

THE EVENING ADVOCATE.

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Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



("To Every Man His Own")

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ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, May 9, 1921

The Bell Island Agreement and Mr. A. B. Morine.

Mr. A. B. Morine is greatly ex-
ercised over the Bell Island Ore
Tax Agreement. He has published
already three or four letters in the
Telegram about it, and is very
much displeased with it. What
would please Mr. Morine is a good
big fee from one side of the other
to re-cast the agreement. It is
seldom that a lawyer is willing to
publicly advertise his opinions,
but in several cases in the past, it
has worked very profitably to law-
yers who have thus shown an in-
terest in any dispute. Of course
this would not be Mr. Morine's
aim! Surely he would not say to
himself: I will write about this,

and then I may be asked to accept
a retainer, and get a chance to al-
ter the agreement. If that is really
behind his letters, the Telegram
would be quite right if it charged
Mr. Morine 50 cents per inch for
their publication.

No agreement or contract ever
made by a Government ever pleas-
ed everybody. Why Mr. Morine can
well remember that for every man
who thought Mr. Morine's Reid
deal a good one, there were prob-
ably five who did not.

There were eminent men who
fought against the Reid Deal, like
Sir Robert Bond for instance, and
yet Mr. Morine was the moving
spirit that wanted that Bill to pass

The Opposition are Deceivers.

The Opposition are doing their
best to make out that Newfound-
land's share in the world's busi-
ness slump is caused solely by the
present Government. The present
situation with regard to fish prices
is blamed to the Fish Regulations,
but the Tories do not explain why
lobsters were practically unsaleable
last year, and now are selling at
on third of the former price. They
do not explain why codoil prices
have slumped so much, and herring
and lumber and other com-
modities which have decreased so
much in price. There were no re-
gulations about lobsters, salmon,
codoil, herring and lumber but
these industries have suffered more
than the codfish industry in the

way of decreased price. Does it
not all prove that, after all, the
Fish Regulations, abused as they
have been, have nevertheless kept
fish prices up when the prices of
other fish and oils went down al-
most to the vanishing point.

If the exporters had taken Mr.

Coaker's offer to arrange for the
sale of fish to Portugal, the situa-
tion would probably have been vast-
ly improved to-day, for all our
markets would have improved be-
cause of that sale. But the ex-
porters would not look at the of-
fer and feared the anger of the
firms to whom they consign fish,
which means that the price of fish
this year will likely be the price
which the foreign markets are
pleased to put upon it. In other
words, the system of consignment
will be in full operation.

The claim that the Fish Regu-
lations can be blamed for any des-
titution that is in the country to-
day is put up by politicians that
are prepared to put forward any-
thing if they think it will help
their political fortunes. There
may have been some faults in the
working out of such a gigantic
scheme as the Fishery Regula-
tions, and nothing is attempted
in this world which can be car-
ried out without some criticism,
but broadly, if the price of cod-
fish had fallen down in propor-
tion to the fall in other fish, in-
stead of \$8 and \$10 being paid,
the price undoubtedly would have
never exceeded \$5.00.

If the price of lobsters for in-
stance where the market requir-

Employers Deny Author- ity for Promise of 44-Hour Week

(Montreal Star.)

The standpoint of the employ-
ing printers of Eastern Canada
in refusing to grant the 44-hour
week in commercial printing of-
fices as demanded by the Inter-
national Typographical Union, is
summarized in a circular letter is-
sued to its members and other em-
ploying printers by the negotiating
committee of the Toronto Typo-
graphers.

The letter first points out that
if the 44-hour week is conceded
in commercial printing offices
a similar demand will be made up-
on the newspaper publishers with-
in a year, or at the expiry of exist-
ing contracts, and a plea for united
opposition to the demand is made.

Refutation of the claim of the
printing trade unions that in 1914
they were definitely promised a
44-hour week to become effective
in 1921 is contained in this letter
which states that this claim is
based on a meeting of a self-con-
stituted "International Joint Con-
ference Council," consisting of
representatives of four interna-
tional unions connected with the
printings trades, on the one hand,
and a so-called "closed shop divi-
sion" of U.T.A., the Printers Le-

gue of America and International
Association of Employing Elest-

rotypers, representing the em-
ployers. At a meeting in New
York in 1919 this "conference
council" voted that a 44-hour
week be granted in 1921, and this
vote was reaffirmed at meetings
held in 1920 and 1921.

LACKED AUTHORITY.

That this "joint conference coun-
cil" lacked authority to pledge the

ments are so much less than cod-
fish, came down so much, it is
really a marvel how our codfish
realized the price it did, espe-
cially when it had to compete with
Norwegian fish which was being
sold for a song.

The Tory political wolves may
bark a lot, but they cannot de-
ceive those who can think for
themselves.

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better selected variety of
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customers to select a suit-
able design. City friends are
cordially invited to call and
look over our new premises
and stock.

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date service; from,
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thing to do in the making, an
which represented less than one
third of the closed shops and less
than one-half of one per cent of
the total number of shops on the
continent.

Mr. Gardner at the 1921 meet-
ing also denied the union state-
ment that the employing printer
organizations concerned had adopt-
ed the 44-hour principle by re-
ferendum. Only the employ-
ing electrotypers had taken a referen-
dum, and it was lost. No referen-
dum was taken by the other bodies
concerned. Mr. Gardner, the cir-
cular states, therefore asked the
union representatives to correct
the mis-statements sent broad-
cast on their behalf.

The union demand for a 44-hour
week, with the existing scale of
wages would increase the cost
of printing approximately 10 per
cent. If the unions at the same
time demand a basis wage of \$4
per week, or \$1 per hour, as some
of the local presidents have stat-
ed, the cost of printing would be
black as night. In other words it
increased 25 to 30 per cent.

The Home 1000 via at 6.40
p.m. Saturday via route.

The Kyle is at St. John's.

The Meigle Hermitage Cove
at 3.45 p.m. on 6th, going to
Port aux Basques.

The Sagona arrived at Port
aux Basques at 9 a.m. yesterday.

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