



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, Proprietor. C. T. JAMES, Editor.

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Friday, September 1, 1922.

Has It Come to This?

It is not often that the Telegram features sensational articles printed in Canadian and United States papers, but today we make a departure from custom and publish on this page an article taken—headlines and all—from the Montreal Standard of recent issue. The Standard is known widely and is regarded as a thoroughly reliable source of information and news. That gives the more color to the truth of the story which it tells of the discovery of a Society Opium Ring, with ramifications extending from Montreal to St. John's, Newfoundland. The revelations made in the article are more than surprising; they are astonishing. Compared with the "Opium habit" all the social and moral evils that we have in our midst are trivial indeed, but once the dope habit begins to spread utter demoralization sets in. Cocaine, Morphine, Heroin, and all the "snow" drugs are the concomitants of opium, and the degradation which follows their use is unspicable. It surely cannot be true that there are addicts to these drugs in St. John's; that opium orgies are the rule rather than the exception; that men and women who stand on the upper rungs of the ladder of society in this city have indulged themselves in this vile habit, no less than in the immoral trafficking with Chinamen who are willing to cater to their depraved tastes for profit. Surely such a deplorable condition of affairs cannot exist in our midst. But yet the story as told by the Standard does not attempt to cover up anything. Names of men and women in St. John's have been found entered upon the pages of a small book found on the celestial who was arrested in Montreal with thirty pounds of raw opium in his possession, and who gave his destination as St. John's, Newfoundland to the Montreal police. He may have given this name as a blind to conceal his real objective, or a mistake might have been made and St. John's, New Brunswick, confused with St. John's, Newfoundland. Only the names entered in the "black" book of the smuggler, as purporting to be domiciled in this city will produce the proof, and in the interests of morality, in the interests of sociality, in the interests of the church, for the good name of the whole population of this city, for the sake of the youth and innocence of the growing generation; we recommend that our police authorities get in touch with those of Montreal, and ascertain if possible the names recorded in the book taken from the opium runner. This is as necessary in the interests of the law as it is in clearing the names of those alleged to be social leaders in our midst from an accusation which will besmirch their characters

and position forever, unless disproved publicly.

The Humber Proposition

NEGOTIATIONS NOW FINALIZED. The Humber Proposition has now been finalized to the extent that it can be by negotiation. It is learned that the Prime Minister has appended his signature to the agreement, and all that now remains is to bring it before the Legislature. Whether the agreement will be made the issue of a general election in the near future is still in doubt, but it is believed that it will form part of the Government plank whenever the election takes place. It is unlikely that there will be an undivided House when the measure comes up for ratification, as it imposes a financial burden on the Colony which cannot, under present conditions be assumed. An announcement of the Government's policy is expected from the Prime Minister returns at the end of the present month.

That Open Letter to the Opposition.

Editor Evening Telegram. Dear Sir—Your correspondents "Pink, White and Green" and "E.B." have hit the nail on the head in those letters of theirs wherein they call upon the Opposition members to declare themselves without delay. The whole country, as far as an expression of opinion can be gleaned, is anxious for a declaration and a line-up against the party of incomparable political charlatans. This is no time for dickerling over leadership. All the country demands now is that the gentlemen who compose the Opposition give us a chance to see this thing through, by either coming before the people as a party or—as an alternative—resigning. The people are prepared to put political bunglers such as Messrs. Squires, Coaker and Campbell where they belong, and cannot long tolerate temporizing. We are face to face with calamity. We are face to face with very grave problems and it is time we took matters in hand. The present government has had three years of office and what has been accomplished? The country is sinking deeper and deeper in distress, and there does not appear to be any effort put forth to remedy the case. Relief works that are nothing but costly makeshifts have been set afoot, but each such effort but adds to an already intolerable burden and does not ameliorate the condition. The secret put forth by the Government may be likened to stirring the vitiated air of a room with a fan instead of opening the doors and windows. You get no extra oxygen by agitating the air of a closed room. The moment your fan ceases to stir you feel the oppression: the moment hand to mouth labor ceases you feel the pinch of want, while your burden has been increased by the wasteful effort. We are facing a winter of want, and nothing is being considered by the pliant Prime Minister or his associates. No, these are playing politics, fiddling while Rome burns. They are using this Humber scheme to boost their political fortunes, as they foolishly think, as if the full development of that pet project were any more than a drop in the bucket, beside the ocean of want. Better that the country feed in their homes the few hundred men who might be employed on the Humber than that we overwhelm ourselves with an added liability of nine or ten millions. We must fight this nefarious plot and crush out before too late the traitors and simulators who are trying to impose it upon us, but we must organize, for "united we stand, divided we fall."

