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(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, NFD., JUNE 15, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

THE DEBATES.

At the last session of the House Mr. Coaker repeatedly called the Premier's attention to the farce called publishing the debates, and everyone expected some improvement on the old system.

The papers are now publishing debates 14 weeks old and by the time they are finished the last batch will be 13 weeks old.

Such conduct is but a deliberate waste of public money and another of Morris's bluffs.

The Graball papers are all receiving large grants for publishing those debates and in no case should any money be paid for printing debates that are not published within 10 days after the delivery of such speeches in the House.

The fishermen are now all engaged in the fisheries and no one will be interested in the publication of matter nearly four months old.

The proceedings of the House should be published immediately after delivery. The chief sinners are the reporters and supervisor, for they should not be slack in handling copy to the press.

Radical changes must be made when the House again meets, for the Opposition will not tolerate a repetition of this year's useless publication of the proceedings.

The News, Herald, Plaindealer, Trade Review, Miner, Enterprise, Western Star, Twillingate Sun and Guardian are fattening by publishing those useless proceedings and scooping in some \$10,000, that would be better expended if paid out to worn-out fishermen's widows.

The Opposition Party will insist upon having the speeches published within 10 days after delivery, and if the Grab-all papers cannot undertake to do so, tenders will have to be asked for this work conditional upon publication within 10 days after delivery.

We referred some time ago to the manner in which Union members speeches were reported and we repeat that not one half of the speeches have been faithfully reported. Not only have the speeches been cut in two but what was published is far from what was uttered. Mr. Dunfield has not performed

his duties well or such a condition of affairs would not exist.

Some of Mr. Coaker's speeches as published include statements directly contrary to what he stated in the House and none of his published speeches are as delivered and are not reliable. They have not been revised by Mr. Coaker. He has not seen any copy from the reporters except that of the first speech he delivered.

This matter will give the Premier many an anxious ten minutes if he has to face the present Opposition again on the floors of the House. He cannot say he was not warned last winter when the House was in session.

THE PREMIER'S FAILURE.

THE Country read with disgust the articles published last week by the Graball organs under the heading of "Sir Edward Interviewed," and it clearly revealed that all we have written about the loan failure was not exaggerated.

Sir Edward passed an Act empowering the Government to raise a \$2,000,000 3½ per cent. railway loan. He left about the middle of March to raise that loan. After a three months' picnic which cost the Colony \$3000 he returns and confesses that it is no longer possible to raise 3½ per cent. loans, and having failed to secure the loan, he got \$1,000,000 as a temporary loan from Agents in London, and this \$1,000,000 is to be repaid next June when the \$2,000,000 permanent loan is raised. He further states he got the Million dollars at 4 per cent. We doubt whether the permanent loan will be secured at less than 4½ per cent.

The whole interview is but an intimation that the money market is closed against our 3½ per cent. loans and the Government will now have to do what the Opposition told them they would have to do last January, i.e., amend the Loan Act and make the interest 4 to 4½ per cent. This failure will cost the Colony \$20,000 annually forever, for that is the difference between 3½ and 4½ per cent. on \$2,000,000.

Now the Premier must find \$360,000 of a local loan to meet obligations incurred in the financial year now closing. That money has been spent by the different departments and unless he can raise that local loan the financial condition of the Colony on 1st July will be in tottering state.

Then the Treasury is still about \$200,000 short on this year's revenue, and a \$200,000 deficit will not lessen the Premier's burden. The \$255,000 is due in London in a few days as interest on the debt for the half year which cannot be met. The half million reserve in the Banks left there by Bond will have to go to meet those obligations.

Then the Premier's party has to face election petitions the coming fall, and if he loses Harbor Grace his Government will end, for he will have to issue writs for a bye-election in Hr. Grace if the sitting members are unseated and his party will not get a half show in that district in event of election coming off this fall.

He will also have to get down to business about a Commission to investigate the sealing disaster, and do so at once, or the Government will be looked upon by the world as a huge joke and the Colony will become the laughing stock in the eyes of all sensible men.

Never was Newfoundland into such a deplorable condition. Never before did her sons more seriously consider her position. Never before has there been so much talk about Confederation amongst the business men.

Things are daily growing worse. There is no employment; no new construction under progress. The railway employment is of small moment, and there will be no improvement in the future.

There is no sign of renewed vigor in mining or lumbering. The fishery everywhere so far is a total blank.

God's greatest blessings were vouchsafed to the F.P.U. last October when He gave the F.P.U. the power it has, and allowed Morris to continue with place and pay to finish so completely the proofs of his own misrule, waste and extravagance.

Who envies Morris his present position? His position cannot be worse. He cannot much longer hold together, but he will remain where he is only as long as the Opposition Party permits him, and they intend giving him little more rope yet.

What a spectacle!

Those who oppose the Government can look on at a distance and honestly exclaim, "Poor Uncle Ned, you have at last come to a sorry pass. You are amongst the breakers with life-boats smashed to atoms. A bigger gale is about to follow. A heavier sea which is arising will sweep clean over your ship and send you all sprawling in the sea; and if you are to escape at all with your political necks, you will have to thank your political opponents for being good enough to pull you out of the water and saving you from drowning."

