

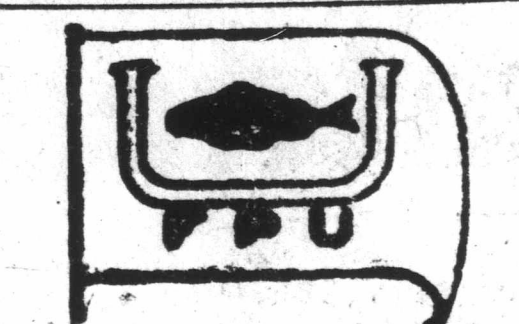
The Evening Advocate

THE EVENING ADVOCATE THE WEEKLY ADVOCATE

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Our Motto: 'SUUM CUIQUE'



(To Every Man His Own)

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ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, MONDAY, DEC. 31, 1917.

A Short Review of 1917.

THE War, of course, takes precedence of all interests. The hopes of last New Year's Day have not been fulfilled, and it is still problematical when the end will come, though if the

THE WAR

darkest time precedes the dawn, the latter should be coming as the times are showing a very serious state of affairs, not only as regards the loss of life on the battlefield, but in regard to the food necessary to feed the non-combatants as well. The beginning of the year saw Roumania almost completely overrun by the Central Powers and added to the list of those unfortunate smaller countries which have suffered so much the depredations of the Teutons. The outstanding feature of the winter was undoubtedly the entry of the United States into the war. That country on February 3rd severed diplomatic relations with Germany, following the announcement of Germany's intention to sink all vessels in specific zones, and on April 4th both Houses passed the bill declaring that a state of war existed between the United States and Germany. America has been of great assistance in financial matters, and her Navy has been able to bring splendid help to the Allies by taking over patrol work in the Atlantic Ocean.

Early in March the revolutionary spirit in Russia broke loose, and Czar Nicholas was forced to abdicate the throne and go into exile. For a time Russia kept up her efforts in the war, until lack of food and disorganization generally brought the regime of the Bolsheviks, who are now preparing to make a separate peace with the Central Powers. The splendid Italian Army, after a campaign of unusual excellence was forced back a few months ago, and is now fighting for its existence on the Venetian plains, being assisted by British and French troops which were rushed from France.

A bright spot has been the Western Front which has witnessed a steady advance for the Allies and much territory re-captured. Not a reverse had occurred up to the last drive towards Cambrai, when a counter attack by strong German forces compelled the Allies to retreat from a dangerous salient.

The last of the German Colonies was captured a few weeks ago, and the capture of Jerusalem is also an event of importance.

The Navy has been doing its work silently and well, though in a few engagements they have been worsted by superior numbers. The German Navy still prefers to keep to its mine strewn safety zones.

THE general situation cannot be considered anything else but serious.

THE GENERAL SITUATION

The Allies must win, but when? It has become necessary to institute rationing in every country in the world, and matters are rapidly getting worse. The submarine has been in very truth a menace, and may be charged with being the cause of the reverses in Italy, because of the terrible suffering caused there by the lack of tonnage to bring necessary supplies. It is also a question even now, whether American troops can be sent over to France unless there is enough food sent before to feed them, and there is not sufficient tonnage to carry a great deal of both men and food. Matters are not any better in Germany and Austria. All this has brought about closer working between the Allies, and there is a more united action than ever as a result. President Wilson has become a notable leader in the war. Though the United States is spoken of as the greatest democratic country, yet no King or Ruler has initiated and carried through projects "off his own bat," as has Mr. Wilson. Content to be reviled, Mr. Wilson has ended by being one of the great personalities of the world today.

The great hope of the future lies in the millions of American soldiers who can be sent across to France next Spring. Anticipating this, the Germans would bring a decision this year if possible, and so their attack on Italy, and the great armies they are gathering on the Western Front now. It is to be hoped that the energies of the Allies in men, money and food conservation must be brought into action.

Halifax has been the greatest victim of the war on this side of the Atlantic in the enormous loss of life and property incurred early in December by the explosion of a munition ship in its Harbour. China, as well as most of the South American Republics, has broken with Germany during the year. As we write it appears that Germany wishes to have a general peace with all the Entente Nations and her propositions will probably be met by some definite proposals from the Allies very soon.

