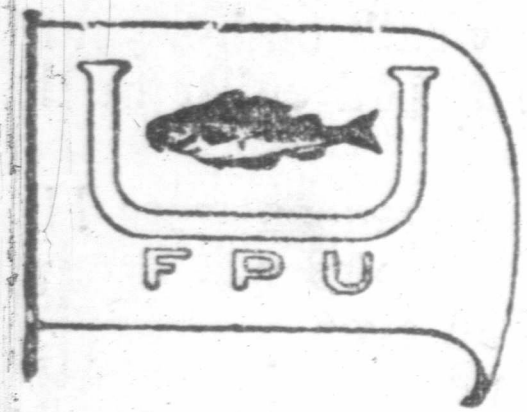


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To satisfy a Mortgage.
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J. J. ROSSITER,
WALDEGRAVE STREET
may 7, 3m

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE."



(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., AUG. 24, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Another Indiscretion

ON Saturday the Premier sent an intimation to all the papers in town stating that duties had been added to spirits, sugar and tobacco by the Canadian Parliament to meet the interest charges on the war loans of \$50,000,000. We protest against such proceedings on the part of the Prime Minister of Newfoundland. What was his object in making such an intimation just when our Legislature was about to meet and when consideration was being given to the matter of our own finance? Did the Premier hope to warn his liquor dealer friends in order that they may rush liquor from Bond before the House met, as happened last winter before the extra duty was placed on liquor, if so he has been guilty of a serious indiscretion which he will have to account for.
On the other hand if no further duty is imposed on liquors the intimation may have been to frighten liquor dealers into believing such was intended in order to cause them to rush liquor out of Bond and thereby unduly inflate the revenue from liquor just before the House met in order to make the revenue show up better by seventy or eighty thousand dollars.
It is generally known that very little revenue from liquor duties has been collected under the new tariff, as a full six months stock was stored by all the dealers before the new tariff became effective.
We trust there will be no more of such indiscretions as above referred to, and we deeply regret having the necessity of censoring the Premier in this respect for it is apparent that everything the Premier now nowadays turns out to be a blunder, and this blundering cannot be tolerated much longer.
THE public will perceive that such such action as above reviewed is not calculated to create confidence in our public men, for all are agreed that such a matter as the tariff changes should be closely guarded and kept from the interested public. There has been too much of this sort of slackness and leakage during

recent years and it must be discontinued. Everyone is aware of the fact that the Treasury lost at least \$100,000 last winter by leakages respecting the intentions of the Government regarding an increase duty on liquor and tobacco.
We trust no further duty will be placed on those articles as a war tax. It would now be an outrage to place a tax on sugar seeing the price has reached eight cents and is likely to go to ten cents, before the end of the year. A duty of one cent per pound would have been permissible when it could be purchased in the foreign markets at \$3.20 or less and retailed here for 3 1/2c. and 4c. per lb., but to place a duty of one or two cents per pound on sugar now would be nothing short of an outrage. The public will therefore be puzzled over the Premier's indiscrete intimation and while some will think the object was to warn friends dealing in liquor to replenish their stocks before an advance, others will believe that the object was to frighten liquor and tobacco dealers into purchasing large stocks in order to swell the receipts of a very low Treasury before the House meets, while there is no intention of increasing the duties on those articles.
The statement is mischievous in the extreme, unworthy of any man holding such a high office and tends to destroy all public confidence in the integrity of public men whose every action should always be above board and honorable to the fullest extent.

It is a remarkable fact that almost everything done or left undone by the Government since the war opened has turned out miserable and costly blundering and the last is not the least of them.
The people are now realizing what the country must face in carrying out the offer of the Government to raise 1500 men for service abroad. Needless to say all concerned wish to-day that common sense had been more prominent in the Government councils when they were considering the raising of 1500 men for home and foreign service.
That decision and subsequent action therein will prove to be the greatest of all the Premier's blunders, and had he consulted the Opposition Party—as he should have done—he would have been spared the anxiety and worry which this muddle must entail upon him.
Just what he should have done, he left undone, and what he should not have done is what he has done.
He has treated the Opposition Leaders with open contempt throughout the whole crisis and now he depends upon their patriotism and love of Empire to get him out of the tangled skein he has woven so completely about himself.
There must be an end put to such childish transactions of patience and patriotism will cease to be virtues much longer with the Union Party if not with all the Opposition Party.

MR. KENT has looked upon the Premier's blunders as above referred to in a very lenient spirit and acted extremely square and patriotic, and the Premier should feel very thankful to Mr. Kent. We have no thought that the Premier would himself do as Mr. Kent and the Opposition have done if the shoe were on the other foot.—We therefore hope that he will be extremely careful in future to treat the Opposition Party in this crisis with more consideration, and call them to his counsels.

AS for Mr. Coaker he will never forgive the Premier for using the Governor as he did at the so-called patriotic meeting, and deceiving the public as he did in reference to those resolutions, nor will Mr. Coaker soon forget the Governor's action in consenting to preside at a meeting solely supported by members of the Government Party and ignoring so contemptuously the representatives of the electorate and then to invite Mr. Coaker to become a member of a committee brought into being by resolutions adopted in such a manner and by such deceptive methods.
The Governor and Premier both realized that a big blunder had been committed and their anxiety to escape the consequences outweighed their discretion and the so-called Patriotic Meeting was the outcome—but they will both have to live longer before they succeed in making a cat's paw of Coaker in order to cover up their blunders.