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE



MORRIS'S APOLOGY.

SATURDAY, both The Daily News and The Herald published a statement from Premier Morris who has just returned home after his futile dollar-chasing trip to England.

Different men at different times have made "Apologies" for a certain line of life and conduct and we presume that the statement published last week in the Government organs is to be regarded as the Morris Apology for his failure to accomplish the task to which his Government delegated him.

The statement bears absolutely no semblance of sincerity; it is absolutely the most inconclusive document ever issued in this country under the seal and authority of the Prime Minister's name.

Take, for instance, the remarks made in the section dealing with our financial status. Sir Edward Morris would have us believe that this country has high credit in the money markets.

Frankly, we absolutely refuse to accept his bare statement as to this.

Does Premier Morris imagine that any man in this country with the slightest knowledge of business or of financial matters will swallow such an improbable declaration?

Take the position of the country today.

We are struggling along under extraordinary taxation, imposed during last session of the House, because the Government faced a big deficit in revenue.

More than that. Since the House has closed there has been an enormous falling off in revenue and despite the fact that the surtax provided for \$750,000 in increased duties, the Government still face a big shortage.

Did Sir Edward Morris put the folk in the money markets wise to this fact?

Not likely.

His published interviews and speeches contain a lot of misleading balderdash calculated to give prospective investors the erroneous impression that this graft-ridden, debt-shackled little colony is nothing less than a thriving eldorado—a modern utopia—prosperous and progressive to the highest degree.

Take his statement to the Royal Colonial Institute of London that our per capita debt is less than that of Canada.

Nothing of the sort.

We are loaded down with a burden of debt representing \$130 for every head of population or \$650 for every average family of five persons. Canada's public debt figures out at \$69 per head.

Then take Sir Edward's boastful speeches about our marvellous natural resources and the mine of wealth they would prove to the men who exploited them.

How greatly these statements of his must have impressed Lord Northcliffe and the numerous shareholders in the Grand Falls enterprise, who are still waiting the pleasure of handing their first dividend.

Such boasting can but create false impressions of this country abroad and sow for us a wind of trouble now that will yield a great big harvest of whirlwind trouble later on.

This country's bonds, says Sir Edward, are quoted higher in England than those of Canada.

What absolute tommyrot.

The 3½ per cent. debentures of a

colony of this size and of such unattractive financial standing ranking higher than the great and progressive Dominion of Canada!

If this were so, why didn't Premier Morris go ahead and float his loan?

He certainly needs the money; needs it badly and needs it at once.

Not a single branch of railway has yet been entirely finished; not one fully paid for.

There are demands enough on the Government to swallow up that prospective two million loan, not to talk of the one million of a temporary loan he actually brought back with him.

And, further there are still two branches—Bonne Bay and Fortune Bay absolutely untouched.

Yet, with untimely modesty Sir Edward Morris refused the use for one year of a million dollars.

At least Sir Edward says he refused the money.

But his yarn is an absolutely improbable one—in fact all the circumstances of our present financial situation make it appear as a huge bluff. Maybe Sir Edward Morris doesn't know that Newfoundland debentures are going begging in this city. In one instance the holder of some thousands of dollars' worth has declared himself prepared to sell at ninety.

The game is up, Sir Edward—very much so. Also there are very few people standing round now waiting to be gulled by such highly-colored tales as these told in that "interview with the Premier."

FARM TOPICS—MATURE

(By Arthur English)

We have spoken of the losses the farmers sustain through neglect of the manure heap. These losses are not recognized by the farmer as they should be. Education, farm education, could teach him the value of his manure heap, and direct him how to stop the leak that is going on.

If the farmer knew how to take care of the fertilizer made on his farm and applied the knowledge, his fields would produce better crops. And better crops mean more revenue, and the farmer in possession of big revenues from his fields is sure to get himself the best strain of sheep, cattle or seeds, without the aid of the government.

It is quite plain from what has been said that the Morris policy began at the wrong end. If the thousands of dollars thrown away on poultry exhibitions, big salaries to Downey and Devereux, scrub rams and razor-back pigs, had been spent in an effort towards teaching the farmer the science of his business, farming would have received a greater impetus than anything Morris' folly has ever done. The farmers are to-day, if we leave out of count the natural growth of enlightenment, as far from being masters of their calling as they were when Morris took hold.

A few sheep have been given them, but in the majority of cases the ad hoc sheep have only supplanted sheep as good or better than they. Seed potatoes have also been imported and given to the farmers. It is claimed by the Morris press, that as a result of the importation of those seeds the yield of potatoes has been increased. That is a falsehood, purely and simply. The Government have no data to sustain their argument. The reports of the various societies are totally unreliable and not worth the paper they are printed on. The Government press is very silent as to why locally grown potatoes are not sought by consumers. They are silent as to why Government institutions will not, as I am told, accept locally raised potatoes from dealers, but insist on having the imported variety.

