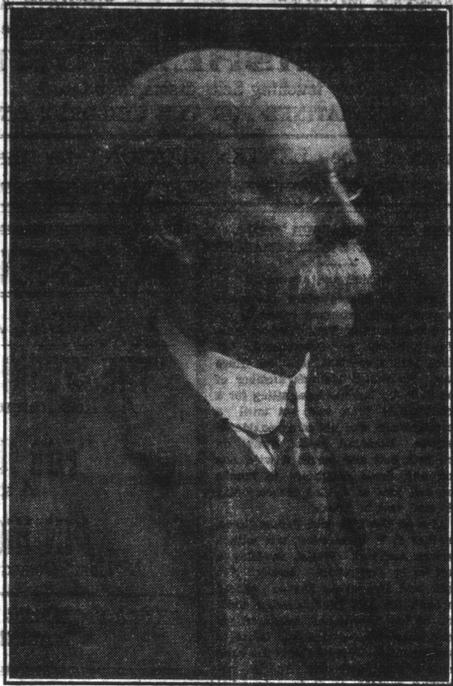


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Mr. Morine Bids Adieu To His Constituents in Bonavista Bay



TO THE ELECTORS OF BONAVIDA BAY.

DEAR FRIENDS:

For reasons altogether personal to my family and to myself I have decided to again make my home in Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, and to practice my profession there. I shall in consequence tender my resignation as one of your representatives in the Assembly, to take effect from the close of the present session. This action on my part will not, I am confident, at all prejudicially affect the care of the local affairs of the district, for they are very efficiently superintended by my esteemed colleagues, Messrs. Abbott and Winsor.

Thirty years ago I was first elected for your district. For 20 years, without a break, I represented it in the Assembly. In 1914—after an absence of eight years—I was re-elected by acclamation. It is, therefore, with deep regret that I bid you adieu. But though I thus sever one of the ties that bind us, there are others which cannot be severed—the mutual confidence we feel, and the affection which has so long bound us together. From my home in Canada I shall jealously regard all public matters that concern you, and if in any day of trial it should seem that you need my services very much, I shall not, I trust, be false to my duty towards you.

Please accept my very graceful thanks for the unwavering support you have on every occasion given to me at the polls, and for all the proofs so lavishly given that I have had your confidence.

I remain,
Yours very sincerely,
ALFRED B. MORINE.

St. John's,
April 8th, 1916.

F.P.U. NOTES

The schr. Cecil Belle, Capt. Ken Rideout of Newtown, is at the F.P.U. wharf taking supplies for the Union store at Newtown.

The schr. Columbia, Capt. Geo. Bishop of Wesleyville, is loading supplies at the Union wharf, for the Union store at Greenspond.

Job Bros. are taking delivery to-day of a large purchase of cod oil from the Union Trading Co.

The Trading Co. is also shipping a large quantity of cod oil to Canada via Sydney, which will be used by Canadian tanneries.

Mr. A. M. Wilson, son of Rev. Wilson of Flat Islds., T.B., has joined the Trading Co.'s staff, and will take charge of the new Union business to be opened at Champneys in a few days.

Mr. H. G. King of Bonaventure has been appointed to take charge of the Union store to be opened at New Bonaventure in a few days. Mr. King was in charge of Dotting Cove store last year.

Ordinary Kiss
Poetess—"You look as if you had been kissed by a cooling breeze from bounteous nature's store."
Simple Sixteen B (with glowing cheeks)—"No, it was only a soft kiss from college."

Thought She Was Single
My little girl had returned from her first day at school and was describing everything to her small brother. He listened a while, and then asked very gloomily, if they hadn't said anything about him at school.
"No," said the sister, "they thought I was single."

YESTERDAY AT THE HOUSE.

FRIDAY, March 8th.

The House met at 3 p.m. last evening. Out of 12 bills before the House seven received their final reading and were referred to the Legislative Council for their concurrence, while the remaining five were deferred until Monday.

Mr. Downey and Mr. Hickman presented petitions from their Districts on public matters.

MR. STONE presented a petition from the inhabitants of Hillview, T.B. in relation to the construction of a bridge at that settlement.

MR. ABBOTT presented a petition from the inhabitants of Stock Cove and Knights Cove, asking that these two places be connected with King's Cove by telephone.

MR. STONE—I beg to give notice that I will on to-morrow ask the Rt. Hon. the Premier if there is a bonus of any kind paid by the Government for putting up Scotch cure herrings. If so, what amount was paid in 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1915, and to whom paid.

