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**House of Assembly.**

(Yesterday.)  
The House met at 3.15 p.m.  
Petitions were presented by Messrs. Small, Scammel, and MacDonnell asking for various matters, and by Hon. W. W. Halyard from the electors of Trinity Bay from Heart's Content down the shore, asking that the Branch Line of Railway be extended from Heart's Content to Old Perlican. Messrs. Targert and Guppy supported the petition.

**QUESTIONS.**  
Mr. MacDonnell was asked to strike out the word "Scavenger" which appeared in his question in the order paper in connection with the service of one J. T. Meaney, whom he alleged ravaged the Public Works Department looking for scandal. Mr. MacDonnell rather than strike out the word asked leave to withdraw the question, as he could not call the work performed by J. T. Meaney in the Public Works Department by any other name than that applied to it by him.

MR. SULLIVAN—I give notice that I will on to-morrow ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary who in the absence of a Minister of Militia is responsible for the Militia Department.  
(1) To inform this House how or in what manner confidential documents in the custody of the Militia relating to returned soldiers No. 2553 Michael Doran, No. 8235 Martin Tracey and Private Milley came into the possession of the St. John's Daily Star and was published in that paper on March 12, 1920.

(2) And to inform this House if any enquiry has been or will be held into this regrettable breach of confidence on the part of some person in the Department of Militia.

(3) And to ask him also if he is aware that the only legitimate use an officer or a soldier may make of documents or information of which he becomes possessed in his official capacity is for the furtherance of the public service in the performance of his duty. Publishing official documents or information or using them

for personal controversy, or for any private purpose without due authority, should be treated as a breach of the Official Secrets Act, 1911.

(4) And to ask him as head of the Militia Department, if he is aware that the company conduct sheet of a soldier is to be destroyed on his discharge.

Several questions asked by Messrs. Sullivan and Jones were answered or deferred until answers had been prepared.

Mr. Moore asked the Minister of Finance and Customs to furnish the House with a list of officials dismissed from his department in the Outports and St. John's since the present government came into power, with name of each and a statement of charge against each.

The address in reply was then taken up.

HON. MR. COAKER continued his address in defence of the fish regulations and quoted some interesting figures to prove his case. He claimed Earle did not make \$44,000 on the cargo of fish sold that there was so much talk about, as the most he could make on a cargo of shore fish bought at \$12.00 per qtl. in Fogo and sold in Italy at \$17.50 per qtl. was ten cents per qtl., as it cost \$5.70 per qtl. for the fish to reach Italy. If it were Labrador fish he sold, then the best profit he could make on the cargo was Eighteen Thousand Dollars.

Mr. Coaker claimed that 200,000 qtls. of fish had been sold in Spain since the regulations came in force. Some other figures quoted to show the comparison of fish shipped in 1918 with that shipped in 1919 were as follows:

Country	1918	1919
Spain	268,000	346,000
Portugal	407,000	470,000
Italy	210,000	200,000
Greece	80,000	90,000
Brazil	280,000	200,000

Total exports to all other countries between the months of July and April 1918-19—1,426,000 qtls. Same period 1919-20—1,444,000 qtls. To Halifax this year was exported 80,000 qtls. Stocks held in Spain now about 70-

