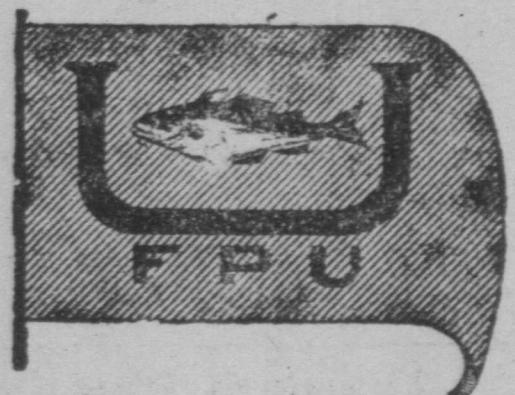


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(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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Letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only and the real name of the author should be attached. This will not be used unless consent be given in the communication.

The publication of any letter does not signify that the Editor thereby shows his agreement with the opinions there in expressed.

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ST. JOHN'S, NFDL, MAY 27, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

THE SAVINGS BANK.

YESTERDAY we asked a few questions regarding the securities put up by the Premier in London when raising a temporary loan and this morning The News state the Managers and Governors of the Savings Bank report that none of the Savings Bank's securities have been used for that purpose. So far so good.

The question was a proper one and made in the interest of the public and under the circumstances no one imagined John Alexander Robinson would be delighted over the efforts of The Mail and Advocate to defend the people's interests in this respect. The reply to our question is that no securities of the Bank were used.

We are delighted to have such an assurance. We thank John Alexander for securing it so promptly.

Now he might explain why the Government has not appointed a Commission of Enquiry to investigate the two sealing disasters and why the finding of watery graves by one hundred and seventy-three Sons of Toil have not been investigated although it happened fifty-seven days ago?

Will he also ascertain why Judge Knight's brilliant and amazing report on the Newfoundland disaster was held ten days by the Government before it was published?

Will he also explain what securities were given by the Premier in return for the temporary loan he has raised in London, and what papers were sent over to him about two weeks ago?

As for John Alexander's outburst of passion regarding the withdrawal of money from the Savings Bank last fall he has demonstrated the possession of but little discretion and much verbosity.

His reference to the man who lost his home and some money only shows what little common sense he possesses.

If John Alexander is abundantly imbued with anything except ability to "lick stamps" in order to lick up the treasury dollars, it is bitterness and verbosity; but we can assure John Alexander that we could produce facts that if published would cause a far greater scare than that which very properly scared the people last fall when they discovered that Graballism had once more bought its way to power and place, and the less he says about Sir Robert Bond's action last fall and the assurances of the Governors of the Bank respecting the affairs of the Savings Bank the better will it be for him, the Government and the Bank, for a condition of affairs exist that would not be pleasing to the public if the whole situation was explained.

The Bank is a public institution and is open to public criticism in all its aspects. The people of this Country are responsible to every depositor of the Bank and the public has a right to know all about the transactions of the Bank, and John Alexander's outburst of indignation because of The Mail and Advocate's article yesterday will but cause the public to ask what is behind it and whether the object of it was an attempt to muzzle any further discussion on the matter.

Instead of allying public feeling John Alexander has but intensified it, and every man will be asking himself what John Alexander was driving at, or what he wished to cover up.

Will John Alexander deny that half of the funds of the Bank are locked up in Government debentures and Indian Consols, and cannot be realized to-day except at a loss of \$250,000 to the Bank?

Do he realize that if the people who has deposited money in the Bank wanted to withdraw it, that they could not possibly be given more than half of what is deposited to-day?

Do he want us to prove those facts? Will he deny that Indian Consols and Government debentures are away below what the Bank paid for them?

If John Alexander or the Governors of the Bank want us to show up the true state of the affairs of the Savings Bank let them keep The News hot in replying to us and they will soon wish they had a more discreet and less conceited defender than John Alexander Robinson.

JUDGE KNIGHT'S REPORT.

THE NEWS this morning published Judge Knight's report. The delay in publication is explained by the absence of the Acting Premier from the city.