While the House was in Committee on the Weights and Measures Act, Mr. Devereaux thought he saw a chance to make some political capital and became all at once heart broken over the loss the poor fishermen sustained in sale of cod oil. The Agricultural Expert had been put wise to this state of affairs by President Coaker's explanation given to the House last week when he pointed out the apparent injustice of fishermen putting 43 gallons of oil in a cask and being credited 40 gallons when same is gauged.

The greatest exhibition of deceit and gall was practised by both Messrs Devereaux, Walsh and Cashin, when they attempted to take credit for what the F. P. U. have been advocating the last six years.

MR. COAKER plainly stated again yesterday that he would like to see some amicable and more satisfactory system of selling oil, so that the fishermen would know they were being paid for what they shipped. Mr. Coaker did not think there was any other plan, however, that could be substituted of any advantage to the producer.

MR. MOULTON suggested that the fishermen be allowed three gallons on each cask more than it gauged.

MR. COAKER said if you think this plan best alright, but he feared in that event the buyer would simply reduce the price per ton to the value of the 18 or 20 gallons of oil, which they stood to lose by this system. In arriving at the price of oil consideration is no doubt given to the fact that by the gauging system the buyer gets so many gallons per ton, but if he is compelled to pay for three or over what each cask gauges then he will simply arrange the price so that the fishermen gets no more per ton than usual.

This Mr. Coaker thought would not be much consolation to the fishermen after all.

Mr. Devereaux surprised the Committee by the gross insinuation that Mr. Coaker was defending the system, and as if to atone for having fleeced the fishermen and other taxpayers of ten thousand dollars during his tenure as Agricultural Expert, he wished to put himself on record (politically of course) as being the fishermen's friend. (But he failed to state why he woke up so late, having forgotten all about them during the last seven years.)

MR. COAKER thought that Mr. Devereaux had talked a lot but had absolutely nothing to offer as a remedy, and invited that gentleman to deliver the goods by suggesting a way out of the difficulty.

There was nothing doing with Mr. Devereaux so Mr. Walsh came to his feet and astonished the House with the statement that Mr. Coaker had defended the presented system, and read a lot of misleading figures, trying to show that the producers lost \$50,000 last year on the oil.

MR. COAKER replied that it was not true and advised Mr. Walsh to talk common sense to the Committee or sit down. He never had attempted to defend the present system, but on the contrary he had twice called the attention of this House to the matter, and said Mr. Coaker, we will not allow you to make such statements. We have already listened too long to Mr. Devereaux who does not appear to understand the question.

DR. LLOYD on rising said: Mr. Chairman, insinuations have been thrown across this House which was unworthy of the men who uttered them. We have had this question brought up and debated before not by the 1st or 2nd number from Placentia, but by the Member for Twillingate, Mr. Coaker, who informed us that it was discussed at the F. P. U. Conventions, and pointed out the injustice of the practice then and now. These gentlemen, said Dr. Lloyd are now trying to make a great splurge to make themselves popular without offering any remedy. I now challenge their sincerity by moving that a joint committee from both sides of the House be selected to deal with the question.

MR. CASHIN thought he would come to the assistance of his political brothers and expressed his belated quota of affection for the fishermen, and wound up by seconding Dr. Lloyd's motion. A committee was therefore selected accordingly.

MR. COAKER was glad the matter was to be dealt with by a select committee and hoped something better would result, as it was an old question, which the F. P. U. had often debated.

MR. MORINE then moved the adjournment and availed of the opportunity to bid adieu to the House. He intended to resign his seat at the close of the session to take up new duties in Canada.

MR. MORINE said: Mr. Speaker, I have decided to resign my seat in this House, as from the close of this session, and I wish to say adieu—until we meet again—to you and the members.

Thirty years have passed since my first election. I sat here continuously for twenty years. This is the second session since my re-election. A flood of recollections make "good-bye" a sad word for me.

Only one Member of this House—the Premier—was here when, in the session of 1887, I first sat here. Of and that of all the members who were the 36 members of the Assembly in 1887, only 13 are now living.

