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## The Customs Oath

Editor Evening Telegram,  
St. John's.

Sir—In your issue of August the 15th, there appeared a letter from H. Herman Archibald, of Harbor Grace, in which he says among other things, "Then lastly we can reduce the cost of living to the collective amount of nearly three million dollars by the proper operation of our customs laws, stopping the evils arising out of allowing jobs to be passed at invoice prices, instead of at 'fairmarket values' or 'current domestic values' as provided by law. Under the present practice there is no check to false invoicing except the honesty of the importer and it sets a premium on dishonesty to the serious disadvantage of the honest dealer."

Assuming that by the "honesty of the importer," Mr. Archibald means solely the disposition to act according to justice or correct moral principles, there is another aspect to this matter which calls for consideration. Here is the form of oath or affirmation prescribed by the Customs Act which every importer is required to subscribe to on passing entries for his goods.

"I, John Jones, do solemnly and truly swear, or affirm, that I am the importer of the goods mentioned in the invoice now produced by me, and hereunto annexed and signed by me, and that the said invoice is the true and only invoice received by me or which I expect to receive of all the goods imported for account of John Jones, that the said goods are properly described in the said invoice and in the entry thereof, and that nothing has been on my part or to my knowledge on the part of any other person done, concealed or suppressed whereby His Majesty the King may be defrauded of any part of the duty lawfully due on the said goods; and I further solemnly and truly swear or affirm that the prices of the goods as shown in said invoices and as aggregated in this Bill of Entry now presented by me, exhibit the fair market value of the said goods at the time and place of their exportation to this Colony, and without any deduction or discount for cash or because of the exportation thereof or for any other special consideration whatever, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the prices so exhibited were the prices of the said goods for consumption at such time and place. So help me God."

Surely no Christian at any rate, tempted to defraud the revenue by false invoicing or other similar fraudulent practices would dare subscribe to such a solemn appeal to God for the truth of what is affirmed. We have been taught to believe that perjury is a most grievous sin and that its commission causes the angels to weep and the devils to rejoice, not to speak of the heavy temporal penalties imposed for the commission of this crime.

Subscribed to without its ceremonial part, such as kissing the Book or other form as the case may be, before a competent authority of whom a Collector of Customs is one in this case, the above is a valid form of oath, and the binding in conscience, all "circular" logic and "cute" philosophy to the contrary notwithstanding and should certainly be a decided check upon false invoicing.

I am, Sir,  
Yours truly,  
IMPORTER.

October 21st, 1925.

## Mr. Murdoch Writes on Civic Affairs

Editor Evening Telegram.  
Dear Sir—Your editorial in this evening's Telegram, "Wake Up St. John's" is a challenge to every citizen who has the interest of the city at heart. It should be accepted by every man who feels that he has some ability which would be of advantage to the city. I have been approached for months past to become a candidate, probably for the reason that for the past eight years I have been fighting for water and sewer facilities. During the first four years I really believe the Council could not give it to me, but during that time the Municipal Charter was drawn up and certain sections passed, notably the section giving the Council power to borrow money to extend water and sewer facilities.

The present City Council had much greater advantage than their predecessors, yet they have persistently refused permission to build in many sections of the city. During the past few months they have done what they could have done four years ago, but in both cases they have stopped within a few hundred feet of the city limits. Water and sewer facilities along every foot of the city streets would surely be one of the best investments the city could make. Every new house built in the city is an added asset to the city's value. Yet in St. John's everything is done to prevent the city's advance. Several of your remarks touch the spot. The Council as at present constituted are really responsible to no one in particular; the Ward system is the only remedy for that. It is the rule in most towns in almost every country of the world; towns of half the size of St. John's have twice as many councillors, separate committees for every section of municipal activities are appointed and are responsible for

their section. The city official in charge of public health and housing is responsible to his special committee, which meets on a certain night or nights to discuss its special duties. Their reports come before the full council at the weekly meeting. Every subject is fully reported in the local press, and much space is devoted to public discussion of the Council's activities. The Council's doings should be fully reported and discussed, and one would then know just what was going on and who were the real workers.

