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**OUR POINT OF VIEW**

**Agricultural Policy**

THE Morris Government's Agricultural Policy has received from time to time many a hard blow. It has been pummeled so badly that even the investigators of the biggest folly ever launched forth upon a people, have come to look upon the thing as worthless. Nobody now cares to be associated with it, except perhaps the two highly paid Commissioners, and may be, even they would just as leave earn their salary in some other way, for they must feel pretty much ashamed of the folly with which they have so long been identified.

Be that as it may, we have now before us the spectacle of a Government fed paper imploring help from its readers towards the solution of a very simple problem in agriculture—the culture of the potato. Upwards of fifty thousand dollars have been spent by the Morris Government in furtherance of their folly, known as the Agricultural Policy and this is the result.

Districts that might very well be regarded as the potato growing districts, where the people devote a large measure of their agricultural endeavour to the culture of the potato, are ignorant of the most simple facts regarding the very industry in which they so largely engage.

This just bears out our argument, that the Morris policy began at the wrong end. They gave out costly seed where they should have given out education. The seeds they should have sown were the seeds of knowledge.

We have said, and we repeat, if you teach the farmer the science of his business, and give him a good grounding in the knowledge of his business, then he will surely seek the best in the matter of seeds, without any help from the Government. Knowledge is all, it is the very foundation of the farmers business, as well as that of every other sphere of human endeavour.

Seeds have been handed out in large and small amounts, and in the great majority of cases, the receivers have not turned the seed to good account. This is so overwhelming the case, that one might well be pardoned for saying that all that expensive seed has been thrown away. There are isolated cases wherein it might be found, the farmer has put his seed to the best possible use, but such cases do not justify the lavish and foolish effort on the part of an unwise Government.

We have refrained so far from

offering any advice to those poor fellows who are seeking the knowledge that should have been theirs long ago, in the hope that those who are getting big salaries from the Government in connection with the carrying out of the Agricultural Policy of the Government, might come forward, in an effort to justify their positions.

We have waited thus far in order to give Mr. Davies a chance to furnish the desired information, respecting the proper cultivation of potatoes, before venturing our opinion in the matter. We have some pretty ripe knowledge in respect to potato culture, but we withhold it till we shall have heard from Mr. Davies in the matter.

**Minister Cashin**

THE recent noisy uncouth outburst of Finance Minister Cashin is only what can be expected from one who was never intended by nature to fill the responsible position of Finance Minister. Year after year this swell-headed individual seems to glory in using abusive language and corner boy tactics, and the country is about now sick of him and his rowdiness.

During the late years that the House had the honour of having amongst its members Sir Robert Bond, a statesman and a gentleman, this fellow Cashin delighted in hurling abusive and indecent utterances across the floors of the House at Sir Robert. When possible Sir Robert treated his actions, as they deserved with silent contempt. We may differ from Sir Robert Bond on many questions of policy; but we say here that no abler debater or courteous gentleman ever sat in the House than Sir Robert. It must have been annoying in the extreme for that gentleman to have to listen to the vapouring of Cashin who isn't fit to tie Sir Robert's shoe strings.

If Cashin thinks this kind of thing will do him any good he makes a bigger mistake than he did when he insulted the people of the Northern district last year by referring to them as "illiterate cullage." These honest fishermen may not be so well off as Cashin is; but they had the courage of their convictions and voiced their opinions in no uncertain manner, and this is more than ever M. P. Cashin did or is prepared to do to-day. They may be "illiterate cullage" Mr. Cashin but they are honest and can look their fellow men straight in the face without blushing.

His leader and party friends came to his rescue last year by refusing to have the House investigate charges made against him. He was going to have the matter brought before the Court and there vindicate himself in the eyes of the country. Did he do so? The country knows the answer and has been anxious to know the reason why he failed to do so and if they form their own opinions in connection with that matter Cashin must only blame himself.

Those indecent outbursts of Cashin's are bringing the House into ridicule and if he cannot conduct himself as one should holding the position he does, the House would be the gainer by his absence. Such outbursts as Cashin's on Tuesday evening last would do credit to a meeting of a Tammany Hall Committee, and the pity is that the House must suffer the indignity of his presence there for the remainder of the session.