OUR Naval Reserve has not lost in number anything like the Regiment, but some of our Navy boys have been in all the losses of ships reported. The Regiment has been in most

OUR FORCES

of the principal actions in France and has suffered a great deal, the strength being considerably reduced during the past two months. Our men on sea and land have gained a great name for themselves and for Newfoundland, and have brought the country into the category of a Dominion of the First Class. It is to be hoped that those eligible men who still hang back from enlisting will see to it that Newfoundland will continue to deserve this distinction, and that they will not be content to share an honor that they have not had any great part in gaining. The Regiment wants men and wants them now. The lists printed in this issue are

sad but glorious evidence of Newfoundland's part in the Great War. We have also sent several Forestry Companies, which are now doing good work in the forests of the Old Country.

THE formation of a National Government in July has proved indeed a great blessing to the Colony. To have waited for a General Election in November, with all its strife, would

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

have meant irreparable loss to the country. The energy, new life and new methods induced into the actions of the Government by the inclusion of prominent members of the Liberal-Union Party told effectively in the many necessary acts which were put into force to deal with the unusual conditions of the times. The work of the Tonnage Committee, consisting of Hons. Coaker, Crosbie and Hickman was a notable success, and was mainly responsible for the great prosperity which has attended the operations of the fishery this year. Not only was the catch marketed, which was of itself a great and notable undertaking, but the prices realized were the highest ever paid.

The National Government took care that prices were maintained, so that the fishermen participated in the profits which otherwise would have gone into the pockets of the exporters. In addition to the granting of equal pay to our Naval Reserve as to our Regiment, which came after incessant demands by the Liberal-Union Party, the National Government provided a separation allowance for married men and those having dependents who enlisted in any of our forces, which was a long overdue duty. Other matters relating to Coal, Food Control, Liquor Control, Business Profits Tax, Parliament Bill were dealt with, also provision made for our sailors on mercantile vessels by which they come in the same class as our war forces.

THE Fishermen's Protective Union has flourished greatly and made rapid advances in its many activities. Its power in the commercial world was shown to great advantage in the

THE F.P.U.

Spring when, by purchasing the men's share of the seals, the Union Trading Company forced the price of fat up from six dollars to eight dollars per quintal, thus putting over forty thousand dollars into the pockets of the sealers that otherwise would have gone to fill the coffers of the seal-manufacturing merchants. Mr. Coaker's great influence was exerted in the National Government for the benefit of the fishermen, and it is all too plain that if there had been no F. P. U. fishery produce would not have fetched one half the price given. The F. P. U. influence prompted the action of the Government and Tonnage Committee and thereby enabled the fishermen to reap splendid prices for their produce.

The result of all this is shown in the great extension of the F. P. U.'s operations everywhere, in new stores opened, in the export of fish, and in the splendidly equipped premises at Port Union, which will be in full swing next Spring, and which contains buildings that are second to none in the Island, all erected with money supplied by the fishermen themselves. The enthusiasm at the annual Convention this Fall was unmistakable, and spontaneous. The fishermen realize what can be accomplished by Union, and they are determined never to waver from their allegiance to the F. P. U. which has benefited them to such a marvellous extent. F. P. U. progress is also referred to elsewhere on this page.

HOME RULE is still under discussion in a large Convention of representatives of all shades of opinion in Ireland. The proceedings are kept marvellously secret, and it is a good

HOME RULE

AND SUFFRAGE settlement satisfactory to Ireland generally. It is inevitable that some form of Home Rule will be the result, as it cannot be logically claimed that Ireland should remain as she is in the face of the great desire of her people for this boon, and the example which is presented in South Africa, which shows an enemy converted into an Ally by being given the management of its own affairs. We look for a happy issue from the Irish Convention.

