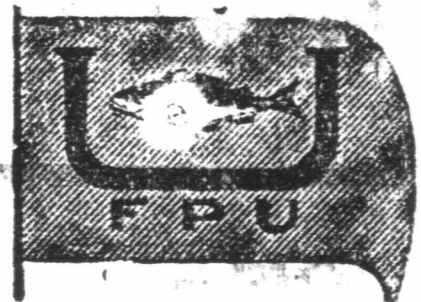


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The Mail and Advocate

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Editor and Business Manager
JOHN J. ST. JOHN

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., DEC. 3rd., 1915

OUR POINT OF VIEW

F.P.U. Convention

WHEN our Xmas Number appears on the 18th our readers and the public generally will realize what a power and influence for good in our Country the F.P.U. has become. Every atom of its power is being utilized to uplift the masses and to secure a square deal for the Toiling Masses. The change already observable in the Colony after but seven years of Union activity is amazing.

Some believed from the first that Coaker's aim was to enrich himself at the expense of the Fishermen and Country. They have taken to confess now that they were mistaken, for Coaker, although the most influential man in the Colony, is working as sincerely and faithfully for the common good as he has done at any time since he formed the F.P.U.

His hours of daily labour have not been shortened; his enthusiasm is still as strong as it ever was; his self sacrificing principals show no weakening—he is as poor or poorer as he was seven years ago. He lives a life of reserve and abhors pleasure. His intimate friends are as few as ever; his work is improving rapidly and being recognized as national and unselfish.

The public is placing more and more confidence in his judgment and work as the months pass. When the work of last week's Convention is published it will be but another proof of the sincerity and determination of "the man of mystery," to stand by Country and Fishermen. His Catalina plans reveal the man's great confidence in his work and the benefits it must confer on those he is labouring to uplift.

Coaker's enemies have been more active the past year than ever, yet the confidence in him is stronger than ever, and not an atom has been knocked off him by all and sundry attempts to injure him.

This year by the exercise of splendid judgment and constant attention to business he will provide a ten per cent dividend for shareholders in the Trading Co. and Export Co., and will clear money enough from cod oil operations to double the reserve of the Company and completely erect the Catalina premises; while every Fisherman has been benefited by the rate of from \$5 to \$40 per ton on all oil sold since September. Had there been no Coaker in

the cod oil market this year, cod oil would not have advanced beyond the \$100 figure, nor would shore dry fish have sold at more than \$0 per cwt. If this Colony possessed ten Coakers, it would not take many years to make a new country out of Newfoundland and make it blossom like a rose.

That the F.P.U. will be enabled to carry out its political platform after 1917, no sensible man will now deny, for if Coaker and the F.P.U. can accomplish such great work without political power, and in spite of tremendous opposition by Government and commercial interests, what may be expected in the way of progress and development of the fisheries and the general advancement of the Colony on sane principles when governmental power is entrusted to the hands of Coaker and the F.P.U. Party, as will be done as soon as the people are permitted to do so at the polls.

An Improvement

IN our issue of November 10 we pointed out the unnecessary hardships and inconveniences caused the dependants of Our Soldier Boys by the fact of their having to call at the Regimental Pay Office in the Colonial Building in order to receive the allotment cheques each month.

Yesterday we published an advertisement from the Regimental Department stating that in future those cheques will be mailed on the 7th of each month and that there will be no necessity as heretofore for the recipients to call in person.

This is a much needed reform and one which we think will receive a hearty public endorsement. The old method of paying these allotment cheques was anything but satisfactory and many persons, particularly old folk, were compelled to wait hours before receiving their cheques.

We are glad to note however that our comments at the time have been taken into consideration by those in charge and now the dependants of Our Soldier Boys are enabled to receive their money without spending hours hanging around the Regimental Pay Office.

Another Case

YESTERDAY we referred to the unpleasant experience of three men of Horwood who were compelled to land on Dog Bay Island, owing to their motor boat breaking down while on a run from Horwood to Change Islands.