The first step towards organization is to be made by the Opposition, and this can be done by a declaration of their position. If they fail, it is the duty of citizens to consider getting together as an independent party. Yours truly, CITIZEN.

Sept. 1, 1922.

Announcement.

Arriving by S. S. Digby to-day and opening on Monday at the Majestic with repertoire of the best and latest in vaudeville—"The Greenwich Village Playboys" (5 people). Tickets on sale to-morrow at the Theatre. Prices—Balcony, 90c; Centre Section Main Floor (from Balcony to Stage), 50c; General admission, 30c. For particulars of programs, etc., see to-morrow's papers. NOTE—Owing to making the necessary stage alterations there will be no show on to-morrow, Saturday.—11

Exciting Sport.

HORSE MACKEREL HARPOUNED. Mr. John Butler of Topsail engaged in an exciting sport last evening when he went out after horse mackerel and succeeded in harpooning one of these monsters of the deep. The horse mackerel, which is believed to be similar to the tuna of warmer seas, is frequently seen in our bays. The fish harpooned by Mr. Butler weighed over 500 pounds. It will be cut up and part of the fish, which is very good eating when dried, will be used as food.

Prime Minister.

CABLED SYMPATHY FROM FRANCE.

Sir Richard Squires, Prime Minister of this Colony, who was in France attending to certain matters in connection with the Imperial War Graves Commission, and its relation to Newfoundland graves, at the time of the death of Lord Northcliffe called his personal sympathy to Lady Northcliffe and that of the people of Newfoundland to the late Viscount's Secretary in the following messages:—

TO LADY NORTHCLIFFE. "Let me assure you that the whole people of Newfoundland join with me in expressing to you our sincere sympathy in this your hour of loneliness and sorrow."

TO THE SECRETARY. "On behalf of the government and people of Newfoundland I pray you to accept an expression of the Colony's sorrow at the death of Viscount Northcliffe, whom we have long recognized as a great Imperialist and world statesman, and to whom Newfoundland is so greatly indebted for his personal interest in our development and welfare."

Our Local Page.

HIS DIARY.

Aug. 31st.—I learn from Major Cotton how there is a strike of his workmen in Hawke Bay and like to be trouble, so needs must there be an armed watch. Annot to the Customs and Mr. LeMessurier would have me urge the City Council to remove the obstacles that grow by King's Bridge. I did tell him of divers people in the town who would make a nabal of these same thistles, did they but follow their natural inclination. My wife is today gone to the country and would have me go also, but I tell her I may not leave my work, and indeed women have small thought for such things, and believe that men need do little but minister to their wants. I did have the pleasure of meeting the Right Hon. Sir R. Bond, of White-bourne, and did have much pleasant discourse with him.

Not Doing any Work on Carbonear Road.

NEEDY MEN THERE MAY HAVE TO GO TO DEER LAKE. The following message was received by Sir Michael Cashin yesterday from Carbonear:—"Sir M. P. Cashin, St. John's. Dear Sir—Please interview Dr. Campbell, or whoever is in charge of the Government, with regard to employing some 50 or 60 men here. Some of them retired from Badger, and have absolutely nothing, and are in a starving condition. Our roads and the Bay de Verde railroad need repairs badly, and could not some of the men be given employment on this very necessary work. Please give an early reply and oblige, Yours truly, JAMES MOORE."

The following reply which speaks for itself, has been despatched by Sir Michael:—"James Moore Esq., Carbonear. Have interviewed Government and their reply is that they have instructed Mr. Penny to employ fifty or sixty men for Deer Lake Road, and have them sent out immediately. CASHIN."

Charged Under Inflammable Oils Act.

