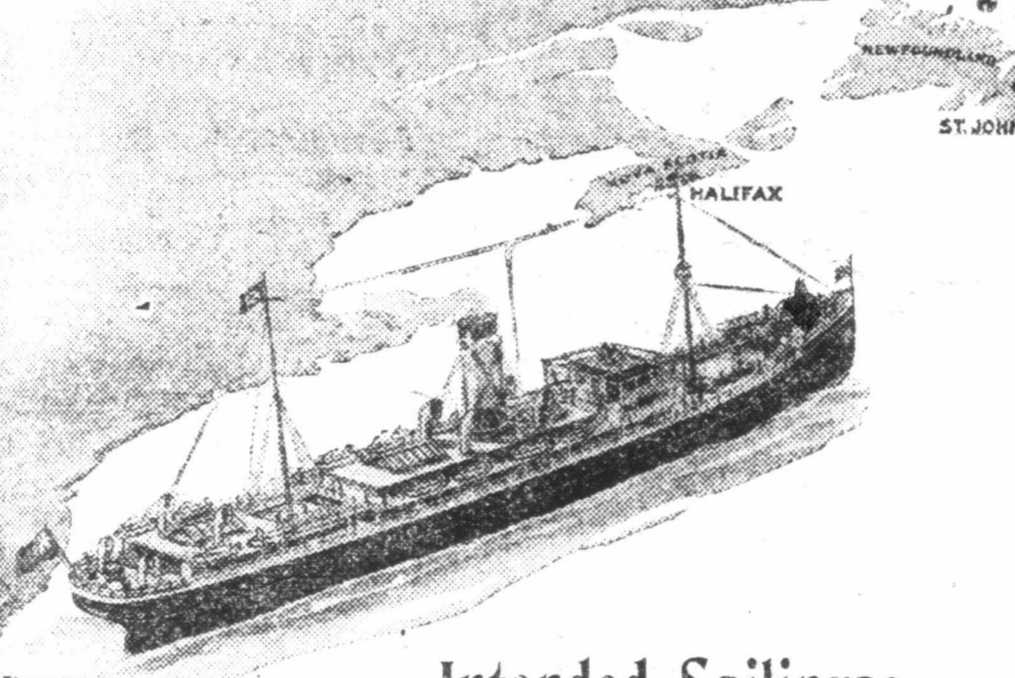


'SKIPPER' Kerosene Oil

Specially Refined to meet the Newfoundland climate. Best for Motor Boats and Lamps.

Standard Oil Co. of New York.
Franklin's Agencies, Limited.

Red Cross Line



Intended Sailings:

FROM NEW YORK	FROM ST. JOHN'S
STEPHANO, May 26th.	STEPHANO, June 3rd.
FLORIZEL, June 17th.	FLORIZEL, June 27th.
STEPHANO, June 27th.	STEPHANO, July 6th.

Harvey & Co., Limited
Agents.

HAVING enjoyed the confidence of our outport customers for many years, we beg to remind them that we are "doing business as usual" at the old stand. Remember Maunders' clothes stand for durability and style combined with good fit.



John Maunders
Tailor and Clothier
281 & 283 Duckworth Street

"From Sill to Saddle"

All kinds of
Building Material
as well as
Lumber
sent to all parts of the Country.

HORWOOD LUMBER CO., LTD.

A Plea for Our Police Force

No Other Officials in the Civil Service Are So Poorly Paid--Many of Them Have 30 Years' Good Service to Their Credit--No Inducements are Held Out to the Younger Men to Remain in the Force--Thousands of Dollars Can Be Found to Satisfy the Demands of Party Healers While Our Policemen Get Hardly Enough to Live on.

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

DEAR SIR,—The present Government has won an unenviable notoriety for squandering the public funds in sops to their political bed fellows. Unnecessary positions have been created to henchmen and the cost of the public service has been increased on this account alone about 40 per cent. men have enriched themselves by many thousands of dollars from the public Treasury for a few hours work in the role of arbitrators. Many have been pensioned at two-thirds their salary while in the prime of life, after serving but a few years for the sole purpose of making room for some other political crony who was kicking for a job, and Sir, while this wholesale squandering is going on, on the one hand, the most important and indispensable class of civil servants in this country is entirely ignored.

I refer to the Police Force. It is hard for any sane, honest minded man possessing a sense of justice and fairplay to conceive how any Government could serve any class of officials as the police are treated in this miserably misgoverned country. Here is a type of men physically and mentally fit to take their place in almost any non professional branch of our industrial life. Men who faithfully perform their duties day and night in the most creditable manner, who are guarding our property and often our very lives. Recent events have proved what sort of a city we would have if it were not vigilant constable on its weary round of duty.

