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The Daily Mail

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The publication of any letter does not
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shows his agreement with the
opinions therein expressed.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., FEB. 11, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.**THE SANEST POLICY.**

In discussing the Coaker Sealing
Bill in the House yesterday Sir Ed-
ward Morris expressed himself as al-
most entirely in accord with the vari-
ous sections of this great reform mea-
sure, an approbation that must ne-
cessarily be regarded as a practical
recognition by the Prime Minister of
the statesmanlike abilities of the Lead-
er of the Union Party.

We are glad to note that Sir Edward
is at last in a chastened frame of
mind regarding the Fishermen's Pro-
tective Union, for, it will be remem-
bered, his references to the men who
signed and presented the monster
petition asking for a general election
in the fall of 1912 were neither kindly
nor complimentary.

It is pleasing, too, to learn that the
Prime Minister is not in accord with
that expression of opinion wherein
the Minister of Finance and Customs
characterised supporters of the Union
Party as "ignorant and illiterate"—an
insult that was as erroneous as it
was uncalled for.

The F.P.U. members are men who
have practical knowledge of the needs
of the people. They look upon public
questions from the standpoint of the
general requirements of the Country
and are not influenced by narrow con-
siderations of party policy or political
expediency. The advice of men of ex-
perience and of the class represented
in the Supreme Councils of the F.P.U.
is invaluable to any administration,
representing, as it does the voice of
the people themselves—their needs,
their desires, their opinion.

If Sir Edward Morris would estab-
lish himself in the good graces of the
people; if he would merit favor
through good things accomplished,
then he would do well to lend an at-
tentive ear to the representations of
the Opposition and deal with them in
a spirit of conciliation and co-opera-
tion.

MAKE THE APPOINTMENTS.

Sir Edward Morris is shirking some
of the responsibilities of his position
in a very marked manner. As leader
of the Government he should see that
these two vacant Departments are at
once filled. Constitutional proceeding
dictates this action; popular opinion
calls for it; the Opposition are just-
ified in demanding it and in adopting
blocking tactics until this move has
been made by the Government.

Sir Edward is delaying the appoint-
ments because he is afraid of either
the country or of his own followers
in the House. His delay is entirely
due to considerations of party expedi-
ency.

It is well known that there are in
the Government ranks many members

who aspire to these two unappointed
portfolios. But in the multitude of
aspirants there division of opinion
and interests. Young members want
the appointments, but old members ob-
ject and yet cannot take the depart-
ments themselves because they recog-
nise the impossibility of obtaining a
majority at a bye-election in their
particular districts.

And there the whole trouble lies as
far as the Government is concerned.
They know that, in the Protestant
districts they cannot repeat the vic-
tories of the general elections and
they dare not appoint members of the
Roman Catholic denomination—see-
ing that it would be contrary to their
stated policy as to proportional repre-
sentation and—more potent still—
that the whole weight of popular
opinion would be dead against such
action.

Yet they must face some of the dis-
tricts or adopt the cowardly alterna-
tive of sending the appointees to the
Legislative Council.

Meantime Sir Edward, recognizing
that he is between Scylla and Char-
ydis, is in very little hurry to take
any active step. He would gain a
great deal more by coming to a manly
practical decision than by shirking
the great issue the Opposition is forc-
ing on him.

WANTS TO MAKE HASTE SLOWLY

The Premier has tired himself out.
The mad rush to set things booming
has slowed down to a normal pace
and things administrative are taking
on some semblance of sanity.

Sir Edward is not agreeable to Dr.
Lloyd's suggestion that adequate ma-
chinery be set in motion to deal with
the inspection of foods, and says, we
should advance gradually, we should
make haste slowly.

It would have been well for the
country had Sir Edward "made haste
slowly" from the beginning of his
career as leader of the Government;
our interests would have been better
conserved and the country would be
in a sounder financial position to-
day.

He should have made haste slowly
in the matter of those railway con-
tracts and listened to the advice of
legislators of a sober and careful turn
of mind.

Had he made haste slowly perhaps a
sensible agricultural policy could
have been framed that would have
saved the country thousands of dol-
lars and advanced farming in a real
and substantial manner. His agri-
cultural policy to-day is simply a
foolish and reckless throwing away of
public money, and is a laughing stock
and a byword, even among the farm-
ers themselves.