DEFENDANT FIRM FINED. In the Police Court to-day, Messrs. Job Bros. were charged under the Inflammable Materials Act with leaving oil in the harbor within 48 hours after the time when the ship started to discharge. The defendant firm said the oil was sold from the ship, and any left on the wharf after 3 o'clock in the afternoon was immediately sent to the oil store. No oil was left out overnight. H. A. Winter, B.A., for defendants said the offence was an involuntary one. The oil was safer on the ship than anywhere else and every care had been taken to see that none was left on the wharf. The Act was badly in need of amendment, said Counsel. The Judge said there was no malicious intent. He inflicted a fine of \$100.

Mean Thief.

MADE OFF WITH SWEETSTAKE. Charged with the larceny of \$150, a returned soldier was remanded in the Police Court until this afternoon. Accused pleaded not guilty. The theft with which he is charged is of a deplorable nature. A small girl entrusted to the care of a regatta sweetstake so that he might find out if she had won a prize. Accused later said the ticket was not the right one, but that one which he had held won him a \$150 prize. Information was laid against accused who was arrested on the charge of the larceny of the value of the ticket.

Sensational Arrest Promises to Reveal Society Opium Ring.

Chinese Arrested at Canadian National Station Carried Thirty Pounds of Raw Opium and Book of Names of Men and Women Socially Prominent in Montreal and St. John's, Newfoundland.

(Montreal Standard, Aug. 19.) Sensational revelations of the existence of wide circles of socially prominent Montrealers, men and women whose names are listed in a "black" book as customers of Chinese opium traffickers, are hinted by the police this evening as a result of an arrest made at 3.30 this afternoon. Staggering under the strain of a heavily weighted black bag, a furtive looking Chinese was halted by Detectives Lemaire and Barrett at the Canadian National Station. When asked his destination, the Chinese curtly replied—"St. John's, Newfoundland." When asked for his name the celestial flitted refused to comply. FIND "BLACK BOOK." Taking the suspect to police headquarters the detective searched the bag and uncovered 30 pounds of raw opium. At underground market rates this supply represents a small fortune. In addition to the opium, the bag yielded a little book containing a lengthy list of names of men and women, of both Montreal and St. John's, which are said to appear regularly in society columns. Police do not attempt to conceal the fact that they are actually engaged on a wide crusade to shred the elaborate distributing fabric which the underworld purveyors of the criminal narcotic have built up within recent years, particularly since 1918. POLICE SPREAD NET. A dragnet has been spread into its tentacles are steadily falling the unwary. Up till now, however, arrests have been almost entirely of the individual peddlers who accept their court punishment, usually a fine, with stoicism, complacently aware that the

individual peddlers who accept their illicit traffic will within a short period offset the amount of the fine. Not one of these peddlers has yet been induced or forced into disclosing the central source of supply and while the existence of a more select circle of addicts has long been suspected by the police they could not secure any direct evidence of it. This has been due to the fact that the peddlers heretofore arrested have usually pandered to unfortunates of the underworld and the lower side of Montreal and not to the wealthier addicts. NAMES WITHHELD. Figures prominent around the police court are definitely known by the police to occupy places high in the control of the traffic but despite this knowledge no definite evidence can be gathered which will warrant prosecution, owing to the loyalty of the distributors. Only recently several of these suspected traffickers were reported to have left for Europe to arrange for fresh shipments of drugs and their return is being eagerly awaited, although it is known that these men do not carry the drugs themselves but have them smuggled in by ships' crews and passengers. The police refused to disclose any of the names found in the confiscated book. Chief Lepage, the head of the local detective department, is making a special effort to rid this city of narcotic peddlers and it is largely due to his efforts and foresight that terror is being spread among the addicts of the drugs and the peddlers. The chief personally directs his men on these quests and is doing very valuable work in this connection.

Picture Delayed. Hawke Bay Strike.

