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ST. JOHN'S, NFLD., AUGUST 3, 1910

A Raw Deal

THE Canadian Government Railway Department seems to be under the impression that any thing is good enough for Newfoundland and its people. The service which it gives to our passengers and traffic is about as shabby as it is possible to conceive. It seems to forget that our trade is one of greatest assets of the Intercolonial Railway running through Cape Breton and one of the largest factors in the trade of North Sydney. Money is spent lavishly on every other section of the Canadian Railway system; but that section of it which is in direct connection with our service is disgraceful.

First, as regards passenger traffic. The train which connects with the Reid-Newfoundland sys tem leaves Halifax at an early hour in the morning, and does not reach Sydney until 8.30 p.m. This run could easily be made in, say eight hours. But it is not so much the length of time that we complain of; it is the fact that this train does not allow passengers for Newfoundland to get a meal from Truro to Grand Narrows where you may get a supper about 6.30. Should you be un fortunate enough to miss your breakfast at Truro you are forced to remain hungry till that late hour. Surely this might be remedied by supplying a buffet cara diner perhaps would not be necessary. But the I.C.R. management does not seem to realize what this inconvenience means.

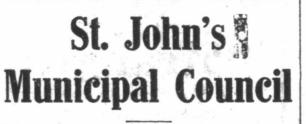
Second, the accommodation at North Sydney is the most disgraceful on the American Continent The Terminal is a ramaug1,2i shackle affair which would be a disgrace to the smallest outport. It has absolutely no conveniences: and despite the efforts of the Reid officials to keep it clean, it is a fearful and wonderful place. Passengers who are waiting the departure of the boat for Port aux Basques have not even a shelter. There is no accommodation for baggage except that which the genial agent Mr. Spracklin personally provides. The wharf is usually crowded with cars and you must carefully watch your step or you will get a salt water bath or get tangled up in a line of freight cars. The whole entourage is a crying disgrace. Why the Canadian authorities permit such an eyesore to exist is important documents will be avert beyond comprehension. The sub- ed if you invest in ject of the North Sydney Terminal has been brought to the attention of the Canadian Government repeatedly; and during the last session of the House of Commons, Mr. D. D. McKenzie, M.P. for Cape Breton, spoke in very bitter terms of the "scandalous condition" of this end of the I.C.R. Mr. McKenzie has personal knowledge of the inconveniences, and worse, to which Newfoundland passen gers are subjected, and his plea for a betterment of conditions was an eloquent one. But it

vember 1st last, on their maturity; besides obligations to the banks of about a million dollars have been wiped out, and a substantial cash balance substituted. Although the year just closed will establish many new records, the real war profits are only just commencing to make themselves

felt, and since the 1st of April profits are running as high as 20% on the common stock; and orders are booked ahead for nine months at the full capacity of the plant.

In view of this it seems that we are not getting just what we are entitled to from the iron mines in the Colony. The royalty is just a mere drop in the bucket, and the scale of wages paid in this country is about as low as can be paid. The cost of living has increased in this country fully 50% along certain lines since the beginning of the war, and operatives are not being paid in the same ratio. We may boast as we will about "the wave of prosperity" that is passing just now; but it is passing bevond our reach, and we are not penefitting by it to any appreciable extent. The holders of stock in manufacturing concerns are reaping a harvest, whilst the toiler's condition is practically what

it was before the war, if not worse. It is time for a readjustment. Some time ago the Canadian Government intervened in certain directions regarding the low scale of wages, and a minimum wage clause was introduced in all contracts in which the Government was interested. Some such method should be adopted here.



There is a Holstein Cow at the Public Pound, and if no owner applies before Saturday, August 5th, the animal will be sold to pay expenses.

By order, JNO. L. SLATTERY, Secy. Treas.

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the one of your choice. Perhaps you don't like either over well, but you must take one and be thankful of course for the great and glorious privilege allowed you. This may be very accommodating, this having the trouble of selecting a candidate removed from your shoulders, but it should not on that score be satisfying to intelligent men. It is very kind of course of headquarters in St. John's to relieve you of this trouble, but beware, it may not be for your good. Neither is it complimentary to you. It savors too much of patronage, of condescension and must be very galling to men of intelligence when they come to size matters up. As long as Newfoundland submits to this method of governing

so long will she be the dupe of political adventurers and be made to dance to any tune which the self imposed orchestra may chose to play. Professional politicians delight to keep the people ignorant of their true position for by

this means do they hold the ascendancy. Once bit the people get the idea of self government into their heads then hey day to the politician. The country will no longer have

any use for him. This idea is spreading and men are beginning to realize that the freedom they prided themselves on existed only in fancy although it is theirs to claim according to the constitution. The freedom they enjoy now lies in the doubtful privilege of making a ballot every four years for a stranger, one sent to them by the corrupt men who rule the country.

Theoretically only is he free to vote for his choice for how often has he a choice at all. How often are the "freemen" cajoled and deceived into voting for one who is not their choice. What are those dishonest cries we hear at election times, are they meant to enlighten the people or are they as so much mental dust, meant to blind and fool, meant to hide the real issue in a wave of prejudice

or bigotry. Voting now-a-days is but a farce. The candidate in the first place is not selected by the people and in the next place the vote is

Where we two were wont to And we yet must struggle through roam earthly life. And I knew that beyond the blue-'Midst its tears and sighs must laid sky stay

My friend has found his home. In a tropic land lies his body dear, 'Midst the fruits and the flow-

ers gay, And we only know from the stranger's lips That our dear friend has pass-

ed away. And one was fair as the flowery

meads Of June, when the roses bloom, And her smile was bright as the

evening star When it lights the gathering gloom.

And her syren voice as music's swell.

When the graces sing in tune, And her face was sweet as summer's flowers

When they shed their rare perfume.

But unlike the buds of promise bright,

That fade with summer's fall, Or the warbling birds that longer stav

> Till the autumn weaves their fall, -

'Twas winter time, 'midst the frost and snow.

When we heard, one dreary day, That the spirit pure had gone 1,



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not a straight-cut decision. The greater evil lies in the fact that the people have no say in the matter of the selection of a candidate and once that state affairs is remedied the other disability will have largely disappeared. When people select their own candidate the chances are they will have armed him with some particular mandate. He will be responsible to the people who selected him and not to any political boss.

The F.P.U. has made the proper move in the manner of representation, and the country would do well to follow the example. Here you have men in the Assembly in the personnel of the F.P.U. members, gentlemen who are bound to support the plans laid down for them, not by any political boss but by their own organization.

Plans are laid by the fishermen and they send men to the Assembly to carry them out. This is as it should be. It means a real representation. It means a people governing themselves, not being governed by a few politicians.

The village blacksmith isn't worry-THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE ing over the high cost of gasoline.

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