Bluster, gall and bluff have helped Cashin a long way in the past, but he had better beware that it does not yet be the means of his undoing. If Cashin cannot act the part of a gentleman and fill the position he so unworthily holds to-day the House and the country in general would be the gainer by his retirement from the high position of Minister of Finance and Customs.

The dignity of the House of Assembly must be preserved even

if it means the future non-appearance of such a bumptious and swellheaded personage as Michael Patrick Cashin.

**One of Many**

EXPENDITURE by John Collins, Sr., Catalina, on account of special works in the District of Trinity on special work, namely, on Farm Road at Catalina, as per letter of authority dated October 29th, 1913, amounting \$25.00 for this service.

John Collins, Sr.	Days.	Rate.	Total.
	4	\$1.25	\$ 5.00
Cr. by balance returned.			20.00
			\$25.00

I hereby certify that the work for which the foregoing is the payment was satisfactory performed under my supervision.

(Sgd.) JOHN COLLINS, Sr.

The public of Catalina would do well to read carefully the above returns of this grant of Twenty Five dollars given to John Collins, Sr., on October 29th, 1913, for which no returns were made to the Department of Public Works until the Department was forced to get them in response to a question asked by Mr. Stone in the House of Assembly the present session.

It is hard to explain how this occurred. The grant was made in October, 1913, and Collins had ample time after that date to spend the money. Even if he had not the time to work it out himself, why did he not give it to some poor unfortunate who would have been only too glad to have an opportunity of earning an honest dollar. This man Collins is the so-called Poor Commissioner who refused to relieve bona fide cases of destitution the past winter.

We suppose this grant of Twenty Five Dollars was the means of getting an ardent recruit for Richard Anderson Squires at Catalina at the last election, but, as in all other such cases of "hired men," the effort was of no avail.

The Union men of Catalina will not regret that this man Collins was expelled from the Union ranks. The Union is much better off without such men.

Why the Department of Public Works allowed a grant of Twenty Five Dollars to lie in the hands of any one man for eighteen months, without demanding returns as per letter of instructions which accompany all grants, is a matter which requires some explanation from the Minister of Public Works.

Collins should be asked for an explanation of why he has kept this money in his possession since October, 1913, and only returned the unexpended part of the grant when forced by the Department to account for it by Mr. Stone from his place in the House of Assembly.

It is quite clear that the Department would have taken no action in this matter were it not for the fact that Mr. Stone forced them to table the statement which we have related, in order to show the people the queer things which are being done by heeled of the Government.

We know of other cases which will appear later on.

**Oil Advances**

The Kerosene Oil Importers met yesterday and advanced the price 2c. per gallon. The retail price per cask is fixed at 22c. per gallon.

It is time for the Government to put the laws dealing with combines in force and protect the peoples interests. Last Fall the price advanced to 23c. A new firm entered the business and cut the price which caused a Kerosene oil war-price. Prices quoted this Spring were very low, but now the trade is about to issue supplies and the fishermen are arriving to purchase summer supplies for motor boats, the price is again advanced by the Combine.

**THE FUNERAL TOLL OF GRABALISM**

**Everything Not Hitherto Taxed Must**

**Now Pay a 11 p. c. Duty--Molasses**

**Taxed 3 1-2 c. per gall.--Cattle Feed of All Sorts,**

**Agricultural Implements, Books, Magazines, Ma-**

**chinery, Printers Supplies, All Taxed 11 per cent.**

**Deficit 1913-14, 1915-16, Estimated by Minister of Finance to be \$1,100,000**

**---New Taxation Estimated to Add \$750,000---Loan Bill to Cover Deficiency**

**---Reserve Fund of \$500,000 Spent---More Loans to Complete the Branch**

**Railways---The Public Debt, Year Ending 1916, \$33,000,000.**

THE Government erected their coffin yesterday and it will now be the People's duty as well as their privilege to pack the clique away in that coffin as soon as time will permit.