000 qtls. In Portugal, ashore and afloat 80,000 qtls. There is no Spanish fish in Newfoundland to-day, and Brazil fish 40,000 qtls. against 110,000 qtls. last year. Portuguese fish in country 40,000 qtls. and Italian less than 100,000 qtls. The Brazil stock now in St. John's was mostly sold. The total catch for 1919 was about 80,000 qtls. less than 1918. He contended that fish sold in Portugal since his last visit for \$1a. Conditions in Portugal were now improving and in Brazil prices had advanced from 96c. to 110c. so there was no need for alarm or cold feet. He also stated that the Advisory Board had decided to accept the unanimous resolution of the Board of Trade and consult and seek advice from the fish exporters both in St. John's and the outports. The resolution of the Board he stated would be the key to his actions and that of the Advisory Board in future regulations. He explained that he would introduce a bill to standardize the cull of fish and a commission of eleven experienced men would be appointed to make rules and regulations. The man who bought No. 2 fish for No. 1 would do so at his own risk as he would not be allowed to export it for No. 1 when it was in reality No. 2. The difference in price between No. 1 and No. 2 would be made such that a man making bad fish one year would never want to do so again. A strict inspection will be enforced before any fish is shipped. The man who is to blame for our bad fish is the man who buys because fishermen will not make good fish if they can get just as much for bad as they could for good. The blame of the present system is talqual fish and the new bill would do away with this curse entirely. He appealed to Sir Michael Cashin and Sir John Crosbie to help him in these matters and had no doubt but what they would do the right thing by him in this regard.

Mr. John Cheeseman (Burin) speaking as a practical fisherman, and as a dealer in fish, explained his view of the Fish Regulations. He believed that, although not up to what might have been expected of them, they had done considerable good for the fish trade and the country in general. He was no politician where fish was concerned. Mr. Coaker, Sir Michael Cashin, and Sir John Crosbie were the right men in the right place when it came to discussing this subject.

Mr. R. Hibbs (Fogo) spoke until 6.30, when he moved the adjournment of the House. Mr. Hibbs met with considerable interruption, as his speech took on a militant tone.

The House adjourned until 3 p.m. to-day.

**REPLIES TO QUESTIONS.**

The following answers to questions by Major Sullivan were tabled yesterday:

(1) No steps have been taken with

regard to the cancellation of Timber licenses.

(2) The matter is under consideration of the Government. No decision has yet been made.

(3) The Dominion Iron and Steel Co.'s tax has been paid.

(4) The Nova Scotia Steel Co. have not paid their tax up to the present. They are asking for arbitrators to be appointed by the Government to take this matter up.

**CORRESPONDENCE ON RAILWAY TRANSPORTATION.**

Reid-Nfld. Company, March 27th, 1920.

Dear Mr. Premier:  
My attention has been directed to various discussions before the St. John's Board of Trade and to the proceedings of the Fishermen's Protective Union relative to the matter of improved railway transportation in the Dominion.

During my absence the past few months I have been actively engaged in connection with matters connected with the development of Newfoundland, which I am confident will produce early and beneficial results. The necessity of bringing the standard of the railway up to date, which under our contracts still remains as at the time of construction, is of the greatest importance, and I shall be glad to meet with you or a committee of your Government at any time to fully discuss and consider this question.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Sgd.) H. D. REID,  
Pres. Reid-Nfld. Co.

Hon. R. A. Squires,  
Premier, City.

30th March, 1920.

Sir—The Prime Minister directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th instant, and to say that the same will be brought before the next meeting of the Executive Council.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Sgd.) ARTHUR MEWS,  
Dep. Col. Secretary.

H. D. Reid, Esq.,  
President, Reid-Nfld. Co.

Published by Authority.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Messrs. Wm. Drover (Brown's Arm, N.D.B.), and Wm. Ambrose Parsons (Codroy), to be Justices of the Peace for the Colony.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Mr. Arthur W. Miller, to be Superintendent of the Poor Asylum, in place of Mr. William H. Pridaux, retired. Mr. Alexander Ledingham, to be Inspector of Boilers and Assistant Examiner of Engineers, in place of Mr. A. McLoughlin, retired. Mr. Thomas Roberts, to be Sub-Collector of Customs at Pille's Island. Messrs. Wm. Blundon (Bloomfield, B.B.), and F. E. Reid (Reart's Delight, T.B.), to be Surveyors of Lumber. Mr. Reuben King (Western Bay), to be Inspector of Weights and Measures, with jurisdiction from Western Bay to Old Perlican. Mr. George Vaters, to be a member of the Methodist Board of Education for the District of Victoria, in place of Mr. Japhet Vaters, retired. Mr. Leonard Kelloway, to be a member of the Methodist Board of Education for the District of Salmon Cove, in place of Mr. Samuel A. Case, retired. Mr. Stephen Sparrell, of John (Dunfield), to be a member of the Methodist Board of Education for the District of Trinity, in place of Mr. Francis Wiseman, retired. Messrs. Ell Seymour (Hiscock's Point), Geo. Organ, Sr. (Burnt Islands), John Keeping, George Dawa, Abraham Keeping, John King and James Chalk, to be the Methodist Board of Education for the District of Burnt Islands, in place of the Former Board, retired.