TOO LATE IN YEAR FOR OUTDOOR WORK. At a special meeting in the Board of Trade rooms this morning, the directors of the lately-organized Newfoundland Films, Ltd., voted to suspend the production of the picture, "The Strikers," until next summer. Newfoundland's first big photoplay production, "The Strikers," will be filmed about the latter part of the season. The decision came as the result of a conference with Kenneth O'Hara, who arrived on the Rosalind, on Thursday, to make a picture about the strike. The production of the picture, Mr. O'Hara, in outlining his plans to the directors, stressed the necessity of fair weather and bright sun. He believes in the successful making of a big outdoor drama within a reasonable cost; and this gave rise to the decision. It was the unanimous belief of the directors that consistently good weather cannot be guaranteed for the next two months, and that the picture should be decided to defer the filming of the picture until July, 1923. "I deeply regret the advisability of this," said Mr. O'Hara, "because I have come here prepared to make what Mr. Ernest Shipman, your producer, leaves will be one of the greatest sea stories ever filmed. But in justice to your shareholders and in protection to their investment, believe it is an act of wisdom—how that I learn your weather conditions are dangerously likely to take a turn for the worse. "I am staggered by the wonderful possibilities for picture-making in St. John's. I have always heard your scenic features were beautiful—but your weather is not what it should be. I am sure that you are going to startle the rest of the world with your film-plays."

The meeting was attended by Mayor Cook, A. E. Bowring, J. C. Hepburn, R. B. Job, J. J. McKay, David Baird, A. E. Hickman, W. G. Gosling and C. A. C. Erbe. The strikers, who now number 150 men, are still located at Mundy Cove on the southern side of the Harbor. Many of them are hungry but the Company has naturally no intention of providing them with supplies unless they return to work. Major Cotton will fly to Hawke Bay this afternoon to confer with his manager, Capt. Olsen. He believes in his refusal to meet the strikers until they resume work. None of the men from the West Coast, employed in the Hawke Bay pit prop industry, have joined the strikers. These men are fully satisfied with the terms on which they are working and although among the first to go up to Hawke Bay, they have not made a complaint against their treatment by the Company or the conditions of their employment. Many of the strikers are men who have been at Hawke Bay for only a few weeks and had no intention of staying anything but easy money. Having found that they must try to live, they attempted an agitation similar to those which men of the same stamp have tried on other companies and when employed on relief work.

The strikers have demanded that the Company or the Government must send them home. Major Cotton states positively that their passengers will not be provided by the Company and if the men attempt to make trouble, he is fully prepared for them. The best proof of the fact that the Company's terms are satisfactory, is found in the willingness of the West Coast men to continue work. It is therefore concluded that the strikers are from that class who do not want to work and attempt to demoralize those who do. Constable Bursley is still at Hawke Bay and three constables from Bay of Islands will arrive by the Home to-morrow. No attempts have yet been made by the strikers to prevent those at work from continuing, nor are they likely to interfere as the non-striker greatly outnumber those who still refuse to work.

Send Flowers. Labrador Boundry.

Nothing is more acceptable or more delicately expressive of just the right sentiment than Flowers. To the sick friend, to the sorrowing home, to the wedding, birthday reception, or at any time when the occasion demands some token of expression of friendship and good wishes, flowers are always appropriate. We are prepared at all times to supply your needs with cut flowers or pot plants. Come and see our flowers, they are well worthy of a visit, we are sure you will enjoy the time spent. VALLEY NURSERY, Tressler Brothers, Phone 1513, P.O. Box 904, Sept. 1st.

Watch for "Pals."

Insure with The Connecticut Fire Insurance Co., of Hartford, Conn. T. H. CARTER & CO., Agents.—aug29,3m,ead

Labrador Boundry.

CASE WILL BE HEARD IN SPRING. The Labrador boundary dispute which for many years past has been an El Dorado for Newfoundland and Canadian lawyers, will come before the Privy Council in the spring. Hon. W. R. Warren K.C., Minister of Justice and a representative of Canada, are at present in London, preparing the cases of their respective countries. Mr. Warren is not expected to return to Newfoundland until late in the year and several matters still require his attention. Eat Mrs. Stewart's Home-Made Bread.—apr11,5m

SPECIAL PRICE ALLOWANCES

On Wanted Items from The Men's & Boys' Departments.

Needables gathered from about this well equipped Section, are featured for this week's selling event. Come and see what is new, and what is required. Seeing does not obligate in the least. Just get acquainted with our low rate pricing and figure out for yourself the savings to be made. Shopping at BAIRD'S.