Now Sir, as a natural rule, experience promotes efficiency and efficiency renders more valuable the services of any official, but how do the Government expect to retain the services of the right class of men if they refuse to give the policeman a chance to exist? Is it any wonder that larceny and other vices are increasing in this little city. Can we reasonably expect the poor underpaid policeman "who in justice to himself is merely waiting for some more remunerative opening" to be as keen and energetic in the discharge of his duties as if he was given a living wage; then there would be an incentive, an ambition to stay with the force and to gain recognition. To-day there is nothing to inspire or encourage the young policeman, and the old men are dying out. If they were in any other branch of the civil service they would be pensioned long ago to make room for some fellows, who assisted in the process of codding the electorate, it only requires a good gal to serve in that capacity but it takes a man to make a policeman, this fact, coupled with the starvation wage paid, makes the policeman's job a very unenviable one and there is little danger of his being pensioned or dismissed to make room for the heeler.

It may be said that men have raised families while in the Police Force, that is so, but it is equally true that labouring men raised their families when the rate of wages was from 60 to 75 cents per day; but can they feed, clothe and educate a family to-day on that wages and pay their bills? certainly not. The best of living has increased over 50 per cent, during recent years and it is only reasonable that a corresponding increase in pay be demanded.

Dr. Lloyd, President Coaker and other Opposition members made another appeal on behalf of those officials at the recent session of the Legislature, but the Premier assured the Opposition that the policeman's salary was increasing while he slept and he had only to serve fifteen years to receive 25c. extra per day. What a splendid inducement, we wonder would this satisfy Sir Edward's own ambition? One thing is sure, the police officers will never have the worries incidental to disposing of a Twenty Thousand Dollar mansion built out of that increased salary. There are numbers of the Government heeler class who grabbed more in a couple of weeks off arbitrations and other sops than the average

police officer receives in five years, and yet these fellows are deaf to any appeal on behalf of these men. How much longer is this unfair discrimination to continue? The manner in which four of the most efficient and oldest members of the police force were treated sometime ago will suffice to show what regard the Government and especially R. A. Squires, Minister of Justice, has for the men who comprise our police force.

One year ago Constable J. Nugent, T. Wells, W. Ryan and R. Wells were detailed to do special duty in guarding the cable stations at the following places: Freshwater (Placentia), Heart's Content, Cuckold's Cove and Bay Roberts. These officers were selected no doubt because of seniority and efficiency, they were given the rank of Acting Sergeant, and their pay (ridiculously) increased by \$1.53 per month, these officers having served a year at the above stations were ordered back to town sometime ago, and were informed that they were degraded to the rank and file again and the paltry \$1.53 per month again deducted from their pay.

Mr. Editor, could you think that any Government worthy of the name could treat members of H. M. Police Force in that manner? Men, mind you, who have given all their lives to the service of their country, men who have done duty as police officers in this country for a period of from 27 to 30 years, and this is the way their long and faithful services have been rewarded. We understand that R. A. Squires, the man who was pitched into the position of Minister of Justice, is responsible for this gross injustice. We can well understand why this man Squires should be degraded from the high position he was bounced into in open defiance and violation of all Constitutional law and practice, but the idea of his belittling and showing up such men as Constables Nugent, Wells (2) and Ryan in such an unfavourable light before the public passes all imagination. These men naturally thought that the promotion to Acting Sergeant was but the usual preliminary step to the rank of full Sergeant which was to be expected after nearly 30 years service, but instead find themselves reduced to the rank of ordinary Constable again.

I assert right here, Mr. Editor, if there was any intelligent public opinion in this city this kind of thing would not go on, but the majority of our people are either too selfish, indifferent, or too cowardly to raise their voice in defence of right.

While the policeman's pay is one paltry dollar per day and as the Premier tells us will increase to \$1.05 after five years service, provided he can survive the first five years, other men can openly flout the laws, even perhaps sacrifice human life in the mad craze to get rich quick, while the time is favourable, while political crimes are condoned and encouraged by "Morris" and men in high places may raid the Treasury at will, a policy of retrenchment is practiced against the policeman and the paltry miserable and insignificant sum of \$1.53 per month is cut off their salary by a chap who was wearing his napkins while these men were doing police duty in St. John's.

Oh, well may it be said, "Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn."

Asking your permission, Mr. Editor, to return to this subject again.

I remain,
Yours earnestly,
CONSCIENCE.
St. John's, May 16, 1916.

The S.S. "Kite" will leave here shortly for St. Mary's and will return with a lot of whaling gear from there. She will bring down to Bay Bulls a lot of Pitch pine material for the construction of the new fishing plant there.