Although they hoisted signals for aid, which they contend should have been seen by the lighthouse keeper at the southern end of Change Islands, no attention was paid to such signals, caused no doubt by the fact that the signals were not observed by the light keeper who is a reliable and trustworthy man.

Now we have no desire to treat harshly any of the lighthouse keepers around the Island. They no doubt do their duty and do it well; but we cannot help remarking here that at this time of the year a little more than ordinary attention on the part of light keepers is needed, for we have had within the past few days striking examples of negligence on the part of some keepers.

We refer to the case of Captain Clements, who claims that the keeper of Western Bay light, although he saw his (Clements') signal in the rigging and watched the schooner for hours, made no attempt to render aid. Again Clements says he was within sight of Cape Spear and as in the former case he hoisted a signal, but it was not observed.

No one expects a light keeper to do impossibilities; but as we said above, special instruction should be sent by the Department of Marine and Fisheries at this time of the year to lighthouse keepers to be a little more alert than usual for any vessels which may be in

distress. Our fisher folk pay a heavy price for the maintenance and upkeep of the many light stations around the Island and they are entitled to all the protection it is possible to afford them.

We trust Minister Piccott will get busy now and see that these complaints are immediately enquired into and that a repetition of same shall not occur again. It is to him the fishermen look to have such matters made right as no other member of the Government is sufficiently interested in such matters as those.

Souvenir Photos

WE have to thank the Rt. Hon. the Premier for a set of souvenir photos kindly sent us today. They were taken just previous to the regiment sailing from England, and will as the Premier states in his letter "prove an interesting souvenir of a great historical event in the annals of Newfoundland."

"PEACE"?

THE chances of "make-up" caused two articles to appear in the same page of one of yesterday's papers:

In one article Henry Ford was quoted as being willing to give his entire fortune to bring about speedy peace in Europe. In the other article the German Kaiser likewise discussing "peace" was quoted in a despatch from Berlin as appealing to his soldiers to send our enemies back with bloody heads till they (the allies) were on their knees, as he hoped might be the case soon.

Apparently the Kaiser has no desire for peace that does not leave him in control of all he has taken and with his enemies utterly crushed.

Does Mr. Ford desire that sort of "peace"; Belgium and Serbia to remain enslaved forever, the Lusitania and Ancona massacres unavenged and unrepented, the violation of solemn treaties as scraps of paper justified, and the doctrines of "frightfulness" and of "might making right" triumphant over bleeding civilization?

Does Mr. Ford really desire the United States and other neutral nations to strive to make such conditions permanent and to call such hideous infamy by the sacred name of "Peace"?—Boston Post.

Germany's Vanishing Munitions

New York Press:—Germany did not expect to be hopelessly cut off from the outside world, for it was no part of her plan to have England among her enemies at this time. Despite all planning and preparation, despite the magnificence of the German industrial machinery for turning out whatever the war requires, it is still impossible to believe that at the rate of consumption for the last fifteen months Germany and Austria can make their munitions works keep pace with consumption.

The World's Press

Germany's Arabian Nights Dream

The Nation—Nothing, however, can change the fundamental fact that the decision of the war will not take place in the East. The Balkan States will no more do more do Germany's work for her than they will do the Allies' work for them. If this be so, the thought of Germany skirmishing towards Bagdad or India can only be encouraging. Even if she should only send munitions thither to such an extent as the ventures would demand, this would almost be enough to turn the scale for the Allies. For this is undoubtedly a war of munitions. The fate of Russia, with some of the best fighting material in the world, shows that armies insufficiently gunned are at the mercy of an enemy well provided in this respect. The more Germany empties herself of munitions for her projected Arabian Nights' excursions, the better for the Allies, whose problem will, to that extent, be simplified in the main areas of the war. These converge upon the German Empire, upon whose soil or frontiers the decision will be made.