Signal Patriotism
WHEN the Opposition Leader wrote the Premier, he offered on behalf of the whole Opposition, that if the Legislature was convened to consider the present situation, no sessional indemnity would be accepted by the members of the Opposition for their services for the special session.
This offer will mean \$15,000 saved to the Colony. The officers of the House will probably follow the example of the members and also offer their services free.

Another matter for consideration is the payment for printing the debates of the session. We hope no attempt will be made to pay for the publication of the debates. The debates will not be lengthy and for our part we will undertake to publish the speeches of Opposition members free, if the copy is sent to us.
THE Government should cut down expenses and use the pruning knife in every direction. Salaries of all officials receiving above \$300 per year should be reduced on a proper scale according to salary. A reduction of 20 per cent. on salaries from \$300 to \$500, 25 per cent. from \$500 to \$1,000 and 30 per cent. from \$1,000 upwards, as high as the Governor.
A tax of 10 per cent. should be placed on all rents payable to absentee landlords, and incomes of \$800 and upwards should be taxed. Say 3 per cent. on incomes from \$800 to \$1200, 5 per cent. from \$1200 to \$2,000, and 10 per cent. on all incomes above \$2,000. Public officials whose salaries were reduced as per scale above not to pay income tax. The tax to continue in force until rescinded by the Legislature.
Some such provision must be made in the shape of a war tax in order to meet the expenses incurred in sending sailors and soldiers as already agreed by the Government.



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WEDNESDAY—The Big Local Feature—THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT ATTENDS THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF BOWRING PARK.

TO THE FISHERMEN

DON'T sell any fish at \$5 per qtl. The price must advance. Don't sell for truck, if you prefer to sell for cash, for there will be lots of buyers for cash before the middle of September.
The Union Trading Company is buying fish at their Branch Stores to-day from Union men at six dollars per quintal (talqual).
If \$6 per qtl. if offered you, sell some fish, but don't sell all, for the price may go much higher before the 1st of November. Cod oil is worth \$75 per ton to-day. Labrador fish off the coast should be worth \$420. If that price is not paid the best plan is to bring it home to Newfoundland.

Foes At Home

IT is not only on the foreign battlefield that the British Empire has also to be found within her own dominions.
When we say this we do not refer to the few Germans and Austrians stranded on an alien and hostile soil when war broke out, nor do we mean those who are prepared, by various treasonable practices to act the traitor to Our Sovereign Liege King George.
Unfortunately the class of foe with which we are now dealing is one whose offenses are not covered by the laws of the Realm.
Such foes are to be found often at patriotic meetings; they sign resolutions of loyalty to King and Empire; they are quite frequently enthusiastic flag-flappers; they are to be found in the crowds rejoicing over some welcome British victory and in not a few instances their names lead in the lists of subscriptions for patriotic purposes.
FOES, such as those to which we now make special reference do not usually go to the front to fight the battles of the King; they are too busy at home for that and their business is concerned with the boosting of prices on the necessities of life.
They are treacherous foes; wily foes; foes for whose selfish profit the widow and the orphan are made to feel the pinch of want; who coin profit out of misery and who do not hesitate to bleed even the dependents left behind by the noble fellows who march beneath the Union Jack in some foreign country.
And we have them in this community. They have taken advantage of that popular panic that is always engendered by war to boost the prices of provisions. Sugar has doubled in price; flour costs a great deal more to-day than it did three weeks ago, although the dealers are still selling the stocks they had in when war was declared and which were lying in their stores before war was even dreamed of by the average man.

INQUIRY NEEDED.

INDICATIONS are by no means lacking in this city that the war panic, while it hits the earning power of the workman, has not impaired to any appreciable extent the position of the dealer in the necessities of life, if indeed it has not in a number of cases actually strengthened it. For example it is claimed that some dealers have on the one hand unjustifiably raised the prices of their commodities and to "even up" inversely have also materially reduced the salaries of some of their employees and given others notice to quit.
If this be true it would seem that while the war has brought disaster and dismay to the unfortunate consumer it has had the opposite effect on the dealer. If the latter is commercializing the panicky feeling of the ultimate consumer and converting it into a valuable asset, it is clear that an investigation be inaugurated any too soon.
It is known here that the price of sugar, which previous to the war, sold here at 3 1/2 cents per pound in

POEMS OLD and NEW

PUT 'EM WHERE THEY BELONG
In sundry news despatches I read distressing tales Of prisons filled up to the roof, and overcrowded jails. It's easy to imagine that a crook would have no chance To get locked up when all the cells are taken in advance. But when a fellow comes along and boosts the price of beef Because there's war across the sea, he's not a common thief— And though the penitentiaries are crowded to the brim I think we ought to stretch the bars to find a place for him.
When breadstuffs glut the granaries and beaves are piled on ice To let some greedy gentleman await a famine price; When, in a land of plenty, little children cry for bread, And want stalks through the tenements with terrifying tread, And all because a few big crooks have quietly agreed To make some easy money for the people's bitter need— When things like these are going on, I think we might begin To let some old-time jailbirds out and put some new ones in.

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WAR MAP FOR ONE CENT

Tuesday's issue of The Mail and Advocate will contain a full page map of the war area, showing the chief places mentioned in the despatches.
This map will be invaluable for reference purposes while the war is on.
Secure a copy of Tuesday's paper and get your map at a cost of only ONE CENT.

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By order of the N.G.,
J. W. BARTLETT, Secretary.



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