MEN'S TOP SHIRTS. Complete size range now in our Dollar and a quarter shirts, buy two or three from this lot, pretty stripe effects in production, the value is great. Special... \$1.25

TOP SHIRTS. Men's Fancy Striped Top Shirts, nicely assorted, collar attached, wide and narrow stripings. Special... \$1.70

WORKING SHIRTS. Stout Blue Linen Working Shirts, all double stitched seams, turnover collar and pocket, washes well. Special... \$1.00

COLLAR PINS. Neat Plated Gift Pins for fastening soft collar fronts, unmatchable. Special... 25c

ARM BANDS. Spiral Bright Nickel Arm Bands, last for years, very strong and durable... 15c

"BOSTON" GARTERS. The always favorite "Boston" Garter is a favourite with men, we have them in assorted shades. The Fair... 45c

POLICE BRACES. The strongest brace for every day wear, stout elastic and all leather fastenings. Special... 38c

"Towers" Oil Coats for Boys.

Reputable Coats for the wet weather, some in Black and others in Khaki, the one Coat a chap really needs, as it is a real rain shedder, and stands a lot of banging about, we have made two groups of these. 4 to 10 years... \$1.95 12 to 18 years... \$2.45

BOWS. Fancy Silk Bows, with patent steel grips, others in Black, good looking bows. Special... 65c

NECKWEAR. Long Flowing Bad Silk Neckwear, in striped and fancy patterns, all brand new, extremely splendid quality. Special... \$1.45

HANDKERCHIEFS. An assortment of Men's White Handkerchiefs, plain finished hem, 12 to 16c each. Special... 10c

SOFT COLLARS. Our new "Classic" Soft Collar is distinctive in appearance, in fine White Canvas cloth, stands up best. Special... 43c

MEN'S SOCKS. Men's Midweight Cashmere Socks in plain finish of Champagne, Fawn, Purple, Brown, Green and Blue. Special... 75c

MEN'S SOCKS. Nice looking Heavier weight Socks, well suited for present wear. Special... 65c

Shooting Accident. Iconoclasts in Russia Caught by Police.

BOY INJURES FINGER. Mr. Don Meaney, son of Mr. J. T. Meaney, suffered a painful accident this morning, when a revolver with which he was toying, discharged a bullet through a finger of his right hand. A message was sent to his father who immediately drove to Topsail in a taxi, talking Dr. Fallon with him. First aid was rendered and the injured youth was taken to Suburban Hospital where an X-Ray examination was made. Mr. Meaney bought the revolver to shoot at house mackerel, which are now plentiful near Topsail, and his son in exhibiting the weapon to some other lads had no knowledge that it was charged.

Iconoclasts in Russia Caught by Police. MOSCOW.—Valuable jewels stripped from the historic icon of the Iberian Virgin by robbers who broke into the famous Iberian chapel at the gates of the Red Square on April 7. Have been recovered by the Moscow police. Thirty members of a gang of robbers who looted many churches, chapels and convents before and during the government requisitioning of church treasures have been arrested, and loot valued at many millions of dollars has been recovered. The jewels from the Iberian icon alone were estimated to be worth nearly \$5,000,000.

Digby Arrives. BRINGS SEVERAL PASSENGERS. S.S. Digby, Capt. Chambers, arrived in-port this morning from Boston, via Halifax, bringing the following passengers for St. John's:—From Halifax—Miss C. J. Annsand, T. Brown, Miss E. Clark, Mrs. H. Gillespie, Miss M. Gillison, Dr. W. G. Krohn, Mrs. A. T. Maher, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Robertson, Mrs. W. H. L. Usher, Mrs. Berles—J. W. Allan, T. Anderson, M. T. Callahan, Miss L. Carter, Miss S. L. Churchill, E. H. and Mrs. Colpitts, Misses S. and C. Crane, H. and Mrs. Hollett, H. Howe, T. S. Walsh.

Here and There. Eat MRS. STEWART'S Home-Made Bread.—apr4,5m

STAFFORD'S MOSQUITO OIL, only 20c a bottle; Postage 3c extra.—jnc27,11

NOT BROWNED IN CELL.—The Telegram learns that the culprit of the H.M.S. Raleigh was wrecked at Point Amour is innocent.

MOSQUITO OIL at STAFFORD'S Drug Store; only 20c a bottle; Postage 3c extra.—jnc27,11

McGub's Ice Cream now ready for delivery. Wholesale only. Phone 794.—jnc27,11



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