It is satisfactory to see Sir Ed-
ward at last, come to his senses, but
he should not swing to the opposite
extreme and spoil a good measure by
going only half way with it.

The hard hitting and severe criti-
cism by the Opposition members is
having the effect of establishing
equilibrium—they have put the check
rein on the mad government steed
it is noteworthy that the blistering
speeches of Sir Edward are being
regarded as the bully of the House,
has at last adopted the manner of the
calm quiet statesman—a pleasing
change and, let us hope, a permanent
improvement.

It must also be noted that the Pre-
mier has reversed his opinion of the
fishermen, members of the F.P.U. In
speaking on Mr. Coaker's sealing bill
Sir Edward said he realized that the
men (F.P.U. in Supreme Council) who
framed the bill, knew what they
were talking about. That is a con-
cession to their intelligence that he
would not make not so long ago.
Does Sir Edward forget how he treat-
ed those same men when they present-
ed the Election petition?

However it is good to see better
and saner judgment prevail. The
presence in the House of the intelli-
gent and fighting contingent sent
there by the F.P.U. is having a very
salutary effect on the members and
manners of our Legislative Hall.

TO THE EDITOR.**A WORD FOR THE POLICE.**

(Editor The Daily Mail.)

Dear Sir,—Being of rather an in-
quisitive turn of mind the writer
would like through the columns of
The Daily Mail to state his views and
ask a question or two relative to our
police force as we find it to-day. A
good fight has been put up by certain
members of our present Assembly
now in session with a view to having
our firemen receive better pay for the
work performed by that very efficient
and satisfactory branch of the civic
service. And rightly so, but those
engaged in this campaign seem to
have lost sight of the fact that every
policeman in the city is also a fireman
and part of their duties is to attend to
every fire at any time of the night or
day. If a police officer comes off of
duty at 12 o'clock at night and just

gets in bed and the fire bell rings out,
that officer is in duty bound to get out
again and attend to the alarm.

When the "all-out" signal is given
the regular fireman goes back to his
barracks and bed while the police of-
ficer on duty goes back to his beat.

Disagreeable Duties.

If a murder or robbery is commit-
ted the police officers have to attend
to all the disagreeable preliminaries
in such cases; but as soon as the case
reaches a stage where an indictment
is made the same police officer be-
comes a mere witness and any mon-
etary advantage goes to the lawyers
and others who repose in their beds
or offices while Mr. Policeman is out
at the very risk of his life in some
cases trying to bring the offender
within the palatial walls of the court-
room where the other parts of the
judicial machinery can handle the
case with kid gloves on.

If Mrs. Smith's goat gets in Mrs.
Jones' garden the policeman is called
in to adjust matters. If a row occurs
and the police are not on the spot or
do not make an arrest they are abused
and called "no good." If a drunken
tough resists arrest and is rough
handled by the police, in most cases
in self defence, the police are "brutes,"
if the fellow gets away they are cow-
ards and afraid to arrest their man.
What other branch of the civic service
is so much criticised and so badly paid
as the police, and yet so necessary to
our very existence?

Few Aspirants.

At the present time we have very
few, if any, men in the force of from
one to five years standing. Why? Be-
cause the pay is not good enough or
the treatment such as would reduce
suitable young men to enter the ser-
vice with the intention of making it
their life's career; conditions are so
changed that what was good enough
twenty years ago is most certainly
not good enough to-day.

Rumor has it that the Government
have realized that the reorganization
of the whole system is essential and
with that end in view are contem-
plating the importation of men from
the Irish Constabulary to take charge
and re-construct the force on more mod-
ern lines and we suppose settle the
wage question.

We believe that, as a hard working,
pains-taking, just and efficient official,
the present Inspector General, Mr.
Sullivan, has had no peer. Mr. Sulli-
van's whole career of nearly 45 years
active service is one that any man
should feel justly proud of, and Mr.
Sullivan's record will live as an ex-
ample for others many years after he
has passed out of this life.