Why is it that potatoes grown in this country are generally inferior? Can the two highly paid agricultural commissioners tell us why? Will they tell us what remedy they have recommended to the farmers that in their opinion will improve the quality of their potatoes? If the Government would apply itself to the solution of this one agricultural problem it would be doing more for agriculture than by the handing out of seed.

Such quiet working is not quite to the taste of the Government of "Much Ado About Nothing." Work of that description is not spectacular enough, and beside it involves some study and

labor. It cannot either be made a vote-purchasing machine as can give-ings out of rams, etc., and it offers no opportunity for graft.

Returning to the question of fertilizers, there is a feature of the matter I should like to dwell upon. There are a number of commercial fertilizers being sold to the farmers of this country without any guarantee to the purchaser that he is getting what he is paying for. The farmer has no protection against fraud. It is easy to adulterate fertilizers with worthless material.

To our mind the Government should exercise some supervision over this sale of fertilizers, and see that the farmer is not being cheated. There are so many ways of deceit open to the fraudulently inclined, that it is simply inviting fraud to have no one in authority to watch out for the interest of the unsuspecting buyer.

Many farmers in their ignorance are using this or that fertilizer much as simple people use patent medicine, as a panacea for all the ills of the soil. Manufacturers and sellers tell marvellous tales of results from the use of this or that fertilizer, and the farmer is convinced. He invests in the fertilizer and without due knowledge may apply it to the injury of his farm, or he may be applying it where it is not needed, and thus be throwing money away.

Turn whatever way you will in the study of the farming problem, you are confronted with the proof that education is the thing needed.

Help the farmer by teaching him the proper use and care of that which he already possesses. Show how even with the present means at his disposal he may increase the products of his farm, and when conditions demand it, he will be well able to look after the getting of seeds, rams, etc.

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 newest in the country.—Editor.

GOT NO DIVIDEND

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—Just a line to complain that no dividend has yet been paid by The Marine Railway Dock Co.

WHEN WE SAY
We are Selling Nothing
BUT THE BEST
WE MEAN IT
Wisconsin Condensed Milk
Lion Brand Evaporated Milk
Cleveland's Delicious Health
Cocoa.

Will all give you, in their own way, the same satisfaction as you will get next winter from our

Bear Brand Rubbers
AND THAT IS
SAYING SOMETHING.
ASK YOUR DEALER.

Cleveland Trading Co.,

Ltd. for the current year. The Company is paying nothing whatever to the dividend and the Government must find the guaranteed five per cent.

My object in penning you these few lines is to ask, if it would be possible to have a commission appointed to go into the affairs of this Company. Now that I have started I will give you a history of the Harbor Grace

Marine Railway Dock and its manipulation by one or two Directors, particularly the Managing Director and the Secretary-Treasurer, who is also a Director, and this history will be in the form of a letter or two next week. Trusting through, our united efforts we may get the commission.

SHAREHOLDER.

Hr. Grace, June 13, 1914.

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MANKIND STILL IN FIGHTING TRIM

History of the Last Sixty Years Contains Very Little Encouragement for Those Who Desire Universal Peace.—War Occurs Every Two or Three Years.

In spite of the progress of civilization man remains a fighting animal. Peace societies begin to think they are making progress towards taming his instincts and they are confronted by another war. Here is a partial list of the wars of the northern hemisphere in the last sixty years. Exclusive of the minor revolts in Northern South America, in Central America, the West Indies and in Africa:

List of Wars.
Crimean war, 1854-56.
Sepoy mutiny, 1857.
Italy and France against Austria, 1859.
Civil war in America, 1860-65.
Mexico invaded by Austria and allies, 1861-67.
Seven weeks' war, Austro-Prussian, Prussia and Austria against Denmark, 1864.
Franco-Prussian, 1870.
Russo-Turkish, 1877-78.
Servo-Bulgarian, 1885.
Japanese-Chinese, 1894-95.
Graeco-Turkish, 1897.
Spanish-American, 1897.
Filipino-American, 1899.
China against the allies, 1900.
Boer War, 1899-1902.
Russo-Japanese, 1904.
Balkan States against Turkey, 1912.
Balkan States against Bulgaria, 1913.
Mexican war, 1914.
This, as has been said, is only a

partial list. England has had several small wars, including the important conquest of the Sudan, which are not included and there have been numerous minor disturbances of one sort or another. But the list includes twenty fair-sized wars, or one every three years.

There has been no falling off in recent years. Take the last decades for instance, and there have been ten wars, or one every two years.

Perhaps there is some encouraging lesson for the peace societies to be drawn from this fairly bloody record. Perhaps it means that wars are vanishing from the earth. But it would take a pretty incorrigible optimist to read this prediction into the history of the last half century.

Apparently the world isn't going to be able to get on for some time to come.

GEMS OF THOUGHT

Know then thyself, presume not God to scan;
The proper study of mankind is man.
—Alexander Pope.

When all the blandishments of life are gone,
The coward sneaks to death, the brave live on.
—George Sewell.

Base envy withers at another's joy,
And hates the excellence it cannot reach.
—James Thompson

Do not love life, then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.—Benjamin Franklin.

"I am not so lost in lexicography as to forget that words are the daughters of earth, and that things are the sons of heaven."—Samuel Johnson.

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