

The Mail and Advocate.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, JANUARY 6, 1915.

A DISTRICT COUNCIL OF THE F.P.U. FOR CONCEPTION BAY

ELSEWHERE will be found a notice signed by President Coaker convening a meeting of all Local Councils of the F.P.U. and District Councils contained in the Districts of Harbor Main, Port de Grave, Harbor Grace and Carbonear, which will take place on the 13th instant at Coley's Point.

All the Councils in Conception Bay, except those in Bay de Verde District, will therefore meet at Coley's Point and consider whether it is advisable to unite those District Councils into one, in order to be in a position to deal with the problems affecting the interests of the Conception Bay fishermen who engage in the Labrador shore fishery.

The interests of those districts are identical as pertaining to the Labrador fishery. It is also the intention of the F.P.U. to safeguard the interests of labor in the Bay and regulate as far as possible the grievances of those who work at the Bell Island mines.

President Coaker will preside at the meeting. Mr. Geo. Grimes, M.H.A., will also attend. On the following day—Thursday, the 14th instant,—Mr. Grimes and President Coaker will attend the Annual Parade of the Port de Grave Council. If possible President Coaker will visit Harbor Grace and attend the Annual Meeting of Bay de Verde District Council, before he returns to the city.

Jackman The Tailor

At a meeting of the shareholders of Jackman The Tailor Ltd., held on Saturday last, it was decided to wind up the business as it had been proved that the Company by reason of its liabilities could not longer continue in business.

Nineteen hundred and fourteen has been a hard year for clothing concerns as the people have refrained from purchasing much in the clothing line. No doubt those conditions seriously affected the business of the Jackman Company which dealt exclusively in gents furnishings.

Land Grabbing

SINCE the Legislature amended the Crown Lands Act permitting the export of pulp wood timber from the Labrador for one year the land grabbers have become busy and are reaching out after every acre of land available on the Labrador, in the hope that somehow the pulp wood concessions for one year will be permitted to continue. We therefore find several applying for timber grants on the Labrador.

W. H. Taylor wants 250 square miles at Sandwich Bay. E. J. Howard wants 1500 square miles at Hamilton Inlet. C. A. White wants the same area as W. H. Taylor, having applied for it three days after Taylor filed his application. George Jardine of Bay Roberts is after a small patch of only 1000 square miles at White Bear Bay, and as he is a big Tory supporter he will probably get what he is after—that will be his reward for faithful services at Bay Roberts.

The Graballs who fancy they will secure a continuation of the amendment to the Crown Lands Act permitting export of pulp for one year might just as well rest assured that such a continuation will not be forthcoming. The F.P.U. Party will oppose such a concession with all its powers.

Seven-eighths of the timber areas held by timber grabbers to-day are forfeitable under the laws, and no man or company will hold a single acre of timber land very long after the new government taken office unless they have lived up to the conditions of their grants.

They must live up to the conditions of their grants or forfeit them as by law provided, and if this law was enforced seven-eighths of the timber areas would at once revert to the Colony.

Price of Flour

THE price flour has advanced seventy cents per barrel here during the last two weeks. It advanced considerably at the mills since the New Year came in. It is not likely to be less than \$8 per barrel in May and according to present indications the price will not be less than \$10 in September.

We continually warned the fishermen to buy large supplies of flour and other heavy articles of provisions the past fall and many of the planters have full supplies purchased for their requirements during the present year.

Many fishermen thought it impossible for prices to advance here, when the Trading Company's 15,000 barrels purchase of August was exhausted, but they find to-day that flour we sold at \$6.50 two weeks ago has now advanced to \$7.50 in this town.

The very poor will be the chief sufferers as they could not lay in a winter's supply and will have to find the extra advance at a time when labor is impossible to secure.

The Government have not yet taken any action to meet the serious situation which now confronts the whole Colony respecting the relief of the destitute. Fully one-third of the people will require help to live through the winter.

The clergymen should be authorized to form boards to relieve destitution during the coming winter and spring. Wherever possible work of some sort should be demanded for any aid given. Every day will find conditions worse.

We warned the Government as far back as August to make preparations, but to no avail. Now they will have to expend \$200,000 or more to aid the hungry poor and unfortunate for which they will receive very little return.

