

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., NOV. 30, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

The F.P.U. Disaster Fund

PROBABLY the fishermen never did a better thing for themselves than that of establishing a fund to relieve distress, the result of disaster, as was done at the recent Convention at Catalina.

Last winter several fishermen lost their lives in snow storms leaving their families unprotected. Appeals were made on their behalf to the General Committee of the Sealing Disaster Fund but no aid could be secured for all the money paid into the Sealing Disaster Fund must be devoted to the support and aid of those who lost their breadwinners in the Newfoundland and Southern Cross disasters.

The Pendragon disaster which cost 11 lives—nine of them breadwinners—is another instance of the wisdom of making provision for a Permanent Union Disaster Fund, for nearly all of the Pendragon's crew were members of the F.P.U.

The fund starts with \$5,200 and each Council which contributes ten cents per member annually into the fund will be qualified to secure assistance for members of the Council meeting with disaster. Aid will be given the widows and orphans of members who lose their lives when actively pursuing the work of their calling, when not otherwise provided for. Members meeting with accidents causing the loss of limbs, and members who lose their homes through fire when not insured, will be aided from this fund.

It is hoped that every Council will secure the contribution of ten cents per man and qualify the members of that Council for assistance from the fund.

Those who do not help themselves and co-operate to help others when in need, have no right to expect others to aid them when misfortune overtakes them. God helps those who help themselves. This is a maxim the F.P.U. have much faith in, and the man who will not contribute, when he can, to mutual benefit funds should not hope to be relieved by others exertions when trials and disaster overtake him.

The contribution from each member is but a mite, for it will often happen that for the payment of this ten cents a return of \$50 will be made.

Every Council, therefore, should endeavor to respond to the decision of the Supreme Council and annually contribute to this fund and thereby qualify its members for the benefits which their union confers upon Union members.

Serious Accident Barely Averted

WHEN the Prospero called at Bay de Verde going North this present trip she collided with the Ethie and barely averted cutting that ship in two. The Prospero damaged the Ethie and lost an anchor and several fathoms of chain.

The letting go of one anchor just before she struck the Ethie saved the latter ship from being sunk. The chain snapped but held until the headway of the Prospero had been considerably checked. The Ethie was lying at anchor.

This matter calls for an immediate investigation, and on behalf of the Northern travelling public we demand it. During the past summer the Prospero barely averted total destruction at Partridge Point, White Bay. On that occasion the dropping of her anchor saved the ship from having her bows beat in against the cliff as it was the bow of the ship brought up against the cliff. It happened in a fog, but in the day. We venture to say this accident was not reported to the British Board of Trade, nor was it the subject of an enquiry here.

If the owners of the ship don't intend to protect the public interest some other authority should and it behoves the authorities to have those matters at once investigated and public anxiety allayed for the travelling public are beginning to lose confidence in the Northern coastal service performed by the Prospero.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

Shamefully Brutal And Indifferent

WHEN one writes to the public press on such a topic as the one we now open, he generally pleads as his object the bringing of his case to the attention of the authorities.

Now we have no such plan in writing, for what we are about to relate of is already well known to both Police and Health authorities.

To be brief, we want to let the public know, of the frightful condition of two women who reside in a hovel on Bannerman Street.

These two women—mother and daughter—are in the most pitiful state of abject poverty and misery.

It is hard to describe their wretched plight, it is deplorable beyond the power of words to picture.

However, cold and illness combine with squalor and dirt to complete a picture of utter desolation.

The hovel that those two poor human beings are living in is a disgrace to the fine street, and would be a disgrace to any slum, and it is certainly no credit to us to permit its existence.

The claphboards are off, the sashes gone from the lower flat, and nearly so from the flat above. The end of the house is open to the pitiless winter sky. Neither rain nor snow may keep out of this abode of misery.

Stretched on a bed or something that serves as a bed when a representative of *The Mail and Advocate* entered last night was the daughter, covered with a heap of rags to keep her blood from freezing. A fit of the most heart rending coughing attracted his attention and drew him to go seek the sufferer, and heart rending was the sight he saw.

Hovering over a miserable fire was the aged mother and as the newspaper man shivered in the dreary room, he heard her story, and though the tale was told in a gentle way, it was the worst indictment yet heard, against official indifference. It aroused him to anger, it made a man ashamed to be of the community, that could tolerate such a crime.

The place is a menace to public health, and a public nuisance, and the misery of the two poor human beings is a blot on our Christianity.

We will say no more just now, but if something is not done very quickly, more and more severe language will be used, and no official, either high or low who has to do with the case, will escape the castigation his brutal indifference suffers to exist.

Sealing Matters

AMONG the many important questions dealt with by the Catalina Convention was one in connection with the Sealing Laws. Important amendments were made thereto and some further sections added. These amendments and additions embrace the whole category, and cover the whole field from medical attendance to food, from the paning of seals to qualification of officers, and from wireless installation to inspection of the hull and fittings of the ship.

As far as possible in human endeavor all personal risks are to be reduced to a condition of absolute safety, either in a medical sense, risks on the ice, and in relation to the seaworthiness of the ship and capabilities of her officers.

Every ship must carry a doctor. The quantity of soft bread supplied is to be doubled, making it two pounds instead of one. Mr. Coaker, from personal observations at the ice last year is convinced that it is quite practicable to give the men two pounds of soft bread per day. Beef and pork are to be supplied daily and fresh meat on Sundays, and no option. Cooks that give satisfaction will receive in addition to their shares a bonus of thirty dollars for first cook and twenty dollars for his assistant.

The time limit within which complaint against the ship may be lodged has been extended from seven days to thirty days. This extension is all important as it gives opportunity for the collection of evidence against non-fulfillment of regulations by ships or officers.

Every ship must have a wireless installation and there is to be no paning of seals. This regulation will make it unprofitable for a captain to send his crew far from the ship to kill seals, and in this manner minimize extremely all risk of men being caught out over night.

Another beneficial regulation provides that the owners of any ship going to the ice must insure a cargo in the interest of her crew. The amount of cargo to be insured to be based upon the average of the five previous years.

A Board of Inspectors is to be appointed to pass on the condition of the ship before sailing and a Board of Examiners is to be appointed to regulate the appointment of men to positions of responsibility on each ship. One, to be appointed master, mate, master watch or other position where experience and knowledge are involved must first obtain a certificate from

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PROTRACTED CAMPAIGN IN THE WESTERN FIELD DISAPPOINTS RUSSIANS

The Examiners that the one seeking such position is duly fitted. All the foregoing questions were fully debated at the great Catalina Convention, and if the regulations recommended are not perfect, they, at any rate, aim at perfection, and a big step has been made in the proper direction.

Already the agitation of the F.P.U. has brought about such a change, that a comparison with present day conditions makes those of a year or two ago, seem like a monstrous impossibility, when we consider how poorly men were accommodated in food and berths.

A new era has dawned and the Fishermen's Protective Union is the sun of the new day, for through the F.P.U. and through that only have the improvements been brought about.



1st Nfld. Regiment Recruiting.

Recruiting Office will be open at C.L.B. Armory on Monday evening from 8 to 10 p.m. and every evening thereafter (Saturday excepted).

Volunteers will be enrolled under the regulations laid down by the Reserve Force Committee which regulations can be seen at the Recruiting Office.

Classes of instruction in drill and shooting will be held at the various armories on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

As more trained men are needed as quickly as possible to reinforce our First Contingent now in England, recruits for active Service are specially required.