Woman Suffrage has made great gains, apparently without much adverse comment, during the year. Women's war work has left no valid reason against their obtaining the vote. England, that most conservative country, surrendered in March and acknowledged the principle of woman suffrage by a large majority. In Canada there was a partial surrender, the vote being given in the recent election to the women relatives of the soldiers. New York carried it by a large majority a month or so ago, and generally speaking, the deeds of the women are giving them the victory without a fight.

SO much for 1917. What 1918 will bring no one can say. The message we have to bear in mind is that all our energies and thoughts will need to be devoted to the great cause for which the Allies stand today. In that there is little room for personal aggrandisement or protection of the Empire as well as Newfoundland, and by the exaltation of essentials be drilled in the correct use of our resources of food, money and men. The food question is one that must be taken into account at once, and our people must devote their serious attention to the matter. We trust that 1918 will close with a more hopeful outlook than 1917, and in this hope that the war will end next year and make the wish come true we can say to all our readers

A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

BASE INSINUATIONS OF THE 'TELEGRAM'

Saturday's "Telegram" contained an have sprung from creatures that for editorial, which, for deliberate will the past four years have been engaged in falsehoods and base insinuations, in circulating and writing falsehoods were never equalled in the very to injure the F. P. U. and its President. worse years of the Telegram's existence. None of them dares to state openly any charge against Mr. Coaker, but they of falsehood without even a shadow of go about whispering tales they know justification outside of base street are false about the action of others. We assert that there never was a connected with the National Party. We defy the Telegram to produce one squarer, fairer, and more honest leader in charge of public affairs than Dr. Lloyd, and under his watchful care of the insinuations made in Saturday's editorial. We challenge anyone, high or low, rich or poor, to prove that any action of the National Government was not clean and straight.

Not one word of truth is contained in the whole crop of street yarns that have been going the rounds of Water Street the past week. They

Do you want to reach the great mass of Outport Consumers? If so, advertise in THE ADVOCATE.

MORE OF THE 'PLAINDEALER'S' WORK

Saturday's Plaindealer contained and incapable of doing justice to such the following rascally and lying attack on Mr. Coaker:

FAIR OBJECTION.

St. John's, Dec. 26, 1917.
(Editor The Plaindealer.)
Dear Sir,—A few days ago there appeared in The Advocate a splendid article which was contributed by the late Archbishop Howley to an esteemed periodical. As an admirer of the late prelate, I object to the insincere motives that inspired Mr. Coaker and The Advocate in publishing this article. It is a well known fact that His Grace's attitude towards Mr. Coaker was one of his present followers did not merit this understanding. I have not yet forgotten Mr. Coaker's intemperance towards the late Archbishop and the Roman Catholic clergy. The same might be said of Dr. Lloyd's determination to insert his wishes regarding proportional representation, but would ask them in common decency to depart from such hypocrisy, and in future to refrain from publishing such contributions in The Advocate—a paper, because of its scurrility, is unfit to appear in the following manner:

Thanking you for space, and wishing you the compliments of this Holy Season, I remain,
Yours respectfully,
A. M.

Mr. Coaker knew nothing about the article referred to appearing in The Advocate. He did not know it was to appear, and his first knowledge of it was when he read it in the paper. The article was handed to us by Mr. James Murphy. The writer of the article in The Plaindealer is Grace's attitude towards Mr. Coaker without rival in this Colony as a narrow-minded bigot, and no crime under heaven except perhaps murder would be hesitate to connect it by so doing he could embarrass or injure the F. P. U. or its great leader. The statements contained in the above letter are untrue, for His Grace's attitude toward Mr. Coaker was generally expressed in a letter written to Mr. Kent in 1913, which was published to the world after the election that fall. We republish the late lamented Prelate's written opinion of the F. P. U., which is as follows:

ARCHBISHOP HOWLEY'S LETTER

TO—
MR. J. M. KENT

The Palace,

Sept. 29, 1913.

My Dear Mr. Kent,—

I received your letter of 29th inst., containing a type-written copy of a "fly leaf" concerning the "Fishermen's Union" which, you inform me is being circulated in the Catholic Districts with a view to influencing the coming elections.

