



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, Proprietor
C. T. JAMES, Editor

Friday, May 21, 1920.

The Salt Situation.

The tinkering and tampering with the question of our annual salt supply, not to speak of others, by the present Government, has left Newfoundland in an awkward position, a position fraught with many difficulties and uncertainties, for a stringency of salt or a diminished supply is bound to react unfavorably upon our principal industry—the codfishery. Nor can it be winked out of sight that a deal of the unpleasant consequences from which Newfoundland suffers at present are directly attributable to the iniquitous Fish Export Regulations, made by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries and driven down the throats of the Government supporters, who accepted them because they had no alternative. No Prime Minister having a scintilla of knowledge of the grave issues involved would have permitted such outrageous regulations to be promulgated with his sanction and over his official signature, but this dominion has happened upon times when the desire to retain nominal power is the only moving force in the mind of its present Premier. And that nominal power can only be held by him through a subordination of all his wishes and independence to his Minister of Marine and Fisheries who possesses the real power and does not hesitate to wield it, knowing that the Prime Minister only retains power and seat by his influence and the backing of the F.P.U. following in the House.

Salt importers themselves are exceedingly dubious regarding future arrivals, and are not at all anxious to supply information, perhaps for the reason that they have none to give out. Be that as it may there can be no denial that the situation is most perplexing. With but fifteen thousand hogsheads of salt in city stores, it is easily to be discerned that a few days run on this quantity and it would be completely exhausted, being not over one-twelfth of the complement required for a year's supply. Fifteen thousand hogsheads is about sufficient to cure one hundred thousand quintals of fish, heavily treated, a mere flea-bite compared with the yearly export, and should the tonnage shortage continue, the outlook is most unpromising and the horizon of fishery supplies obscured by the mists of too much legislation. Alarming as the prospects appear, it does not do any good to minimize them. The truth is oftentimes more acceptable than perversion. It, at least, has the effect of a warning, and there is no one so blind to-day to refuse to believe concrete evidence when it is submitted and buttressed by facts. Danger visible, is everywhere. Curtailment of supplies appears to be the policy of the outfitting merchants of St. John's, and their decision to refrain from issuing such cannot be condemned in the face of an obvious shortage of salt, and Legislative regulations covering the export

of fish which are detrimental to the conduct of business.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries agrees that the position so far as salt is concerned, has not been exaggerated, but he speaks without intimate knowledge of actual conditions when he says that ample supplies of salt can be purchased from West Coast importers. These have no more supplies other than are necessary to tide them over the fishing season, and with their bankers and shoremen doing well, it is impossible to get any stocks from them to outfit the Northern and Labrador men. Having but a sufficiency for themselves they are not likely to take hazards in voluntarily disposing of portions of their holdings, and for the Government to commandeer them would be outrageous, and merely a covering up of their incapacity to handle a situation which any body of men with only a rudimentary knowledge of business and conception of their duties, would not have permitted. No one wishes to be unreasonable or expect miracles, but he who says that the Salt and Coal shortage in St. John's to-day is not due to the incompetency of the present Government is a partisan of the most ruddy hue.

Startling Propositions.

The Legislature is asked by the Government to hand over to Mr. Coaker the control of its most vital interest, and it will obey! The Bill introduced into the Assembly, to provide for the regulating of Fish Exports, proposes that exporters shall be licensed by a Board of which Mr. Coaker is to be Chairman, and which, with but one exception, he will nominate: and that the licenses shall be revocable at the will of that Board. That means that hereafter nobody may export fish without the permission of Mr. Coaker. It is quite useless to rely upon any Board he may appoint: it must do his will or be dismissed. And the Autocrat to be thus created is himself an exporter of fish, and has declared that he will make the grass grow in the streets of St. John's, to which declaration he has added the statement that the fish merchants of this city are both ignorant and deceptive.