Mr. Sullivan has been ably second-
ed by his chief of staff, Mr. Grimes.

Where can you find a more straight-
forward manly man than Wm. Grimes,
caring nothing for public opinion but
going on from day to day doing his
duty and seeking no recognition or
favours from any? But both these gen-
tlemen have served their Country as
few men have and are now entitled to
a retiring allowance and should spend
the evening of their life in ease and
comfort.

We Have The Men

Is it possible then that there is not
in this Country a man qualified to
take the place of our present Inspec-
tor General? Although rumor has it
so, yet we cannot believe that a man
will be imported to fill this position;
we feel confident that we have a man
in our midst fully as to education, ex-
perience and discipline ability to re-
construct the whole system and place it
on a proper and efficient modern basis
and in keeping with a young and growing
country. That being accomplished the police
force will be looked upon by the edu-
cated youth of the country as some-
thing worth aspiring to.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I think
you will agree with me, that if as re-
ported Mr. Sullivan wishes to retire
pouame Aquuiao isou suq au suq
his pension if ever any man did; and
the Government should not hesitate
to grant his request and whilst doing
so look round for some educated and
qualified native of the country to take
his place.

—NATIVE.

St. John's, Feb. 9, '14.

**MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION DEBATE.**

Congregational Association and Meth-
odist Young Men's Association of
George Street Debate the Question
of the Effect of Civilization on
Character.

Last night's meeting of St. John's
Mutual Improvement Association held
in the Congregational Lecture Room
was deeply interesting and of a most
instructive and enjoyable nature.

The members of George Street
Young Men's Association had been in-
vited to take part in a joint debate
and attended in goodly numbers.

The subject for debate was "Does
the Advancement of Civilization pro-
vide the best opportunity for the de-
velopment of character." For the
affirmative side Mr. E. V. Wylie
(Y.M.A.) was leader, being supported
by Mr. W. D. Watson (M.I.A.) and
Mr. Joffe (Y.M.A.) whilst the nega-
tive was upheld by Mr. H. E. Cowan
(M.I.A.), Mr. Kelloway (Y.M.A.), and
Mr. B. W. Martin (M.I.A.).

The subject of debate being on that
can be viewed from so many stand-
points, and furnishes so much food
for thought, was very ably put be-
fore the members present, and in the
general discussion that followed the
leading speakers, some very interest-
ing and original ideas, as to the effects
of advanced civilization in moulding
the character of the men and women
of to-day—for good or evil—were
given voice to, especially by the more
youthful members of both Associa-
tions present.

On a vote being taken the affirma-
tive won by a small majority.

At the opening of the meeting, Mr.
H. R. Brookes, President of the
M.I.A., heartily welcomed the mem-
bers of the Y.M.A., alluding to the
fact that joint gatherings of two
youthful, associations such as these
must be productive of good results.
To this Mr. E. V. Wylie gracefully
replied and extended to the members
of the M.I.A. an invitation to a joint
meeting at George Street on March
3rd, which has been accepted.

**B. I. SOCIETY HOLD
ANNUAL MEETING**

Nominated the Various Officers for
1914.—Mr. Higgins Resigns the
Office of Secretary.

A special meeting of the B.I.S. was
held last night for the presentation
of reports and the nomination of
officers. The reports were most en-
couraging.

The nomination of officers was as
follows:

President—Hon. J. D. Ryan.
Vice-Pres.—J. L. Slattery.
1st Vice-Pres.—J. C. Pippy.
2nd Vice-Pres.—P. F. Moore.
Treasurer—J. Campbell.
Secretary—T. P. Halley.
Chairman of Schools—T. J. Nash.
Chairman of Charities—J. J. Ma-
honey.
Chairman of Review, etc.—W. B.
Comerford.

Secretary of Schools—A. Doyle.
Mr. W. J. Higgins, who has held
the office of Secretary for ten years,
declined to be re-nominated, and Mr.
T. P. Halley was nominated in his
place. The election takes place next
Tuesday.

TO-DAYS EVENTS

2 p.m.—Performance at Nickle
theatre.
2 p.m.—Performance at Crescent
theatre.
8.30 p.m.—S.U.F. Soiree, British
Hall.

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