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J. J. ROSSITER,
Real Estate Agent

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("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate
 Issued every day from the office of publication, 167 Water Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, Union Publishing Company Limited, Proprietors.
 Editor and Business Manager:
JOHN J. ST. JOHN.

ST. JOHN'S, NFDL., MARCH 16, 1916

THE HOUSE OPENS

The Legislature meets for the transaction of business at 3 p.m. It is likely to remain open until the first week in May. It's a long way to Tipperary; but the Morris Government at any rate is drawing near to the end of its journey. One session more will end it.

There is no very important legislation to be considered outside of the Municipal Bill, so far as we can gather, which is a sure sign of the dying condition of the Government.

It is rumored that P. T. McGrath will occupy the President's seat in the Legislative Council. If this is so, Morris will have added more nails to his political coffin, for the appointment would be universally unpopular, and would immensely strengthen the hands of the Union Party.

Mr. McGrath demanded the position, and of course the Premier had to comply or take his unpalatable medicine at The Herald's hands. Such an appointment will but strengthen the agitation for the abolition of the Upper Chamber, which Mr. Coaker is pledged to accomplish.

Oh shades of Sir E. D. Shea and Hon. J. Harris—two highly esteemed patriots and citizens—look down to-day on the chair occupied by you for the past half century! Morris has administered the hardest blow against Terra Nova that he has yet given in the matter of appointing P. T. McGrath President of the Upper House. The Upper House must now go, for there is not 100 voters in the Colony who respect it.

We trust the Opposition Party will demand an improved system of reporting the proceedings, as the past two years the reporting has been a disgrace to all concerned. The Hansard of last session has not yet been placed in the hands of members of the House. This is an outrage that could only happen under an administration that has no interest at heart, but that of self aggrandizement and grab.

Never before in the whole history of Responsible Government has such an outrage been hurled at the House of Assembly members. There is no excuse for such conduct, and none will be accepted if attempted, so far as the Opposition Party is concerned.

The air has been surcharged for days with stories of Coalition and

other coming miracles. We can assure our readers that the F.P.U. decision arrived at last November at the Convention held here, will not be departed from; there will be no Coalition with the Party now in power.

The Morris Government is like a sinking ship, the crew of which are packing their belongings ready to jump to escape drowning. Most of the Government crew deserve to sink with their ship, but a few of them believe they deserve to be rescued, and would gladly swim with Coaker.

All the Union members will be present at to-day's opening, except Messrs. Jennings and Grimes. Messrs. Stone, Abbott and Winsor arrived from Clarenville this morning.

EDUCATION

AS our esteemed morning contemporary some time ago was pouring broadsides into our educational faddism, we think the following makes very interesting reading. It has been forwarded to us by one of the best educators in the country who recently clipped it from the "Journal of Agriculture," of which the editor is Prof. Lochead, of Macdonald College, Montreal.

Theoretically, we all agreed that the only real education is that which fits the child for the life that it is to live. Generally we interpret life as "getting a living"; but there is a good deal more in education than fitting the child to get a living: "Is not the life more than meat, and the body more than raiment?"

There are two things involved in education. One is the drawing out, or developing, the perfecting of the workings of that piece of machinery in us which we call the mind; so training it that it can think clearly and cogently and accurately. The other is the connecting of the thinkings of the educated person with his actual business in life, so that he can make the work of his hands not merely profitable but pleasurable.

Educators are prone to insist on the first kind of education as the only real education. Now, we cannot well over-estimate the importance of that development of the mind that will enable a man to use his brain to the best advantage; but the theory that when a man is thus educated he is competent to deal with any problem of life that may come up, lacks a good deal of working out in practice. There are numbers of men who can solve accurately almost any problem that may come up, speak in several languages, and are familiar with half a dozen 'ologies—and yet are not able to turn these to any practical account in dealing with the problems of life.

Educators are furthermore very much inclined to the belief that the training of the mind which they call 'culture' can be best obtained by the study of Higher Mathematics, Metaphysics, Languages, etc. They forget that there is a vast amount of training, or culture to be secured by studying things that have a very practical bearing on the problems of everyday life. If education is to fit us for life, we must not only have development of the powers of the mind, but the capacity or stability to apply these powers to the every-day problems of existence.

It must not be forgotten that there are a vast number of people who cannot follow this Higher Education, as it is called; whose brains seem to be in their hands rather than in their heads; who can by no process that was ever devised be so educated as to pass successful examination. In fact, the majority of the younger people born are of precisely that class, and to attempt to EDUCATE THEM FOR WHAT NATURE DID NOT FIT THEM FOR (as we are trying to do in this Colony) is simply throwing away time and money, and unfitting these young people for the real

HARNESSING THE AIR

PROBABLY the most important advance in the realm of science made in recent years, is the mastery of the process by which the free nitrogen of the air has been harnessed to render service to the agriculturist. So says Professor Thorne of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station.

It is an advance which must even take precedence over the electrical transmission of speech, light, heat and power in its ultimate effect on the human race, because this mastery means the potential doubling of the food producing power of the soil.

Man had existed very comfortably and his civilization had reached a very high plane before electricity was made his servant; but this was during a period when the world was young and when millions of acres on each continent awaited the plow. But the last century witnessed such a tremendous increase in the world's population that, near its close, Sir William Crookes, in his presidential address before the British Association for the Advancement of Science, marshalled an array of statistics showing that unless the present yield of the land should be increased, the time was not far distant when food consumption would overtake production.

He called attention to the fact that the earth's ability to feed its increasing population would be limited within a few generations by the available supply of combined nitrogen, showing that existing supplies—the nitrate beds of Chili, the coke ovens and other sources of ammonium sulphate, the slaughter houses and peat beds which supply organic nitrogen—could provide only a fraction of the nitrogen that would be ultimately needed, and at the same time he announced the successful combination of atmospheric nitrogen in the electric processes is producing nitrates at a reasonable cost.

Within a few years this work was in progress in Norway and in the United States (at Niagara Falls), and the latest report is that sufficient cyanimid is now being produced to supply the larger part of the American demand for fertilizer nitrogen.

The importance of the nitrogen supply is illustrated by the growth of wheat in Broadwalk field, at Rothamsted, England. On this land, which has been in cultivation for centuries, when everything else has been furnished that the wheat crop requires except nitrogen, the 60-year average yield of wheat grown continuously on the same land has been 15 bushels per acre. When nitrogen has been added the yield has risen to 37 bushels.

Similar tests made elsewhere have produced results equally as favorable.

work of life.

The interests of the State demand that these people should have an education in the line of their life-work. If this be true, then our present system of education is terribly lopsided, and will be whilst we allow faddists and inexperienced dabblers to formulate a curriculum. These well-meaning gentlemen seem to forget that the natural powers of the human mind are as varied as the occupations of men. Therefore, if we wish to fit our young people for the avocation to which most of them will devote their after lives, we must have a curriculum that fits not the few (as at present) but the many.

Just now our system, owing to the action of these educational faddists is like a pyramid trying to stand on its apex instead of on a broad foundation. A broad foundation cannot be built by a C.H.E. cramming process; it must be laid in a thorough grounding in the fundamentals. Let us get back to the three "R's" and to the Spelling book, and to a decent system of calligraphy. It is said that half the C.H.E. candidates can hardly write even legibly.

A MOTHER'S VISION

SITTING alone in the firelight, with aged head bent low Over some little garments that were worn in the long ago, A woman, old and faded, was dreaming of other years; And the faces of absent loved ones she saw through a mist of tears.

All was silent; no echo of footfalls swift and gay; The dancing feet of her children had wandered far away, Busy and happy and thoughtless, they were scattered far and wide; All grown to be men and women—save the little boy who died.

It was strange that of all the children, he should feel to-night so near, His little grave had been covered by the snows of many a year; Yet she fancied she saw him enter; that she saw him standing there His blue eyes clear and smiling, the light on his curling hair.

And a voice spoke from the silence, saying: "This for you I kept: But my meaning you could not fathom when for your child you wept, The living have left your hearthstone, but with you he shall abide In the beauty of deathless childhood, your little boy who died." —Gertrude Hockbridge, in The Christian Herald.

According to a report issued some time ago by the Belgian Government at Havre, France, more than 18,200 houses have been burned by the Germans in the various provinces of Belgium since they first invaded Belgian territory.

The New York court of appeals has upheld the right of a theatre proprietor to refuse admission to any person whose published criticisms of dramatic productions might injure the theatre's business.

There is an idea prevalent amongst our farmers (who seem to have very little knowledge of plant life) that the use of nitrate of soda which has recently become common is "injurious" to the soil, and that it acts simply as a stimulant. This is not true; nitrogen is an essential element in the life of most plants. Its use however should, as far as our experience goes should be limited to hay, cabbage, and fodder crops. There is a quantity, variable of course, of organic nitrogen in our peat bogs; and we should suggest the composing of fish offal with peat as a most desirable manure. The custom of spreading herring, caplin, and cods' heads broad cast and allowing them to remain exposed is one that should be discontinued, as the major part of the fertilizing elements in these volatilizes, and the fertilizing value thus becomes practically nil.

We wish to warn our fishermen farmers against the practice of dosing the potato crop with green caplin. This has a tendency to produce stalks and the tubers are invariably of a watery nature, and disposed to rot in a short time. Fish manure for the potato crop is a mistake. We would also warn our cabbage growers against the use of squid. The cabbage absorbs a large portion of the squid, and even the odor of the squid is very pronounced. The same thing applies to the turnip crop. All fish to be used on the cabbage crop, with the exception of cods' heads, sound bones, and caplin should be composted at least for a year. When the last mentioned are used, they should be covered immediately, and the result of the application will be permanent. There is no better fertilizer for the cabbage crop than the offal of the cod.

THE HARVEST OF THE SEA

INTERESTING AND USEFUL TO THE FISHERMEN —OF THE COLONY—

THE NATIONAL FISH DAY
 CANADA had a National Fish Day on February 29th, and we understand it was a huge success. Some days previous to **Der Tag**, as it was called by a facetious member of the C.F.A., every grocery store in the larger Canadian cities had an unusually attractive display of fish products, and this had a very excellent effect on the result of the promoters of fish eating.

The originator of the fish-day was Mr. J. A. Paulhus of Montreal. Mr. Paulhus is Chairman of the Publicity Committee.

THE CANADIAN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
 AN organization which promises fair to develop the fishing industry of both Canada and Newfoundland has just held its first annual meeting.

The Canadian Fisheries Association has rounded out the first year of its existence, and in a brief space of time it has brought the fishing industry of the Dominion before the public in a very emphatic manner. The work which it has done has been of far-reaching importance to the fish trade, and it has now on its roll of membership representatives of practically all of the large firms doing business in the Fisheries of Canada to-day. Its President, Mr. D. J. Byrne, by the way, comes from good Newfoundland stock; and Mr. Byrne is very deeply interested in our fishing industry.

"The Canadian Fisherman," the official organ of the Association has, it may be noticed added to its sphere of activities, Newfoundland; and on the title page we find the following: "The Canadian Fisherman: A Monthly journal devoted to the Commercial Fisheries of Canada and Newfoundland." Its editor, Mr. F. William Wallace, is a practical fisherman, a good Scot, and he is quite familiar with a number of our fishing skippers. He has had experience in every department of the fishing industry; and is, moreover, a literary man and an artist of great value not only to the Editorial and Publicity Committee, but to the whole Association. "His articles in The Canadian Fisherman are not only full of interest, but they have certain suggestion of romance and poetry, and there is a tang of the sea in his fishing expeditions which makes one like the story and the author." The writer has the privilege of personal acquaintance with Mr. Wallace, and regards him as one of the most interesting and practical writers on fishery subjects with whom he has ever come in contact.

The President of the Educational and Industrial Press, Mr. J. J. Harpell, is also a very enthusiastic and a very capable promoter of fishing interests, and he publishes at regular intervals an "Educational Supplement" to The Canadian Journal of Commerce which is largely circulated.

A current number of the "Supplement" contains a very interesting and exhaustive article on "Newfoundland," written by one of our best known and best informed writers, Rev. Father Browne, who seems to have more knowledge of our own fishing industry than any other man in the Colony. This is not to be wondered at as he comes from one of the best known families in the Island—one which has always been closely identified with the Labrador fisheries; his father was, we believe, one of the pioneers of the Northern Labrador fishery.

Would that we had several such men in our midst; we should then have a representative body of able writers and thoroughly informed men.

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

MARCH 16

REV. CHARLES BLACKMAN, Rector St. Thomas, died, 1853. Duchess of Kent, mother of late Queen Victoria, died, 1861. R. J. Parsons, sr., introduced bill for lighthouse at Cape St. Francis, 1865. Rev. M. Walsh died in Harbor Main, 1878. Headstones smashed in Riverhead Cemetery, 1878. Demonstration in connection with railway, 1881. International Labor Conference opened at Berlin, 1890. James Winter, father of Sir James, died, 1886. Capt. John Graham died, 1887. Sons of St. Crispin held their first soiree here, 1882. James Hasey, butcher, died, 1881.

MARCH 17

ST. PATRICK'S DAY. Benevolent Irish Society presented Dr. Mullock with an address and purse of \$1,316 (a contribution from twenty-eight members), for the purchase of eighteen stone pillars for St. Patrick's Church, 1864. B.I.S. presented Bishop Mullock with \$420 towards same object, 1867. John Fox, merchant, died in London, 1871. Captain William Jackman arrived in Eagle with 30,164 seals, 1873. No snow on ground, weather like June, 1874. Brig. Giraffe, Capt. P. Lynch, lost on Cabot Island, 1866. Corbett and Fitzsimmons fight; Fitz, victorious, 1897. John Callahan, brother of J.J., M.H.A., drowned on Banks, 1882. Bishop McDonald preached in St. Patrick's Church, 1890. Mrs. George Shea died, 1890. Monsignor McCarthy, Carbonbear, preached at St. Patrick's Church, 1897. Archbishop Roach preached at St. Patrick's Church, 1898. Collection for destitute people of Island Cove, in C.E. Cathedral, 1867. Corner stone new convent, Riverhead, laid, 1881. Mrs. Hammond, of Bell Island, lost on the ice while crossing to St. John's, 1880. Washington Post—Nevertheless, a dyestuff shortage will never cause Uncle Sam to display the white flag. Washington Star—Villa is busily engaged in justifying the harsh est predictions that were made concerning him. New York Sun—What complicates matters slightly is the fact that the Mexican bandit is never too proud to massacre an American citizen. New York Sun—There is coming a time when the best seller will be an up-to-date geography.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY EXCURSION.

Excursion Return Tickets to all Stations between St. John's, Carbonbear, Heart's Content, Placentia and Renew's, at

ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE.

Good going Thursday and Friday, March 16th and 17th, and good returning up to Saturday, March 18th.