If such absence prevented the publication of the report, which the whole Country awaited, how comes it that the few fragments of the Government that Mr. Bennett left behind when he went to Sydney had power and independence enough to make Dr. Keegan the King of the Hospital during Mr. Bennett's absence, although Mr. Bennett as Colonial Secretary was the official which had full control over Hospital matters?

The fact is, they wanted to withhold the report as long as possible, and but for our demands the report would probably still be hidden away. Anyway, after ten days it has seen the light of day, yet not one word of the report having been received by the Government, ten days ago, appeared in either The News or The Herald, but this paper announced the fact immediately after it was received by the Government.

Now for the report. It will be received by the public with amazement and indignation, and every intelligent man will decide that Judge Knight labored incessantly to whitewash Abram Kean, even to such an extent as to be ridiculous.

It contains nothing of importance. It don't show what the people demand to know. It would be just as well had there never been an enquiry. The public would be about as wise in view of the report, regarding the disaster as they were the morning the enquiry was opened.

It is just what this paper proclaimed it from the start. It is exactly what President Coaker stated it was and would be the day after he arrived from the seal fishery as contained in his letter to this paper.

It means that a bitter battle must be fought if the sealers are to be protected against being slaughtered on the ice floe in the future.

The report makes Geo. Tuff, the Black Sheep, and even attempts to show that the Florizel's operator lied when he said Joe Kean's message to his father did contain the words—"and the Newfoundland!"

—but the public will place its own construction on the Judge's indirect references about Barkley and who they will believe. Probably other operators who heard that message pass from the Florizel to the Stephano might be able to back up Barkley's statement.

Anyway it was common talk on board of some of the steamers two or three days after the disaster and what was said was what Barkley swore to. The operators on some of the ships heard the message and spoke of it, and the subject of the message became common talk.

There was never a report awaited with such interest as that of Judge Knight's on the Newfoundland disaster, and no report ever published in Newfoundland will be received with such contempt.

Now for the full Commission of Enquiry.

The dummy report has been proclaimed and the public will not rest until three good men, possessing the confidence of the TOLLERS, are at work ascertaining what was responsible for the slaughter of seventy-eight Sons of Terra Nova, and what may be done to prevent such catastrophes.

They want to know what caused the disappearance of one hundred and seventy-three Sons of Terra Nova who sailed on the Southern Cross and what may prevent such disasters.

Only fifty-seven days have passed since those two hundred and fifty heroes perished. What is fifty-seven days to such a Government as Newfoundland now poses. Why only a flea bite.

Let the thing blow over and by and by we will appoint three non-entities and they will report something and then the matter will die, and nothing will result—such is the fancy and desire of our great Government; but they will never see it realized, for this Country will yet be face to face with a tremendous upheaval of public opinion and indignation over this disaster business.

The F.P.U. will not allow the crime of slaying two hundred and fifty heroes to go unavenged.

The Mail and Advocate will arouse the Country from end to end over this matter unless Right prevails.

We publish Judge Knight's report in order to show the Fishermen what they are to expect if they don't stand shoulder to shoulder and secure a square deal by their own exertions.

The report will show the wonderful results of a three weeks examination of witnesses.

It will show what wisdom is enthroned in legal brains when fishery or sealing matters are concerned.

It will show what foresight Mr. Coaker possessed when he stated the enquiry was waste of time and could be of no use and demanded a full Commission of Enquiry to investigate the disaster and the whole matter of sealing conditions.

Mr. Coaker landed from the Nascope on Thursday night, April 9th. The next day was a holiday—Good Friday—but on Saturday his letter condemning the Inquest appeared. Out of that letter came the Bowring and Harvey libels about the wooden ships.

Had the Government then heeded Mr. Coaker's advice and warning the Country would now be in the possession of a report from a proper Commission and the people would be enabled to get down to business, knowing the right thing was done and would be done, and instead of having to face this matter and pass through another period of agitation and tumult in connection with the disaster.

We intend to fully review the whole matter from day to day and will not spare even Judge Knight's penny-two penny report.