No Talk of Reprisals

Westminster Gazette.—We must show the Germans that they have committed a blunder as well as a crime, and see that for every man whom Miss Cavell might have helped to get to England, if she had lived, ten thousand shall go from England to avenge her death. Let us have no talk of reprisals. That we should do to any German woman what they have done to her is unthinkable. Our only return now is to harden our resolution, arm our men, and strengthen our Government to beat the German enemy in open and legitimate warfare. We have to turn our indignation into strictly practical channels, and be sure that it pulls us together and makes us more formidable in action.

The Value of Perspective

Chicago Tribune.—Great Britain is secure and stable compared with the Great Britain of those dangerous and unstable days when the news of Wagram meant the downfall of a government in London, when Napoleon's threat from Boulogne carried the real possibility of putting French grenadiers in London. Great Britain never was so well organized for national need as it is to-day. Its fleet never had the sea under better control; its armies never were so large and its Government seldom has been able to weather periods of failure in better shape. Even the Crimean war sent the Aberdeen Ministry out in disgrace. Asquith has gone through this war so far with only the loss of a few Cabinet Ministers. A perspective will not save the British from anything that lack of national effort may prepare for them, but, it at least saves them from magnifying difficulties observed by the microscopic eyes of an unrelated present.

A Reply to Mrs. Browning

An Indignant Mother Backs Up Our Stand in the Matter and Says the W.P.A. Must Answer the Burning Query

(Editor Mail an Advocate)

Sir.—I would ask the courtesy of the use of your columns for the purpose of taking issue with Mrs. Browning in her letter of yesterday. Her missive I think in its statements are beside the issue. It is not a question of the amount of comforts in the shape of clothing and other goods that have been made or sent but the burning query with those who have sons, brothers or fathers at the front on the firing line is, did those for whom they were intended get them? Judging from what your very valuable paper says the answer can be found in your columns and unfortunately it is a decidedly negative one.

Now, as a matter of fact, I know that you are correct—absolutely correct—in what you say of an officers of "Ours" having made a similar complaint.

Mrs. Browning is quick to retort that "somebody's boy" is "peevish, jealous and unmanly" and would like to report him to his superior officer. How charitable and lady-like, and how expressive of parental affection, if her boy were there—and I doubt if there is such a personage at the front—would she be so precipitate in the premises? I doubt it. Now, I think and many other mothers agree with me that this soldier lad exhibits strongly, many characteristics when he takes upon himself the burden of telling a truth which others may wish to shirk.

Let me be understood—I say all praise to our noble women workers, for their zeal and industry in such a noble task as theirs' is. They should and no doubt do, feel sincere regret that any if only the smallest portion of the labor of their kindly hands, should be diverted from its proper objective, "our own boys."

Go on Mr. Coaker in your good work. Combat this great wrong as you have successfully combatted others. Do not let supercilious and name criticisms, no matter from what source, deter you and you will have the god wishes and blessings of many, like myself, who would subscribe themselves as I do.

AN INDIGNANT MOTHER.
Dec. 3rd, 1915.

Unspeakable Savagery

New York Globe.—The opinion prevails in this country that the right of non-combatants or merchant vessels to escape with their lives is superior to the right of the submarine to destroy the vessel. Doubts are resolved in favor of humanity, even though it is possible thereby the vessel gains opportunity to escape. For a warship which has a merchant vessel at the mercy of its guns to exercise the right of destruction under circumstances that mean the death of non-combatant men, women and children is unspeakably savage. Our Government should make a searching examination into the conduct of the submarine to ascertain whether the spirit as well as the letter of the agreement made by Germany has been respected. No doubt should be left of our intention no longer to be quiescent in the presence of outrage.

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NOTICE!

A Special Meeting of The Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd., will be held at St. John's, on Dec. 15th, 1915, for the purpose of confirming Resolutions passed at the General Meetings of the said Company, on Nov. 16, 1914, and Nov. 25, 1915, authorizing the increasing of the capital of said Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd. from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

W. W. HALFYARD, Secretary.
St. John's Dec. 1st, 1915.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

NOTRE DAME BAY SERVICE.

The S. S. CLYDE will sail from Lewisport on MONDAY, Dec. 6th, after the arrival of SUNDAY'S EXPRESS from St. John's, for the North Side of the Bay.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE