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m.2, s.t.h.s.m

The Daily Mail

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

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., MARCH 4, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

A SPLENDID TRIBUTE.

One of the finest tributes ever paid the Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland is that of Hon. John Harvey in a letter to yesterday's Herald dealing with sealing matters.

"Referring to the F.P.U.," says Mr. Harvey, "I would like to make it clear that what I meant to convey was that in whatever degree individual opinion might fairly differ as to the political activities and objects of that body, no one could question the fact that the movement was one of the healthiest signs of recent years; that it has succeeded as nothing else could have done in vitalising the 'thinking power of the bone and sinew' of the country, and in arousing a live interest in the broader questions of colonial management and statescraft, as opposed to such parochial questions as the local ferry and the 'village pump, and that the movement was therefore full of promise for the future."

LOGGERS BILL.

On Monday the Loggers' Bill passed through the Committee Stage in the House. It provides for the accommodation, food and medical treatment of all loggers. The clause fixing the wage was withdrawn in order to permit members to fully consider the principle by the time the House meets next winter, when Mr. Coaker intimates he will amend the Logging Law by inserting a Minimum Wage.

All logging camps will now be under the inspection of a government official appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Mines. The men will also have a delegate continually moving through the lumbering woods in order to see that the rules are being carried out.

No fee for a doctor can be charged by any company which does not provide and operate a hospital for the men, and the charge in that case is 20 cents per month.

Altogether the Bill fills a long felt want and is a splendid beginning to protect the working man employed as a logger.

The Bill to provide compensation to loggers and log drivers in event of injury or loss of life also passed through the House.

This Bill places loggers and log drivers on the same footing as tradesmen, and if death from drowning while log driving or from the falling of a tree now comes to a poor man, his family will receive compensation, or if he be injured he will be able to recover damages.

With the Sealing Bill added, Mr. Coaker has given a good account of himself for his first session in Parliament.

Those three Bills are solely in the interest of the poor toiler. Never before was anything of like nature attempted.

We congratulate Mr. Coaker upon the result of his endeavors to legislate on behalf of the common man. We congratulate him upon the possession of a record for one session as member of the House which surpasses all records of those who held seats there in the past.

Three Bills passed under the care of an Opposition member during his session in Parliament, which is indeed something to be proud of.

The whole House is to be congratulated upon the many manner in which it received those Bills introduced by Mr. Coaker. All passed unanimously.

THE CRISIS.

At the House last night the Budget was under discussion and Messrs. Kent, Cashin and Coaker spoke, occupying the time from 5.45 to 11.30.

Mr. Kent spoke for nearly two hours and delivered a very concise speech dealing fully with the whole financial situation. He showed that the debt of the Colony had increased nearly Ten Million; that the Government were taking about \$1,500,000 more from the taxpayers than Bond did. He opposed the increased taxation. He showed that the heaviest burden would fall upon the poorest man.

It is a pity the public cannot peruse Mr. Kent's excellent speech while the matter is under discussion, for every sentence of it glitters with information that every citizen ought to possess at the present time in order to know exactly how the finances of the Colony stand.

Mr. Cashin replied to Mr. Kent, delivering an hour's speech which contained nothing but a rehash of what he always says when he speaks. He always delivers the same old speech. His reply had no effect upon the House. He closed by reading the letter signed "Civis" which appeared in yesterday's Mail. He denied ever having purchased a pound of tobacco from Bowring Bros. He knew nothing about it. The charge was false and slanderous. The man who wrote it was a scamp and villain, and he wished he had him on the outside of the House.

He insinuated that Mr. Coaker either wrote it or inspired it. He blamed Mr. Coaker for it indirectly, as he claimed Mr. Coaker could control the paper.

Mr. Coaker at once replied in a speech that for fluency, incisiveness and brilliant repartee has never been excelled in the House.

For an hour and a quarter the House was treated to a flow of eloquence that surprised and delighted and convinced the auditors.

He was full armed at every point and in cross-firing he made chips in the porridge of the Minister's statements. The Premier sat silent, not uttering a word.

Mr. Coaker's reply to Mr. Cashin's personal remarks will long be remembered by those who heard them.

He said, which was absolutely correct, he did not know of the letter referred to until he read it in the paper sitting in the House. That he, therefore, did not inspire it.

That if he had seen it his first remark would be: Where are your proofs, if in order, then go ahead.

He told of what was stated on Thursday at the Board of Trade respecting large purchases of tobacco by Mr. Cashin and that a member of the Board had told Mr. Coaker of it.

He told about the Manager of the Tobacco Factory coming to him and stating that he believed an increase would be made in the duty on tobacco, as many were loading up with tobacco. He offered Mr. Coaker a lot of 5000 lbs.

Mr. Coaker said his reply to the Manager was, that he did not believe the Government was foolish enough to put on more duty on tobacco.

Mr. Coaker then went to ask Mr. Cashin whether he did buy any tobacco prior to the advance from any source and Mr. Cashin's reply only made confusion worse confounded, for he said "that is none of your business," which reply caused the whole House to think that after all Mr. Cashin did know something about purchases of tobacco prior to the delivery of the Budget.

Mr. Cashin's replies to Mr. Coaker's searching questions did not create confidence in his statements and Mr. Coaker passed on, saying that the last of the tobacco question had not been heard.

The whole city to-day is talking of the matter and nothing short of a full and complete inquiry will now satisfy the Opposition or the Public.

The reply tabled yesterday in answer to Mr. Halfyard's question of last Thursday showed that \$109,000 was received as duty on liquor during the last six weeks and \$51,000 on tobacco. That is sufficient to show about the regular duties for four months was paid on liquor in six weeks, which was no doubt caused by the liquor dealers expecting a raise in liquor duties, but the duty on tobacco is far

ahead of normal receipts, in fact it is about ten times the usual receipts for this season of the year.

Mr. Cashin's statement was that Mr. Munn told him he had purchased 10,000 lbs. and not 40,000. This matter cannot rest where it is at present.

It must be investigated, for grave doubts were called into being by what transpired last night at the House.

Mr. Coaker then continued his speech, closing at 11.30, and when it is printed, if it is faithfully reproduced by the reporters, it will prove most interesting reading to the whole Country.

Unfortunately a printed report can never show the spirit, alertness and incisiveness of the speech as heard by those present. Unionists should be more than ever proud of the F.P.U. and of their leader, for last night's events proved that he was the equal of the best in the House in debate.

We congratulate President Coaker upon his splendid courage and devotion to the people's cause as so strongly demonstrated by his speech last night. From start to finish he did not for one moment lose sight of the toilers' interests. Never before was such a fight put up in the House in defence of the poor man, and never before did an administration receive such a castigation at the hands of a member of the House for their sins of waste and extravagance and indifference to the true interests of the masses.

THE TEMPERANCE PETITION.

For nearly three hours yesterday afternoon the Temperance petitions were discussed by members of the Assembly.

Apparently it would be no hard matter to pass any Temperance legislation if shown to be workable.

The F.P.U. Party to a man are solid for Temperance Reform. Mr. Coaker's speech was brief, but to the point, and left no doubt as to what he stood for.

He opposed the Premier's idea of the prohibition of the sale of liquor, while allowing any one who wished to import for private use.

"That is not the Prohibition I will vote for," said the Union Leader. "What I shall vote for, if I ever get a chance, is total prohibition, and thus place rich and poor on the same level."

Several members of the Government spoke in support of Mr. Coaker's ideas of prohibition.

The Government is now committed to bring in legislation to provide machinery for a plebiscite on Prohibition.

The prohibition of conveyance of liquor to Local Option districts by train or steamer subsidized by the public received scant support as most of the speakers did not consider such a law could be made effective.

Temperance Reformers must have been very much pleased with the speeches delivered yesterday on the Temperance question. They should now continue their good work for the great cause, believing that within the next three or four years a law will be enacted prohibiting the importation and manufacture of liquor in this country, something devoutly to be desired.

Mr. Coaker assured the House that he would stand by Temperance Reform, as he had always been a total abstainer. Several of the Union members also intimated that they were total abstainers.

The F.P.U. movement stands for all that is good and noble.

It stands for that which exalted a nation.

It stands for all that will uplift the common man.

After yesterday's proceedings at the House all reasonable men will admit, that the Union is doing a great work, even in the legislature, for the cause of reform, and that it deserves the whole hearty support of everybody who wishes to see all that is manly and noble in human nature flourish.

F.P.U. SEALERS MEETING.

The F.P.U. sealers in town are reminded of the Meeting and Moving Picture show to take place to-night at the Mechanics' Hall.

We invite all who can to attend. Mr. Coaker will endeavor to deliver an hour's address, starting at 7.30, and the Budget will be resumed at the House which will demand his presence there.

All are asked to be present at 7.30 sharp. The Hall will be opened at 7.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

Everything has two handles, one by which it can be borne, and one by which it cannot. If your brother is unjust to you, do not take it up by the handle of his injustice, but by the handle that he is your brother and brought up with you.—Epicurus.

IF YOU WANT Returns for your money, place your WANTS in the DAILY MAIL.

HOUSE DEBATED THE BUDGET

(Continued from page 1)

honorably members have the audacity to say that the fishermen, the 'underdogs' pay no taxation. Now we know why the constitution has been trailed in the dust, and the Prime Minister has refused to appoint a Minister of Justice and a Minister of Agriculture and Mines.

Sown the Wind

The Government have sown with the wind; they must reap with the whirlwind. When you face the country, as you will have to do, the curses of the people around whose necks you have fastened this additional burden will be whirled at you. The election petitions must be fought and when this House meets again in all human probability "Ye wo't be here."

Much interest was evidenced during the afternoon in the Temperance petitions which were presented by the temperance advocates, the W.C.T.U. and other temperance organizations. A large number of clergymen, ladies and representative laymen were present and listened attentively to the speeches made.

The Prime Minister explained the petitions which ask that the Government prohibit the sending of liquor to local option districts in trains and steamers subsidized by the Government, and also that the necessary machinery for granting a plebiscite on total prohibition.

The Leader of the Opposition also presented petitions entrusted to him on this question. He agreed largely with the Premier, that total prohibition has not accomplished the results aimed at, but he contended that the time to deal with the whole question was the Legislature. In his opinion the reference of questions like this to a plebiscite savoured much of shirking the question.

Support Temperance

Other petitions were presented by Mr. Coaker from Bonavia, who assured the Committee and the friends of temperance that whenever the day came bringing about total prohibition in this Colony, the movement would have his hearty support. Strong speeches were made by Mr. Currie, Mr. Parsons, on his own behalf and the Speaker, Mr. Moulton, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Windsor, Mr. Halfyard, Mr. Grimes and Mr. Stone; these gentlemen all favored drastic legislation. Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Clift also supported the prayers of the petitions, which had been sent them for presentation.

Mr. Piccott and Mr. Crosbie also spoke to the petitions in their keeping and were prepared to fall in line with any movement for temperance reform or prohibition that the country demanded. Mr. Devereux spoke from a moral suasion standpoint, and expressed but little faith in temperance reform through legislative enactment.

Night Session

During the night session the Assembly was packed. Mr. Kent continued his speech which was characterized as a masterly effort, perhaps the ablest effort the Leader of the Opposition has yet made on the floors of the Legislature. Want of space prevents a synopsis in to-day's issue, but the speech in full will appear later.

The debate on the Budget will be continued this afternoon, when another lively time is expected.

The Train Ferry resolutions were read in Committee but not debated. The amendment to the Municipal Act was read a second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House.

Considerable overtime will have to be put in, if an prorogation is to take place on Saturday.

POEMS OLD AND NEW.

THE CHANGE.

When all this uniform uncolored scene
Shall be dismantled of its fleecy load,
And flash into variety again,
From death to plenty, and from death to life,
Is Nature's progress, when she lectures man
In heavenly truth; evincing as she makes
The grand transition, that there lives
And works
A soul in all things, and that soul is God.
He sets the bright procession on its way,
And marshals all the order of the year;
He marks the bounds which winter may not pass,
And blunts his pointed fury; in its case
Russet and rude, folds up the tender fern,
Uninjured, with inimitable art;
And ere one flowery season fades and dies,
Designs the blooming wonders of the next.

—COWPER.

TO THE EDITOR.

PERTINENT COMMENTS

(Editor The Daily Mail)

Dear Sir,—Kindly allow me space in your now widely circulated paper to say a word or two in connection with the Citizens' Committee petitions as tabled in the House last week.

As the matter now stands it is up to the Government to decide whether or not as municipal voters we are to lose our franchise.

It may be argued that the number of signatures to the petition answers in the affirmative, but let us ask ourselves, after carefully looking over these signatures, are they all that they are represented to be?

Legitimate Voters

First, Mr. Editor, let me ask, are they all legitimate voters. I have seen some of these names and I know them not to be. Is every twenty-one year old voter a municipal voter? Take for instance, Mr. Editor, the young man to-day paying no taxes. What right has he to sign a petition asking for a change in our city affairs, when such improvements mean more taxation, and he not being a householder will not be burdened by any increases?

Then again I say to the Government to look carefully over these signatures and see how many names are there who are not living in the city limits—people living miles outside—and ask what right do these sign that petition?

And again look over these petitions and see how many signatures are there by people who are not alive to-day.

It is in any easy matter to put down any old name at all, when you are being paid at the rate of six dollars per 300 names.

Is In Opposition

I have been informed, Mr. Editor, that a very high ecclesiastical authority who has always taken a very deep interest in his native land, has written the committee in opposition to this petition, and if this be so, then why not publish it, as I presume it would be if it were in support of it?

Then again, Mr. Editor, if the gentlemen who are the movers in this matter are really sincere in their movements, why not come before the voters for election, and not apply to the Governor or Government? What greater asset as a prospective councillor could they have than what they say they will now do—give their time to the city for twelve months without pay or remuneration of any kind?

Without going into any detail as to the problems that this committee propose to grapple with, let me say, Mr. Editor, that if they improve on some of them, say the Housing, Sewerage and Cleaner Street Problems, will we not have more taxation, and if we do, are we prepared to pay for it? I don't think we are; at least the people who mostly need are not. By this I mean the laboring class of man to-day. The people who live in the back streets, streets that are filthy, streets that are badly lit, and houses that are in bad and almost uninhabitable conditions.

Can't Pay More

Can the man who lives in these places pay more taxation?

Again I say I don't think he can just now; and I say to the Government go slowly before you decide.

It is alright to have a largely signed petition, but did some of the signatories stop to consider before signing, or did others sign just to help out those who brought them around when they were told what they were being paid to get as many names as possible, and again were their names put down to fill up?

I remember a short while ago, a correspondent in one of our dailies suggesting the name of Mr. Gosling as a candidate for mayoralty, and in a letter signed by Mr. Gosling he stated that as he was obliged to work for a living, he could not, nor could he see how others so situated could give the time such a position required.

Yet we find that if that Committee is appointed he will be placed in that position for at least twelve months, and to grapple properly with the matter as it is proposed to do the chances are it will require greater time than is given to it at present.

I think, Mr. Editor, for the present I have taken up enough of your valuable space, but will be obliged for a further use of your columns in a day or two, when I will refer to another phase of this subject.

—WATCHWORD.

St. John's, March 3, 1914.

Sealers, Attention F. P. U. Meeting

A meeting of the F.P.U. will be held at the Mechanics Hall THIS, WEDNESDAY NIGHT, opening at 7.30. From 7.30 to 8.30 will be devoted to a Moving Picture show. At 8.30 President Coaker will take the chair and open a Union Meeting, when the following matters will be discussed: Sealing, Logging, Cull of Fish, Bait Supply and the Re-organization of the Fisheries Department. All Members of the F. P. U. are welcome. No charge; no collection.

"I've Got Wise---Know Enough Now to Wear Gloves.

"Used to have my hands all crippled up—
"Everlastingly peelin' my knuckles—always scratching my hands on the edge of metal plates—
"But now I wear gloves; and say, it's far better than nursing hurt hands. These are

"Asbestol" Gloves.

"I've worn 'em every day for Lord knows how long—Don't look like they'd ever wear out, do they? Not a sign of a rip any place.

"I'm just as nimble-fingered as can be, and they fit well too.

"Wash like cloth—dry soft as new.

"Never get hard or stiff, sweat, oil, grease, or water don't injure them.

"You certainly get splendid value every time in these "Asbestol" gloves.

Look for that "Asbestol" trademark—it's the only way you can be sure of the genuine. The prices are low.

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Anderson's, Water Street, St. John's

Seal Fishery, 1914.

S. S. SOUTHERN CROSS

Will Sign Crew on Monday, 2nd March, and Tuesday, 3rd March, and sail on the following day to Port-au-Basques.

S. S. BLOODHOUND

Will Sign Crew on Tuesday, 3rd March, and Wednesday, 4th March, and sail on the following day to Wesleyville.

BAINE JOHNSTON & Co.

The S.S. Prospero will leave the wharf of Bowring Brothers, Ltd.

ON

Thursday, the 5th inst. at 10 a.m.

calling at the following places:

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Hermitage	St. Gaultois	Pushthrough
Francois	Cape LaHune	Ramea
Burgeo	Rose Blanche	Channel

Ice Permitting.

Freight received until 6 p.m. Wednesday. For freight or passage apply to the Coastal Office of

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