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PROTRACTED CAMPAIGN IN THE WESTERN FIELD DISAPPOINTS RUSSIANS

Can't Understand Why the Germans Have Not Been Driven Out of France and Belgium Long Ago

SAY FRENCH ARMY MUCH TOO SMALL

And That Great Britain Also Should Have Many Thousands More Men in the Field Than She Now Has

London, Nov. 17.—Hamilton Fyfe correspondent of the London Daily Mail in Petrograd, sends the following despatch to-night:

“While I was in France during the first ten weeks of the war I used to hear often the question petulantly asked, ‘Why aren't the Russians making more progress?’

“In view of this fact it was an odd experience when I came to Russia to find people saying: ‘How slow the French and British are in driving the Germans out of France and Belgium.’ No one can chafe now at the movement of the campaigns in Poland, East Prussia and Galicia. The Russian army has broken the tradition that it takes a long time to get under way. It has been handled with brilliant skill and strategy and the plans of the General Staff have been carried out by all ranks with magnificent vigor and self-sacrifice.

Irresistible Sweep.

“The Russian army has been irresistible in its sweep. It has driven the Austrians and Germans across the frontiers broken and disheartened, and has gained the first great victory of the war. I have been asked too grateful for the splendid pluck and persistence of the French, British and Belgian troops to be impatient, because their struggle is so long drawn out, to say how the campaign in the west strikes the Russians.

“I can only say in answer that the Russians think the Allies in the west are making very slow progress. Of course the mass of Russians have formed no impression at all, for the very good reason they do not know how the war is going on there, nor does the mass of the better educated people follow the campaign on the other side of Europe much more closely.

Full of ‘Own War.’

“Russian newspapers are full of ‘our’ war. The other campaign receives little notice. The daily official reports are printed, but they are very much alike day after day. Among those who travel—diplomats, politicians and staff officers—among the more intelligent people who fall into these categories, the fighting in Flanders and the campaign along the

The Eastern Battlefront



The above map shows the entire area of the present extensive Russian day is reported to be on fire. The field campaigns. From the Mazurian Lakes in East Prussia to Cracow in Galicia, the armies of the Czar are slowly but surely forcing the Ger-

mans and Austrians back. Cracow is reported to be on fire. The field campaigns. From the Mazurian Lakes in East Prussia to Cracow in Galicia, the armies of the Czar are slowly but surely forcing the Ger-

country less than we or the French or the Germans. You once had the reputation, you English, Scotch and Irish, of being braver than any nation. Have you changed? How is it that after more than three months you have not as many men as you need?

“You know what the obligations were,” they say, “you know that Germany was preparing to fight you, always drinking to ‘The Day,’ sending busy spies among you, building ships and Zeppelins to take mastery of the sea from you. How could you be content with your little army?”

Why Not Conscription.

“And how was it,” several other thoughtful Russians have asked me, besides, “that you did not, as soon as the war was forced upon you, make military service an obligation? Surely every Briton would have voted in favor of that proposition if it had been put to him. You do not love your

22c. in Stamps brings you a copy of ‘Hello! Hello! Who's Your Lady Friend,’ sung by the Soldiers of the King, at Garland's Bookstores, St. John's.—nov28,s.m.w

Picked Up By Schooner Belle Franklin, on hard pine stick. Owner can have same on paying cost of advt., etc. Apply to ALBERT HAYNES, schr. ‘Quissetta’ at C. F. Bennett & Co's, wharf.—nov27,31

“So profound a doubt did it show that one of the most prominent newspapers writers in Petrograd asked me as soon as he heard I came from

the battlefields in France, ‘Is there any fear of another Sedan?’ I hope I reassured him, but every query showed how far the disquietude had affected every one, even those in a position to know better.”

A FLAW.

Boston Transcript:—The German strategists explain their heavy losses on the theory that they are absolutely necessary to take the enemy's trenches, but the flaw in this philosophy is that they aren't taking them.

THE CASUALTIES.

New York Press:—Nobody would estimate the combined casualty lists of all the belligerents at less than 2,500,000. With 2,500,000 of the combatants put out of action from first to last since the war opened less than four months ago, it might seem as if it would not take much more than a year to dispose of virtually the first lines of all the belligerents.

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