The Colony has undergone a revolution in my time. In 1886 its exports were less than 5 million dollars in value, its imports six millions—the member first came here as a representative of the District of Bonavista. The exports were valued at 15 millions, the imports the same, and since I was elected to this House the total trade was over 30 millions, myself, and during that period I have been a member for three Administrations, sitting on this side of the House for nearly a quarter of a century, twenty years of which period secret ballot prevailed. Power has passed from the classes to the masses, side in Opposition, and I have had some there are who honestly deplore this, but they blame popular government with faults not fairly chargeable to it. It has at least brought into this House an element really representative of the outports. I refer especially to the Union Members, who have thereby helped to bring the voter into more direct contact with the problems of government. The evolution has but begun, and it is too early to arrive at a verdict.

Only the railway to Harbor Grace was in operation in 1886, the Placentia branch not being commenced until that year. In 1890 the railway to Exploits was commenced, and in 1893 the road to Port aux Basques. In 1898, the system was consolidated, and the operation under Reid commenced.

and circumscribed by the responsibilities of office. Although to a great deal of the policy advocated during these years by Mr. Morine and the Party with which he was identified I do not subscribe, nevertheless I never failed to express my admiration for his industry and attention as well as his brilliant work, never once excelled by any man in my time who has sat in this House. Of course my friend made enemies. We all make enemies when in public life. No man who is worth his salt who does not make enemies. Dullness and mediocrity may go unmolested and unattacked, but people never tire of finding sports on those whose superiority brings out in bold relief their own shortcomings. No man can make history without making enemies, and our friend in the twenty years he has been in the public life of the Colony, if he has made some bitter enemies, he has also left an indelible mark in Newfoundland's history. If he had been a mere time server, if he had chosen the path of least resistance he would probably have been more popular and would have made less political enemies; but he is of the class of those who are fearless and brave and say what they think, with the result that they tread on the corns of many and in that way keep up opposition.

It is regrettable to notice the departure, day after day, of the chiefs of the old Liberal Party. Two years ago Sir Robert Bond made his bows and the curtain was rung down for him, not for good I hope. We have hardly ceased our regrets at the recent departure of our friend, Mr. Kent, when now we are called upon to mourn the departure of Mr. Morine, whom, I hope, I am not misdescribing when I class him with the Liberal chiefs, he having been a member of that party since it last came into the House. Still it is pleasant for me to note, historically if not politically, that the junior members of that party are buckling on their armour, ready at a moment's call to take the place of their departed chiefs, jumping into the trenches of political warfare in a patriotic effort, and vying with each other in a valiant and praiseworthy attempt to save the country.

All farewells are sad, and the valedictory of our friend has, I am sure, awakened no emotions other than those of mutual regard. Misunderstandings and wordy war are inseparable from heated, earnest, political life, and we would be less than human if sometimes we did not overstep the confines of Parliamentary usage and etiquette. We often say in the heat of debate, sometimes under provocation, that for which we are afterwards bitterly sorry. I know I always feel so myself. On such occasions as this we wish we had never uttered the offending word, and in this spirit, personally, as well as for my colleagues on this side of the House, I bid adieu to our friend, and express the hope that in his new sphere of labour he will find all the happiness that can be desired. He will be missed in the halls of the Legislature as well as at the Bar, where for many years he held a high and honourable place; but the regret which he must entertain for his severance from his adopted country will be assuaged somewhat by the feeling that he takes with him the kindest wishes not alone for himself and his wife, but for the young Newfoundlanders whom I have no doubt he is proud to call the other members of his family.

DR. LLOYD followed and told the House that when he first came to the country and sat in the gallery one member of the House had attracted his notice and that was the Hon. Member for Bonavista, Mr. Morine. His wonderful powers of debate were really amazing. He thought that of all the good his friend had done while a member of the House the most conspicuous was that he had been a dominant leader of his department when a member of the Government. His strong, fearless personality stood out and had a convincing effect in favour of all matters he espoused. He (Dr. Lloyd) did not always agree with Mr. Morine's policy but had the greatest respect for the manner he always presented his case. He joined in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Morine God speed and every happiness in Canada.

MR. COAKER also regretted Mr. Morine's departure. Being very democratic in his ideas, he had been a great sympathizer with the F. P. U. and the Bonavista platform, and he was all the more sorry that his friend would not be present to help to put that policy into effect on the Government side of the House. Mr. Coaker had always been an admirer of Mr. Morine's, even in the days when he did not approve of his policies, and when, as a boy, he had listened from the galleries to his orations in defence of his convictions. Mr. Morine was going and he had no hesitation in saying that he carried the sincere good wishes of the House with him for the future happiness of Mr. and Mrs. Morine in their native land.

The House then adjourned until 3 o'clock on Monday.

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