While adhering to my resolution of not interfering in political matters I cannot but feel that I am bound, in the interests of truth and justice, to answer your questions concerning my attitude towards the Fishermen's Union:—

In the year 1909 some of the priests in outport parishes informed me that agents of the "Fishermen's Union" were going among their congregations and soliciting them to join the Union. Those clergymen asked me if the society was one which Catholics could join, and they forwarded me copies of the Rules, etc., of the F.P.U. I saw at once, that as the Rules then stood, the society was clearly one which came under the heading of "Secret Societies" and as such it was my duty as a Bishop of the Catholic Church to condemn it, and to forbid any Catholics from joining it. As soon as this decision of mine was made known to Mr. Coaker, he immediately altered the Constitution of the Fishermen's Union, and withdrew the obnoxious clause so as to make it possible for Catholics to join it.

I immediately withdrew my condemnation of the Union, as I do not wish to curtail the liberty of our people in any matter of pure business and where the Rules of our Church are not concerned, so that any Catholic may now join it, and I have no objection to their doing so.

I may add that at the present time I have received a sufficient guarantee that no attempt will be made by the F.P.U. to interfere with our Educational system.

I remain sincerely,

—M. F. HOWLEY,
Archbishop.

J. M. Kent, Esq., M.H.A.

The same issue contained an article written apparently by the new found henchmen of the big fiery octopus by which the public are dosed with another of that sheet's lying concoctions which from start to finish are full of insinuations that the writer has in this country a clique of well known had no foundation in fact. We challenge that sheet to publish any substantiated facts that will prove in the slightest measure one iota of the base insinuations contained in that article. The utterer of those lying concoctions will get his medicine in full measure when the proper time arrives. For weeks that sheet has continued to abuse and vilify Mr. Coaker and the F. P. U. and no notice has been taken of the falsehoods contained in that paper, but the rod is in this city. The principal witnesses against the captain and cook were five members of the crew who figured out that by selling the spirits which were intended for use on board ship they would be deprived of their rations of rum, and therefore were willing witnesses. A young man from the city also gave evidence that he had purchased liquor from the cook, and the cook \$100 or 30 days. The fines were paid. In this case the parties furnishing information are entitled to one-third the amount recovered. One-third goes to the Inspector General for the Police and orphan fund, and one-third to the Treasury.

Sir Edward Morris

The statement by the Plaindealer on Saturday and repeated by the Telegram is not correct. Sir Edward has intimated to some of his friends his intention to resign the position of Premier of the Colony, but Sir Edward's resignation has not yet been placed in the hands of the Governor. It is thought that Sir Edward will resign on Wednesday, in event of which Hon. Dr. Lloyd will be asked by the Governor to form a ministry which Dr. Lloyd is ready to do. The new ministry will probably contain all the present executive. All the talk of the past week is pure bunkum, utterly without foundation and circulated by one or two political tricksters for a purpose, which has ended in a fizzle.

The final rehearsal for the entertainment in aid of St. Joseph's Church building fund was held last night. Don't fail to see "A Rough Diamond" at the Casino to-morrow night.

Captain and Cook Fined

On Saturday afternoon the captain of the Spanish vessel Andre Rosa and his cook were fined for selling liquor from the ship's stores to parties in this city. The principal witnesses against the captain and cook were five members of the crew who figured out that by selling the spirits which were intended for use on board ship they would be deprived of their rations of rum, and therefore were willing witnesses. A young man from the city also gave evidence that he had purchased liquor from the cook, and the cook \$100 or 30 days. The fines were paid. In this case the parties furnishing information are entitled to one-third the amount recovered. One-third goes to the Inspector General for the Police and orphan fund, and one-third to the Treasury.

THE PRESENT SITTING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



G. F. A. GRIMES, Esq.
Member for Port de Grave.



W. B. JENNINGS, Esq.
Member for Twillingate.



A. TARGETT, Esq.
Member for Trinity.



R. G. WINSOR, Esq.
Member for Bonavista.



JOHN ABBOTT, Esq.
Member for Bonavista.

HON. W. F. Member for Justice, and

M. A. Member for

HON. Member

T. L. Member

We are sorry to hear that you are unable to get a

GEO. K. Member

We have asked for success.