THEY ARE WATCHING.

AND now the Editor of The Daily News mounts our political ram parts and shouts "Fishermen Be Watchful!"

Well, the Fishermen are watching—doing lots of it, in fact. They learned from very bitter experiences that it's extremely necessary to scrutinize carefully every word and action of the politicians who make up the Morris Government.

They have learnt a great deal, too, through this attitude of careful watching.

One stern lesson that hard experience has taught them is to place absolutely no confidence in Sir Edward Morris, his party followers and his party hacks and to expect nothing from them but what partisan policy dictates.

So they watch, even as the Editor of The News exhorts, but with the earnest intention of discovering any attempts of the Government at political wrong-doing and subterfuge. They are watching the man and the

party who were elected to power on the strength of their denunciation of the Bond Party for extravagant, wasteful expenditure of public money; on the definite promise to "stabilize industrial and commercial enterprise" to "reduce taxation," and to spend public moneys "judiciously."

And, watching, the Fishermen have observed that these denunciations and these promises were merely vote-catching campaign cries.

"Judicious outlay" of public money has been translated into a thoughtless, wasteful, absolutely prodigal expenditure of our revenues, increasing the cost of our civil government by over Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars in less than seven years.

"Reduced taxation" took place on the eve of the election but increased taxation took place immediately afterwards. Now, "those least able to bear" the burden of taxation have to contribute to the revenue a ten per cent. surtax on every dutiable article which, spelled in hard cash, means an increase of taxation of Three Dollars per head of population or Fifteen Dollars for every average family of five persons.

So while increased expenditure on public departments has not increased their efficiency or public utility it has provided new jobs and increased salaries for party heelers, and it has also resulted in increasing the already over-heavy burden of taxation borne by the struggling Toller.

The Fishermen have also watched the cost of the branch railroads grow from Morris's estimate of Four Million Dollars to an actual cost of at least Eight Million Dollars.

They have seen boasted surpluses decline until the Colony faces a deficit in revenue of over a Quarter of a Million Dollars.

They have seen trade unsettled and decrease until progress is at its lowest ebb, until, in fact, we face a worse industrial condition than we have known in twenty years.

Yes, the Fishermen watch—also they observe. How can they help noticing that the will of the people is flouted; that its best interests are neglected in order to keep a party of political bunglers in power?

The exaltation of R. A. Squires and Sydney D. Blanford to power in defiance of the emphatic wish of the voters, as expressed at the polls, is evidence, enough of that fact.

And now the Editor of The News asks us to accept his bare statement, as a journalistic party hack, that the Morris Government would not think of using Savings Bank securities to encourage investors to make a temporary loan to this Colony.

But the Fishermen of this Country are watchful and observant and the majority of them have learned that Sir Edward Morris and his political followers usually do whatever is likely to be of most benefit to themselves—although in the long run developments generally prove that they simply work for their own political destruction.

This much is certain, it requires something more material than the bare word of the Premier of the Colony over-burdened with taxation and facing a shortage in trade and revenue to cajole a million or so dollars from the pockets of the investors.

What "something," other than the securities held by the Savings Bank, had the present Government of Newfoundland to offer?

THE ESTIMATES.

TODAY we begin the publication of the Estimates for 1914-1915 and shall continue this publication until they have appeared in our columns in full.

We do this for the information of the public, who should all peruse them with care and get a first-hand knowledge of the ways in which our millions of dollars of revenue are annually expended.

OTHER WAY ABOUT.

IN an editorial this morning, The Daily News states that "one poor man came to the city, drew his savings (from the Savings Bank) took them home and lost them in the flames, when his house burned down."

That is quite true. The savings in question were taken out before the election and by a Northern man who feared Coaker would be returned to power.

The Boston Opera Co.'s Musical Festival, Methodist College Hall, June 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Mme. Scotney, assisted by Boston Opera Co.'s stars. On the opening night Monday, June 1st, an all English programme, including the third act from "Martha" (in costume) will be given. Plans for the three nights now open at Atlantic Bookstore. Prices: Reserved seats, \$2.50, \$1.50, \$1.00. General admission 50c.