The Minister of Finance delivered his Budget Speech to an empty House, and no funeral service exceeded the Minister's death rattling effort.

During most of the duration of the speech, which of course was read from typewritten copy prepared by P. T. McGrath, there were but half of the Government members present, and outside of the Bar and in the galleries 17 persons occupied seats.

The speech was not begun until 5 p.m., although the custom is to deliver the speech immediately after the preliminary work of the day is completed. Apparently the Minister delayed in the hope that a few visitors would turn up by 5 p.m.

Never was a Budget Speech heard with such contempt and disgust, and never before has the Country felt so little inclined to know its contents. It was the worse of its sort ever delivered in the Assembly. It contains quotations from speeches of alien Finance Ministers that occupied fully one-third of its matter, and on every line of it one can read Ruination, Spoilation, Corruption, Waste and Financial Madness.

The Minister did not refer to the new taxes going in force to-day. He had not the courage to refer even to the resolution, but handed them to the Clerk to read. Every item in the tariff that was free, is now taxed 11 per cent.

All sorts of cattle feed, agricultural implements, pure-bred animals for breeding purposes, books, magazines, hoop iron for herring barrels, all ship building material, machinery for mills, mines, of all description, motors, agricultural seeds, printing supplies and outfits, rice, works of art, will now pay 11 per cent. tax. Molasses is taxed 3 1/2 cents per gallon. Even Salt—which was formerly free—will now be taxed 11 per cent.

Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars is the amount Mr. Cashin hopes to get from taxes put on since last winter. He did not state what he expected to raise from the new taxes coming in force to-day.

The molasses tax is the most iniquitous tax any government ever inflicted, for two-thirds of the molasses requirement has been imported free, and while some paid no duty, others will have to pay 3 1/2 cents per gallon, or about \$3.00 per puncheon as a tax, and have to sell the molasses at the same price as those who imported it free.

The deficit being \$302,000. The expenditure for the present year 1914-15, ending 30th June, will exceed last year's expenditure by \$100,000, leaving a deficit of \$714,000, according to the Minister, but we boldly assert that it wont be one cent less than \$800,000, even with his new grab from taxes put on to-day.

The total deficit for the two years ending June 30th next will therefore be \$1,100,000, which will be met by taking the Reserve Fund of \$500,000 and a loan of \$600,000.

The Minister estimated the debt of the Country at the end of 1915 would be \$32,500,000, but he made no allowance for the deficit or extra interest on loans that he hopes to secure, nor does his estimate include any war expenditure beyond the \$1,000,000 loaned by the Home Government, which he says will hold out until December.

The debt will exceed \$33,000,000 by the 31st December next. He estimates the revenue for 1915-16 will be \$4,000,000 or about \$750,000 more than he will realize the present financial year, but his only hope for this is he believes trade will expand and imports will increase because stocks are not being replenished this Spring.

Not one ray of sunshine appeared in his dirge of yesterday. Hopeless Ruin and Utter Reckless in Expenditure and Taxation pervaded every line of the "Dead March in Cashin" that was rendered yesterday in the Assembly Chamber.

The people would not curse the clique so much if they were endeavouring to economize, but when the poor man remembers that he is taxed almost to a point of starvation which compels him to suffer in order to afford riches for the gang of freebooters now wasting his money he not only curses the Clique of Rascals who are the instruments of his sufferings but he also curses the Land of his Birth, and freely confesses that to live in his own Country is almost an impossibility.

While nearly every one of the 21 supporting the Government are grabbing from the taxes enough to lay by money in bagfuls for the future, the poor man not only must pay 50 per cent. tax on dry goods, but Flour, Pork, Kero Oil, Sugar, Molasses, Tobacco and Butter is taxed to an extent that will cause many a Man, Woman and Child to go hungry.

That is not enough suffering for Morris to behold, but he must go further and starve Cattle and Horses and tax Feeds and Agriculture to an extent that will bring him in more curses in a day than any other Tory Government received in a year.

Morris not only has done all he can to Starve the People, their Cattle and their Horses, but he

places a tax of 11 per cent. on Books and Papers, in order to Starve the Brains of the People and turn them into a Nation of Idiots.