Any observer of the Council's notes during the past four years will have noticed that this Council has taken no responsibility for anything. Everything is done subject to the approval of the City Engineer or left in the hands of the City Clerk. These gentlemen are public servants and are employed to carry out certain duties and give advice in their special lines if necessary, but why burden them with the duties and responsibilities that a Council is elected to undertake? Surely there are citizens with sufficient ability to intelligently discuss most of the questions that are likely to arise, and to see that their recommendations are carried out. St. John's is the Capital City of this Colony, an hour or two once a week is not enough time to give to its maintenance and government.

I believe that the meetings should be held at night. Many practical men are deterred from offering their services because they think that the meetings have to be attended during business hours. We are told that the city does not get its fair share of the revenue, and if that is so, then we have to fight until we get it. If the whole facts of the case were made public and the citizens could see that the city was not getting a fair show, I think that they would be able to bring sufficient pressure on their members of the House of Assembly to get it. Independent of that, there are many other ways of raising city finances; all that is wanted is men of vision and faith in our city. St. John's could be a healthy as well as a beautiful city. There are several half finished streets in the city, where hundreds of healthy homes could be built, and all that is wanted is the policy of good housing intelligently discussed and a Council who will do all in their power to encourage it to start the building of hundreds of homes. A building to rent is still a good investment, even when let at a moderate rental. Modern fireproof homes cost very little more than wooden ones. Everyone has a horror of fire and I think in any housing policy that might be encouraged by the city that the fire hazard should be thoroughly looked after. We have several outside building experts in the city at present, and I think they would bear me out when I say that taking into consideration the saving in upkeep, insurance, etc., that the person who builds with concrete instead of wood will be money in pocket at the end of ten years when the investment has usually paid for itself.

There are so many subjects in connection with Municipal matters that one could write on, and as I would like with your permission to discuss each one separately, I will close by stating that I propose to offer myself as a candidate in the Municipal Election, and hope before the time for casting votes comes along to prove that I know something of Municipal matters. Again thanking you for space.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES MURDOCH.

Nov. 2, 1925.

## Backs John Cabot as Name for Hotel

Editor Evening Telegram.  
Dear Sir—"Veritas" does not agree that "The John Cabot" would be an appropriate name for the new hotel. And what is his stated objection to it? That John Cabot never was in St. John's Harbour. What if he were not? John Cabot was the discoverer of Newfoundland, and we do not particularly care whether he was in St. John's or not. This hotel, being a national thing, hasn't necessarily got to be given a name associated with St. John's alone. That would be narrow parochialism. It is Newfoundland, not particularly St. John's, that we desire to advertise, and if we can get Canadians and Americans and others to think at all about our country, we need not worry about the purely local subdivisions of Newfoundland. Give the hotel a name of national importance! The argument of "Veritas" is about on a par with some American city refusing to name one of its streets after George Washington or Christopher Columbus on the ground that neither of them ever was in that city. Imagine refusing to name a theatre after Shakespeare because Shakespeare never visited it!

Sincerely yours,  
J. R. SMALLWOOD.  
Heart's Content, Oct. 31, 1925.

We are looking orders now for Kennedy Automobile Covers due to arrive in a few days. Make sure of one of these covers NOW to protect your car during WINTER storage. Telephone 1308. MARSHALL'S GARAGE.  
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## CASINO

CURTAIN: 8.30 SHARP.

## THE BALFOUR STOCK CO.

Presenting the Latest English and American Successes.

MON. — TUE. — WED.  
"THE FIRST YEAR"  
By Frank Craven.  
A Comic tragedy of Married Life

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A Mile-a-Minute Comedy.  
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SPECIALTIES  
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You'll enjoy smoking  
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## British News Notes

IN MEMORY OF YPRES HEROES.

LONDON, Eng., Oct. 30.—(Canadian Press Despatch)—Sixty thousand men who laid down their lives in the Ypres salient, and whose resting-places it has been impossible to trace, will be commemorated in the Menin Gate, which is now in course of erection. The names of all those fallen who are buried in these known graves will be engraved upon the memorial. Designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield the arch will form part of the old ramparts of the town, adjoining the Menin Road, and will thus bridge the very roadway along which those sixty thousand men passed into battle. The arch will be surmounted at one end by a lion looking in the direction whence came the invading foe, and immediately below will be the inscription:

"To the Armies of the British Empire who stood here from 1914-1918, and to those of their dead who have no known grave."