Schr. Antoinette, Webber, 19 days from Barbados, arrived Monday, after a passage of 19 days. She has a cargo of molasses.

To Farmers, Gardeners, &c.

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TO THE EDITOR.

TO CORRESPONDENTS—We are always glad to receive letters on matters of local and general public interest. Correspondents, however, should make their letters as brief as they possibly can, as we are receiving scores of communications daily and have only a very limited space in which to publish them.

We use practically every letter received, at some time or other, but there must, in view of our large correspondence, necessarily be some delay before some of these letters appear in The Mail and Advocate.

We are particularly anxious to receive notes of news from all round the Island. Let our young people particularly get busy and help us make our paper the newswiest in the country.—Editor.

FROM LADLE COVE

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—The Ladle Cove Local Council desire to tender their sincere sympathy to the sorrowing relatives of those who lost their lives in the recent sealing disasters. This Council had decided to hold a full parade on April 10th, but on account of the disaster decided it would be better to postpone the affair until some other date.

WILLIAM TULK,
Secretary Ladle Cove.

CONGRATULATIONS

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—Permit me to congratulate Mr. Coaker on the manly and honorable efforts which he has made on behalf of the tollers of this country. We particularly approve of the treatment which he is handing out to Captain Kean in connection with the disaster to the men of the Newfoundland.

In August last a man of this settlement was badly injured by a bull. He lay helpless for over three weeks until Mr. H. J. Crowe came along, and finding out what the trouble was, suggested that he go to the hospital for treatment. Mr. Crowe also hired a motor boat and had the man taken to Leading Tickle which is fourteen miles from his home, and landed him on the wharf at that place an hour or so before the steamer came in. To his surprise and disappointment, however, he could not get on board the ship in the mail boat, and was forced to return home again.

—JOHN ROBERTS.

Point Leamington.

INDIGNANT PROTEST

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—The public owe you a debt for publishing a list of names of "Officials" whose salaries and "raises in pay" have been paid out of Contingencies until the past session of the Legislature when such salaries were added to the Civil List and voted by the House of Assembly.

No doubt the names of many individuals appearing in this list as receiving a salary from the tax-payers and wage-earners of this Colony, and create many surprises in the districts where those pseudo officials reside. The District of Carbonear is one of those places for in this list appears the name of one Charles McCarthy, salary \$390. We have several men in this district which we know as Charles McCarthy and inquiry is being made as to which one is in receipt of this salary.

Corruption!

One individual particularly is named as the recipient of this salary and if our information be correct then we do not hesitate to brand the thing as the most glaring piece of political corruption that has ever perpetrated.

The individual in question is known as "Hotel Charlie" and the tax-payers want to know why \$390 of their hard earned money is handed out in monthly payments to this man? What service does this individual perform? What department of the Government is he connected with? What services

has he ever given to the Colony to entitle him to this yearly pension of \$390?

Now every inhabitant of this little town knows that Charlie has never pretended to give any service or perform the smallest act in the interest

of the public, then by whose authority is this salary paid? Have we given the majority of the members of the House of Assembly, who are styled a government, authority to collect from us immense sums of money in the way of revenue and then divide up the amount and pass it round among any loafers, who make an attempt every four years to "chew the rag" for the candidates.

Too Glaring

Now, sir, this is too glaring and most obnoxious and when \$390 of our money is handed out yearly to an individual who never makes a solitary attempt to perform a "hand's turn" in any solitary way in the Government service, then it is time to call halt and we will not rest until this individual is given some-work to do or otherwise this payment cease.

We respectfully call the attention of His Excellency the Governor to this matter and it will be made the subject of an address to His Excellency if not taken notice of officially for as "tax-payers" we will not allow such a state of things to continue.

—FISHERMEN TAX-PAYERS.

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GOOD REASON

Mr. Phrog: "Y'say yer husband is very superstitious?"
Mrs. Wratt: "Yes. He saw thirteen black-cats following him, and he was scared nearly to death."