Had they voted a sum for this purpose when the Legislature sat in September, returns for every cent might have been secured. The pit prop business doesn't amount to very much, as the English Companies tried to get supplies at half their value, consequently no arrangements were made by them to purchase.

Those who are employing men to cut pit props are mostly doing so as a speculation in order to assist the people over the winter.

The pit prop business turned out to be a fake, when it might have been the means of aiding thousands over the winter.

The Pit Prop English Commission which came here and consulted the Government put a damper on the whole matter and since their visit, the Companies on the other side reduced their offers by \$3 per cord, which resulted in causing all concerned here to withdraw from the consideration of the matter.

It was another Morris bungle, for had the Government used its best endeavours with Companies across and gone into the matter in a Lloyd-Georgian manner 10,000 men might be cutting pit props this winter.

The Reid Nid. Co. also could have done much and employed a couple of thousand men to cut pit props, as they own large tracts of timber suitable for pit props and possessed the proper facilities for getting it to the waterfront and loading it on board steamers.

They did nothing and apparently don't intend to do anything for the people or country unless they see a sure gain and profit ahead. What they would do in the shape of using their wealth to aid poor people with labor to get through a hungry winter, all can fairly well estimate from their action on New Year's Eve in putting off so many of their regular employees.

The time for action cannot be much longer delayed unless Morris intends to compel the hungry to turn to looting in order to appease the pangs of hunger, in event of which he will expect the Volunteer and Naval Reserve forces to be called out to shoot down the starving people.

Now, gentlemen, get to work without delay and relieve the destitute which is your bounden duty, and in the meantime issue your proclamations convening the Legislature at least within three weeks.

Read This, Fishermen

THE subpoenaed evidence of John J. Howlett, given before the Sealing Commission, is on a par with seven-eighths of the evidence given so far. Our readers can form their own opinion as to the purpose and usefulness of the proceedings from the perusal of Howlett's evidence.

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What good can come out of such proceedings will not be hard to imagine. Who can discover what purpose the Commission has in hurrying to day to day the well earned tune of the song contained in Howlett's evidence?

Is it any wonder the people are convinced that the whole proceeding is but another cunning process manipulated by Morris to fool the people?

Who will wonder why the people call it Morris White-Washing Bucket. Now reader peruse this example of what the learned Judges of the Supreme Court have to listen to from day to day and ask yourself what purpose, but evil, can be served by such proceedings.

Sealing Commission

Wednesday, Dec. 30th.
John J. Howlett, sworn, to Minister of Justice—Was in the Newfoundland at the ice last spring, and remember March 31st. The crew left the ship about 7 a.m. to walk to the Stepano. The weather was mild and clear, there was no snow falling. On the way passed one of the Stepano's flags about two and a half miles from that ship. The Stepano was steaming slowly towards the crew when they boarded her. Had a mug up on board and left to kill seals, and witness understood the Stepano would pick the crew up later for the night. The men ravelled about twenty minutes from the Stepano until the seals were caught, did not know direction. Remained 15 or 20 minutes, and then left the Newfoundland. Struck the ice north they came out over in the morning and followed it until it became covered with snow, and a halt was made for the night. Witness heard a whistle, but others said they did not hear it. The snow was getting thicker all the time, with light wind, and mild temperature.

To Dr. Lloyd—Was with Dawson's watch on Tuesday night. There were about 50 men on the ship, the shelter was poor. When the wind changed at midnight it got very cold, some men died. During Wednesday afternoon he crowd separated, but witness with Dawson and another man remained together until Thursday morning when they were rescued by the Beaufort's crew. In the hospital he had seven toes amputated. Witness thought there had been bad management, and that arrangements should have been made for the Stepano to pick up the men for night, or they should have gone straight for the Newfoundland when they left the Stepano.

To Judge Johnson—Witness said many men were lightly clad owing to the mild weather.

To Judge Emerson—Witness understood upon leaving the Newfoundland at the morning that the crew was to lay on the Stepano that night.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

"Annihilite" Terrible New War Weapon

Discovered By An Englishman—Wipes Out Everything in Wide Zone of Action

THE old saying that "necessity is the mother of invention" has once more been proved to be true; the urgent need of the British, French, Russian and allied nations, in their struggle with powerful and unscrupulous foes, has called to their assistance the brightest intellects of their people, in addition to their valor of their fighting men. Hitherto unheard of forces of applied chemical science are making their power felt to a new and terrible manner.

The invention of the great French chemist, M. Turpin, has attracted considerable notice, and his "turpinite" is spoken of with bated breath in the streets of Paris. Utilizing, as he has done, a discovery made some years ago of the fearful effect of a certain compound of arsenic, his "turpinite" shells, on exploding, emit a gas which, if the smallest quantity is breathed, produces instant death, causing a stoppage of the heart's functions; no living being in the vicinity of the explosion can escape.

Use Forbidden.

The use of shells emitting poisonous gases is, however, forbidden by the terms of the Hague Convention, although the German army is ignoring the agreement, since a London illustrated daily paper, at the start of the war, published a picture of the "poison bomb" used by the Germans.

Terrible, however, as the effects of turpinite are, they are eclipsed by the action of the new "annihilite" shells, which have been, as the Paris paper Le Figaro is aware, placed at the disposal of the French Government by a distinguished English chemist, whose name we are not at liberty to mention at present, and which will be in due course adopted by the British War Office. This new explosive well deserves its name "annihilite," as the effects produced by the bursting of those shells are rightly described as annihilating.

Devastating Effects.

In the open field of battle, against dense masses of troops, in a fortress, or on a warship, the explosion of one of these "annihilite" shells forms a fierce blast of flame some two thousand yards long and from one hundred to two hundred yards in width, which,

passing over men, animals, or material, leaves nothing but a scorched and charred mass behind; trenches, fortifications, and other means of defence are of no avail. The atmosphere within the radius of its explosion is all burnt up, owing to its chemical action on the oxygen of the air, which is charged into a consuming fire. It is perhaps too much to hope that the invention of "annihilite" will mean the stoppage of all wars in the future; but it will undoubtedly help in that direction, and form a bulwark of civilization against those who would break the peace of the world. But as regards the present war, this fearful and powerful weapon in the hands of the British and French forces will certainly assist them to bring it to a speedy conclusion, as no human being can stand against the terrible effects of "annihilite."

DON'T HIDE BEHIND SCREEN OF NEUTRALITY

Says German Socialist Leader Appealing to Com patriots to Help Stop a Wicked War

London, Jan. 3.—The Morning Post has received from Herr Karl Bernstein, who writes from Rotterdam, the following translation of a New Year's appeal issued to the Socialists in Europe and America by the committee of the German Humanity League:

"Dear Comrades—On the eve of a New Year, which opens up on scenes of fear and ruthless crime unparalleled even in the massacre rolls of our nation's infamous accomplices at Constantinople, we appeal to our brethren on the continent of Europe and in the United States of America not to hide themselves behind the screen of neutrality.

Enemies of Mankind.

"We are fain to face with the enemies of mankind. The German nation, driven into this wicked war by the Kaiser and his military entourage, cajoled by the perfidious States in the Reichstag and by the false records circulated in every State in order to deceive our compatriots, has recklessly hurled itself blindfolded against forces which, sustained by indisputable moral considerations show no signs of weakening in their determination to expel from Belgium the troops which have covered her habitations with blood and irreparably injured an innocent nation our rulers had sworn to protect.

Was Not Menaced.

"We ask you to remember that the territory of no German State has

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This special offer is good only for two months and subscribers must fill out the subjoined form if they avail of this special offer.

Special Offer to Mail & Advocate Subscribers.

To the Union Publishing Co. Ltd., St. John's.

Find enclosed the sum of Two Dollars, for which please forward the Daily issue of The Mail and Advocate for one year, and the premium crayon picture 20 x 22 of President Coaker.

Signature _____

Address _____

Date _____, 1915.

NOTICE TO F.P.U. COUNCILS

A Meeting of the Officers of the Local Council of the F.P.U., operating in the Districts of Harbor Main, Port de Grave, Harbor Grace and Carbonear, will be held at Coley's Point on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday, the 13th instant, to consider the advisability of combining the Councils embraced in the above Districts into one District Council of the F.P.U., and to consider matters affecting the welfare of the Fishermen of Conception Bay who prosecute the Labrador Shore Fishery.

By order,

W. F. COAKER,
President F.P.U.

St. John's, Jan'y. 6th, 1915.

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