Nor is the foregoing the only tragedy which threatens the representative institutions of this dominion. The Bill proposes to hand over to Mr. Coaker the practically uncontrolled expenditure of \$450,000 annually, raised by an extra export tax of ten cents per quintal on codfish. By this means the fishermen are to be robbed, and the sum so unrighteously taken from them will be shared by Mr. Coaker among his friends and supporters. His Board is to be paid; his inspectors are to be paid; his expenses are to be paid, and the payments are to be at his sovereign will and pleasure, uncontrolled by the Governor-in-Council, and possibly not even subject to audit by the Auditor General. Was ever such prostitution of the powers and privileges of a legislature calmly asked in an English speaking country? Legions and Trozky were not more autocratic in Russia than Mr. Coaker aims to be in Newfoundland, and his supporters in the Legislature will probably prove to be in the majority.

The Opposition cannot, unaided, prevent this tragedy being consummated, but they can fight vigorously, to the last gasp even, for government by the people, and will, we hope, do so incessantly. It is not enough for the Opposition however, to plead their lack of power, and supinely allow bad measures to be enacted. They have a duty to perform by the making of protests as strongly and trenchantly as they are capable of

doing, and if they do less than the best that is in them they too will be responsible for whatever evil results accrue from Mr. Coaker's alarming legislation.

Fish Exporters Discuss Regulations.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence between the Fish Exporters of the Board of Trade and Hon. W. F. Coaker, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, relative to the Standardization of Fish and the Regulation of the Export thereof, will prove of interest to all. The resolution relative to Standardization was passed, as will be seen, on Saturday, May 15, while the second was passed to-day at 12 o'clock. The letters follow:

COPY.

Nfld. Board of Trade, May 15, 1920.
Dear Sir—A meeting of the Fish Exporters was held on Saturday, May 15th, at 3 p.m., present being:—Sir Joseph Outerbridge, Sir John Crosbie, Hon. R. K. Bishop, Messrs. David Baird, A. Munn, George Pense, W. Piccott, P. J. Shea, Thos. Devine, John McRae, Joseph Long, J. C. Hepburn, John Campbell, R. F. Goodridge, R. B. Job, C. C. Pratt, Geo. Somerville, W. S. Morris, Eric A. Bowring, A. Carter, Thos. Hallett, W. Hardman, Joseph Sellars, F. H. Hue, David Baird, G. Hodge, A. Munn, P. J. Shea, E. Templeman, Sir Joseph Outerbridge, Sir John Crosbie.

After considerable discussion the following resolutions were passed:—

"That the Fish Exporters approve of the effort at Standardization and cull of codfish being made by His Majesty's Government, through the instrumentality of the Codfish Standardization Act."

"That in the opinion of this meeting of Fish Exporters, the business of exporting of codfish can be most satisfactorily carried out without any Government control whatsoever, on terms of sale, or other reservations."

The meeting approves of the issuance of a license to all Exporters, but suggest that such License Fee should be nominal, say fifty dollars, and exporters pay an additional fee of ten cents, or less per quintal on all dry salt codfish exported from Newfoundland, and five cents per quintal on salt bulk codfish.

I have the honor to be,

Dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) E. A. PAYN, Secretary.

Hon. W. F. Coaker, Esq., Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

COPY.

Nfld. Board of Trade, May 21st 1920.

Dear Sir—At a meeting of the Fish Exporters held this forenoon, at which were present:—Messrs. H. E. Cowan (in the chair), R. K. Bishop, J. J. Long, R. F. Goodridge, L. E. G. Whitely, C. C. Pratt, B. Shipman, A. W. Piccott, J. Campbell, Geo. Somerville, W. S. Morris, Eric A. Bowring, A. Carter, Thos. Hallett, W. Hardman, Joseph Sellars, F. H. Hue, David Baird, G. Hodge, A. Munn, P. J. Shea, E. Templeman, Sir Joseph Outerbridge, Sir John Crosbie.

The following resolutions were passed:

"That the Fish Exporters are not inimical to the passage of Legislation regarding the regulation of Codfish Exports provided:

(a) That such Legislation is not to be enforced unless at the request or with the consent of the Fish Exporters.