In a similar position at the other end of the arch, beneath a sacrophagus will be the further inscription:

"Here are recorded the names of officers and men who fell in the Ypres salient, but to whom the fortune of war denied the known and honoured burial given to their comrades in death."

The arch is expected to be completed in about a year. Sixty thousand does not nearly exhaust the long list of those who were reported missing in the sector, but it was all that could be accommodated on one memorial; so another memorial is being erected in the cemetery at Tyne Cot, near Passchendaele, on which the remainder of the names will be inscribed.

## GENERAL BOOTH PLANS AN EXTENSIVE TOUR.

General Booth, of the Salvation Army, announces an extensive foreign tour during the coming twelve months. "I hope," says General Booth, "to visit Berlin next month for the Reformation Day campaign in the Sports Palace there. From Berlin I am booked for Prague and then on to Budapest in Hungary to inspect the work of the latest Continental opening of the Salvation Army. Returning from Eastern Europe I hope to meet all our officers working in France and Belgium at important councils in Paris. December and January will find me in Scotland and Ireland, while in the new year will come some special celebration in this country associated with my seventieth birthday."

## Mothers Treat Colds The New "Direct" Way

No Longer Necessary to "Dose" Children With Internal Medicines to Break Colds.

Children's digestion is easily upset by too much "dosing." Vicks VapoRub being externally applied does not upset little stomachs.

At the first sign of croup, sore throat, or any other cold trouble, apply Vicks freely. There is nothing to swallow—just rub it on.

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Over 20 Million Jars Used Yearly

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The closest attention is paid to our Dispensing Department, which is up-to-date in every particular.

All Prescriptions carefully checked before delivery.

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Use Creo Cough Cure for Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, Bronchitis, Tonsillitis, Asthma, Whooping Cough, Catarrh, and all inflammations of the air passage.

35c. Per Bottle.

Woodbury's Soap—40c. per Cake.  
Woodbury's Face Powder . . . . .50c. Pkg.

### WAMPOLES.

During the cold, wet weather, protect yourself from Flu, by taking Wampoles' Extract of Cod Liver Oil.

\$1.20 Per Bottle

For Sore Throat use Wampoles Throat Ease. 15 & 35c. per Pkg.

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BIOZONE BATH SALTS—\$1.20 Package.

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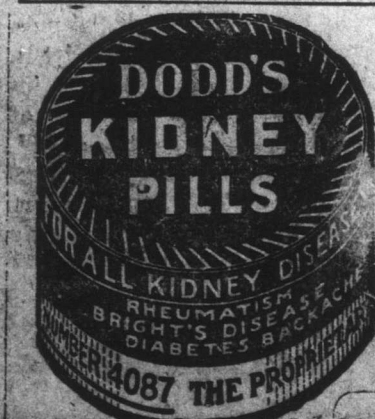
CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.  
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dividuals in the present era. Bishop Temple admits that the average level of intelligence, and possibly of character, may be higher than usual, but "we are sadly lacking in people who have struck their own roots, and who are drawing out of themselves their own mental, moral and spiritual nourishment."

These sentiments were uttered when the Bishop addressed a gathering in Manchester on "The Church and Publicity." The adoption of methods which made no appeal either to the intelligence or the moral sense might be legitimate in commerce, he said. They might be effective, though they were certainly not legitimate, in politics, but they could be neither legitimate nor effective in religion. It was extraordinarily difficult for the church to find any effective publicity which did not on the whole minister to the restless spirit. If publicity had to be striking, arresting, it must to some extent make people jump. Yet, the first duty of the Church in an age like ours was to persuade people to stop jumping—to sit still, or to kneel still and to appreciate those eternal things from which the bustle of the world was diverting their attention.

The church ought, said the Bishop, to do more than it did in making known the work they were engaged on. Their notices might be more impressive than they were, and the writ-

ten information they supplied more interesting. But they must always strike that note of calm in which alone religious work could be done. Religion could not be worked by stunts. The whole purpose of religion was to appeal to the higher side of human nature, and if an attempt were made to attract people by making it seem that religion merely made an exciting appeal a state of mind was created in which it was more difficult than ever to appreciate what the Church had to say. Religion was not exciting. It was absorbing and it was adventurous. But it was not the kind of thing that was best served by making the nerves tingle.



WINDY'S LINIMENT FOR SPRAINS