ADVERTISE IN
THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

How Defence of Verdun was Worked By Joffre and Petain

After the Battle of Champagne Last Autumn a German Expert Made a Report for the German General Staff—This Report Fell into the Hands of the French and Described Verdun as the Next Offensive—Joffre Had Ample Time to Make His Plans Which Have Succeeded—Petain's Method is "To Kill Germans, Always Kill Germans"—Belloc's Comments on Verdun Fighting

Just how Joffre and Petain were able to defend Verdun, a position that had been considered almost indefensible, and which they would have abandoned when the German attack was launched last February, but for the insistence of the French Ministry that the salient be defended, is something of a mystery. Nevertheless, hints are appearing here and there which should guide us to a reasonably sound conclusion. We know now, for instance, that the defenders at Verdun outnumbered the attackers. The Germans officially announce this, and calculations made of the whole strength on the western front by John Balderson in the course of an article which was reviewed in this column a few days ago, confirm the German claim. There is also a natural advantage with the side that repulses attacks, though there are certain advantages with the side which takes the initiative. The marvellous system of motor transport behind the French lines; the strength of the British army in Flanders, which held more troops there than could be spared for the onslaught upon Verdun, are factors which helped to make the German attack a failure.

Captured Secret Report.

Balderson now says that there was another important element in the French defence of Verdun, one that robbed the Germans of the greatest advantage that naturally lies with the attackers, namely, that of surprise. Joffre knew in advance what the Germans would attempt. Therefore, he had some time to arrange a defence. It appears that after the French made their drive in Champagne last Autumn, a drive which failed, although it inflicted great losses upon the Germans, who attempted to rigidly hold their positions, a German expert made a report for the German General Staff. This report fell into the hands of the French, probably some time before the attack upon Verdun, for it spoke of the "next offensive," and recommended a different form of attack.

Can Break First Lines

The document went on to explain that either side at any time could break through the front-line position of the other if it were willing to expend sufficient ammunition upon the attempt. The mistake the French made in the Champagne was in trying to break through the German second and third lines in one rush. It was pointed out that their attack would have been much more successful if after taking the first position they had waited for a couple of days before making a further effort. Then the big guns could be brought up and placed at leisure, instead of being hurriedly dragged forward in circumstances that made good marksmanship very difficult, since the range would not be accurately known. Other mistakes made in previous offensives were enumerated. The report was an admirable one, though as the attack worked out, it showed that there was some difference between military theories and battle conditions. The fact that the report was in the hands of the French in advance of the attack, however, deprived it of any particular value it might have had for the Crown Prince.

Many Guns, Few Men

The defence of Verdun, apart from the other conditions that have been mentioned, consisted in placing in the first-line positions a very few men and very many machine guns. When the Germans after a tremendous expenditure of ammunition had destroyed the first position, they had not seriously weakened the power of the defenders. In the meantime the French guns took heavy toll of the advancing Germans. Again the Germans advanced according to theory. Again the French gave way, and once more the French machine guns and 75's shattered the enemy's ranks. Both Joffre and Petain had come to the conclusion that too much attention had been paid in the course of the war to the holding of ground. The main thing, as Petain is said to have observed to a British officer, is "to kill Germans, always to kill Germans."

Belloc's Opinion.
Hillaire Belloc's comment upon one phase of the Verdun fighting is of particular value, since he served in the French artillery and knows every foot of the ground along the Meuse. He says:

"What succeeded to the first great blow was a series of efforts intended to be spaced apart by about three days, required to reorganize the attack and especially to bring up heavy munitionment. But when it came to proceed



THE HEIGHT OF SATISFACTION

is reached at our market. You get the best of Meats, the right cuts, the correct weight, sanitary handling and good service. Can you ask more?

Come here when you are looking for satisfaction in

CHOICE MEATS.
M. CONNOLLY
Duckworth Street.

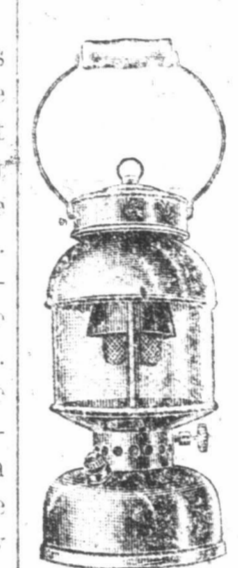
We Can Quote
Lowest Prices
ON
GASOLENE, KEROSENE, AND VEEDOL MOTOR OIL.
—Also—
CUP GREASE.

SMITH CO. Ltd.
Telephone 506.

The accompaniments for the Club Swinging at the Christian Bros' pupils concert last night were played by Master Graham Kelly, aged 13, and were given with excellent expression and marked ability. Master Kelly is a music pupil of the Presentation Convent and gives promise of being a pianist of exceptional ability.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

PORTABLE AIR-O-LITE LAMPS AND LANTERNS



Robert Templeton,
Agent,
333 Water Street
St. John's.

DUE TO-DAY

By S. S. "SHEBA,"

19,000 Barrels

VICTOR FLOUR

CAMPBELL & MCKAY

JOB'S STORES, LIMITED,

Have just received a full stock of

DORIES and DORY OARS

Write Us for Prices.

JOB'S STORES, LIMITED