(b) That such consent, or request shall be obtained by means of a special meeting of Fish Exporters of which at least three days' notice shall have been given, and at least two-thirds of those attending, vote for its enforcement.

(c) That should it be necessary to enforce such Regulations that any Board of Administration should be elected by the Fish Exporters themselves at a special meeting convened for that purpose.

I have the honor to be,

Dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) E. A. PAYN, Secretary.

Hon. W. F. Coaker, Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

McMurdo's Store News.

FRIDAY, May 21.

Packer's Tar Soap is known wherever the English language is spoken, and beyond. As a general antiseptic and disinfectant it is unrivaled. But perhaps Packer's Cream is not so well known, although it is, if we remember rightly the premier preparation in point of time. However, as a remedy for all troubles connected with the skin, such as eczema, salt rheum, psoriasis, nettle rash, heat rash, hives, insect bites and stings, and dandruff, it occupies much the same place, and is quite as effective as the soap for its own purposes. We have been selling both these articles for some years, and are glad to have a full stock of both them just arrived for the use of our customers. See our window. Price (Charm) 45c. a bottle, (Soap) 45c. a cake.

His Excellency the Governor will hold a Levee at Government House from 10 to 11 a.m. on June 3rd, His Majesty's Birthday.

All those entitled to wear uniforms are requested to do so.

J. HAMILTON, Capt., Private Secretary.

Government House, 20 May, 1920.

California Sunkist Oranges, all sizes; California Apples, Lemons, Walnuts, Hazel Nuts, Brazilian Nuts, Almond Nuts, wholesale and retail at GLEESONS, 108 Water St.—Feb 13, 4, 5, 11

When buying Dry Goods, don't forget to look up our prices are right.

THE WEST END BAZAAR, may 21, 11 51 Water St. West.

Shipping Notes.

Schr. Hamlet has entered to load codfish for Oporto and the Evelyn to load for Bahia, both by G. M. Barr.

S. S. Sagona arrived at St. Joseph's last midnight and left again shortly afterwards.

Schr. Minnie May has entered at Burn to load codfish for Halifax.

S. S. Prospero sailed for the northward at 11 a.m. to-day.

Just received a large shipment Wm. Dow & Co. Pale Mild Ale at STEWART'S, Water St. East, opposite King George Institute. may 20, 21

Edmund Donald Arrived Yesterday.

S.S. Edmund Donald arrived in port yesterday morning from North Sydney. The passage was made in 2 days, and according to the captain's report, dense fog was met with all the way along. The ship brought a full general cargo to the Reid Co. She is commanded by Capt. Dalton, late of the S.S. Fogota.

ST. ANDREW'S CHOIR.—The members of St. Andrew's Choir will meet for practice in the Church to-night.—may 21, 11

K. O. C. States Convention.

The State Convention of the Knights of Columbus will likely be held at Harbor Grace on May 24th. Extensive preparations are being made to make the affair a memorable one. In addition to the other entertainments a dance in the Academy Hall, has been arranged, and an orchestra from here will likely be engaged for the occasion.

EXTRA SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK END.—Ladies' & Misses' Ready-to-wear Hats at greatly reduced prices.

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Will Hold a Dance.

On Monday night next the Daughters of the Empire will hold a dance in the C.C.C. Hall, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the holiday camp for the Soldiers and Sailors children. In view of the object for which the affair is being held, it is hoped there will be a large attendance. The C.C.C. Band will furnish the music.

JUST ARRIVED.—Shipment of 5 Cross-Panel Fir Doors, also large stock of Sash Weights from 4 lbs. up to 16. B. BOWLING, 97 Gower Street, or Lumber Yard, Springdale St. may 21, 31, eod

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Largely Signed.

The number of signatures to the Petition for Modification received by the Committee to date is 10,438. Of the outport districts, Trinity and Twillingate are leading neck and neck, with Placentia and St. George's only a couple of hundred behind. Hundreds of petitions are still outstanding, but every day they are coming in.