The People's response to the "Dead March in Cashin" rendered yesterday with such a mournful effect will be A UNIVERSAL CHORUS OF CURSES upon the heads of the 21 Graballs composing the Morris Clique in the House of Assembly that will stick to them while life remains.

They have robbed the people of their heritage and handed it over free gratis to the Reids and done it as brazenly as any highwayman could accomplish the trick, and now they have done all that devilish ingenuity can devise to squeeze and filter from the blood of the people as much of its energy and vitality as is possible in order to squander and waste it on such fads as \$23,000 for preventing Consumption in St. John's, \$40,000 for repairs and maintenance of the Fiona, \$20,000 on a so called Agricultural Policy which is of no earthly benefit, except to provide big salaries for Devereux, Downey, Ryan and Bayly, and 20 or 30 Secretaries of outport Board who acted as Graball Healers in 1913.

Piccott even went so far as to take \$10,000 for repairing the roofs of lighthouses this year, when he might very well hold over such repairs until times grow better.

Some \$3000 is being added to the Civil Service Pension list this year. This amount might also have been left over for better times.

Thirty Thousand Dollars will be thrown away on a prohibition plebiscite, which will be thrown away owing to the action of Morris, Higgins, Bennett, Kennedy, Woodford, Frank Morris, Devereux, Kennedy (Hr. Main), Emerson, Moore, Walsh, Cashin, Crosbie and Piccott who backed up a 40 per cent. minimum vote in order to destroy prohibition—while Currie, LeFevre, Moulton, Downey, Parsons and Goodison were too tame to kick over the traces and insist upon a square deal for Prohibition. The die is cast and there will be no prohibition, but \$30,000 will be thrown away deliberately, while temperance workers so called look on approvingly.

Then there is the Dredge expenditure of \$20,000; grant for Council of Higher Education \$10,000; Inland Fishery Board \$12,000; Jerry Dee's spawning lobster fad \$10,000; Fishery Warden farce \$20,000, and a dozen other big votes that might very easily been dispensed with for a year or two, and the robbery of the people lightened to that extent.

But no, Morris being a spendthrift cannot economize—don't know anything about such an

economic safeguard and the mad rush to Destruction, Destitution, Suffering and Misery goes on, while the 21 Graball Morrisites in the House Grab their Piles and lay in their Stocks of Gold to spend and enjoy when others will have to work 20 Hours out of 24 for 4 Years to rebuild and reconstruct what those freebooters have destroyed, and will have to reduce taxation, eradicate waste, restore the moral integrity of the Colony, and aid the Toilers in their efforts to trample under foot once and for all this Devilish Monster of financial destruction and demoralization, that has been foisted upon them by SIR E. P. MORRIS and his 20 SATANIC EMISSARIES.

**Another Blow In the Interest Of Honesty**

The Opposition Compels the Graballs to Establish a "Standing Committee of Public Accounts"

YESTERDAY Mr. Kent's motion to amend the rules of the House providing for the establishment of a Standing Committee of Public Accounts, consisting of seven members, was put and carried, and in future there will be a Committee consisting of seven members of the House appointed each session whose duty it will be to investigate all public accounts and afford the House full information on all expenditure instead of the present custom of forcing members to find out how the money went by asking questions that are never replied to or if replied to contain only as much as will suit the Minister to reveal.

This Committee will have the power to examine all officials of departments and all papers, vouchers and documents, and the Committee will represent the Opposition as well as the Government.

The wonder to us is that such a rule was not adopted years ago. Such Committees exist in Canada, America and England and it was such a Committee that exposed the graft and robbery connected with the war supplies in Canada the past winter.

The new rule adopted by the House yesterday reads as follows:

"That there shall be a standing committee of the House to be designated 'The Committee of Public Accounts' for the examination of the accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by the Legislature to meet the Public Expenditure, and of all other accounts showing expenditures from public moneys for any purpose to consist of seven members who shall be appointed at the commencement of every session and of whom three shall be a quorum."