\$4,000 Fire at Grate's Cove.

A message received last evening by Sir John Crosbie, from Old Perlican, said that the house of Mr. Isaac Avery, at Grate's Cove, had been destroyed by fire, with all its contents. The loss is estimated at about \$4,000. Neither house nor furniture was covered by insurance.

Lurcher betrayed the plot. Would you know the secret? See "Dorothy"—may 19, 21

Coastal Boats.

REID'S BOATS.

Argyle not reported. Clyde, Home, Kyle and Petrel are at St. John's.

Glencoe is due at Port aux Basques. Melgie arrived at North Sydney yesterday.

Saguna is not reported.

ELLIS & CO.'S BOATS.

S.S. Cabot arrived at Bonavista at 6 p.m. yesterday.

S. S. Susan arrived at Wesleyville at 6 p.m. yesterday.

ROOM PAPERS SPECIALS.

—We have a complete line to offer. New designs, 25c., 30c., 35c. up. See us for your Paper.

THE WEST END BAZAAR, may 21, 11 51 Water St. West.

Weather Report.

THU. COVE.—Ice conditions much worse; heavy field close in now, no water visible.

Westport—Wind S.E., clear; loose ice in the bay.

Greenspond—Wind N.E., strong breeze; no ice in sight.

Catalina—N. E. breeze; no ice in bay.

Seal Cove—S. E. wind, dull and cold; ice about 4 or 5 miles off shore.

DR. FALLON has changed his residence from "The Cochran Hotel" to No. 9 CHURCH HILL.—may 19, 31

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WANTED!

A SKIRT MAKER.

Good wages to a competent person. Apply to

J. J. STRANG, may 12, 11 Water Street.

B.I.S.

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Benevolent Irish Society takes place Sunday, May 23rd, immediately after Last Mass.

A. DOYLE, Hon. Sec'y.

Avalon Lodge.

No. 776, E.C., A.F. & A.M.

An Emergency Meeting of the above Lodge will be held in the Masonic Temple this Friday evening, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of conferring Degrees E.A. and F.C.

By order of the W.M.

CHAS. UDLE, Secretary.

may 21, 11

I.O.O.F.

An Emergency Meeting of Atlantic Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F., will be held to-morrow (Saturday) at 8 p.m. sharp. Business, 1st Degree.

By order of the N.G.

WALTER GARF, Rec. Sec'y.

may 21, 11

C. L. B. Old Comrades.

A Special Meeting of the above Association will be held to-night, Friday, at their Club Rooms, C. L. B. Armoury, at 8 o'clock. By order,

R. G. CHAFE, Secretary.

may 21, 11

Motorists, Attention!

The Cottage Tea Rooms, Upper Gullies, Opening Day, May 24th. may 21, 2p

RE-OPENING NOTICE.

We beg to announce to our friends and the public generally that we will be prepared to serve Teas, Ice Cream and all kinds of Local and Imported Drinks from this date at the Bungalow, Bowring Park. may 21, 11

ICE CREAM.

I wish to announce that I am prepared, at the shortest notice, to supply public gatherings and private parties with HIGH GRADE ICE CREAM—Vanilla, Strawberry, etc.; also Ice Cream Bricks in combinations of 1, 2 and 3 flavours. Quality Guaranteed.

E. BAVIDGE, may 17, 3m, eod 48 Gower St.

Facts About Newfoundland.

For the year ended June 30th, 1919, goods to the value of \$23,297,184, were imported into Newfoundland from the following countries:

British West Indies . . . \$ 990,904

Canada 12,777,684

Ceylon 182,434

China 49

France 1,131

Foreign West Indies . . . 2,330

Greece 5,365

Holland 2,066

India 900

Japan 48,411

Norway 22,275

Portugal 107,920

Spain 217,503

St. Pierre, Miquelon . . . 24,467

Sweden 1,150

Switzerland 1,913

United Kingdom 2,399,853

United States 16,569,236

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