Department of the Colonial Secretary, April 27th, 1920.

Gypsey Smith, the evangelist, said on his recent voyage from Liverpool: "There are some men who can make a success even of failure. Thus, there was a certain peer once who rose to make his maiden speech—a speech granting to all accused persons the right of counsel—and when he put his hand in his pocket for his notes they weren't there. The peer gulped. He looked about him wildly. Gulped

again. Then he said: "If I, my lords, who now rise, only to give an opinion on this bill—if I am so confounded that I am unable to express what I had in mind, what must be the con-

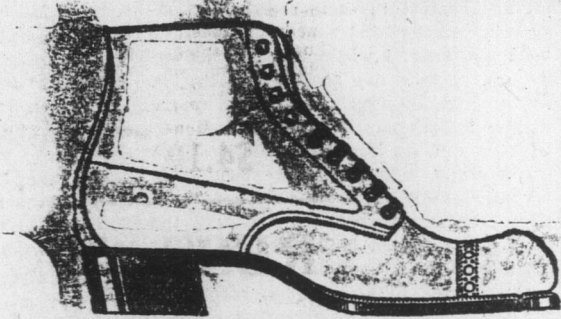
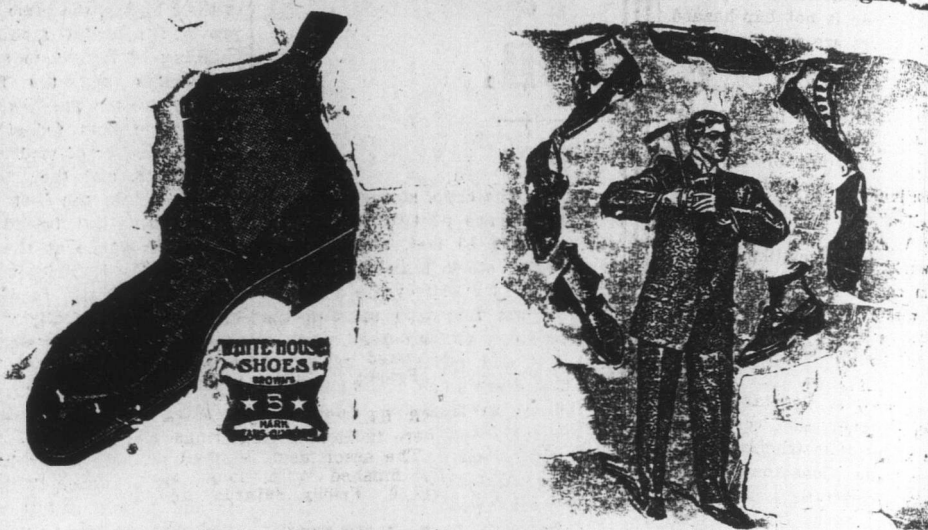
dition of that man, who, without any assistance, has got to plead for his life?" Then the peer sat down to the cheers of a converted chamber, and his bill passed almost unanimously."

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of  
**Men's Footwear!**

We are making a Specialty of Men's High Grade Boots and Shoes. To-day is our Opening, and we shall take the greatest pleasure in showing the season's choicest shoes to all callers.

We were fortunate in securing a quantity of these High Grade Gentlemen's Boots and Shoes at a price lower than could be quoted to-day.

The new styles are so handsome that every man that appreciates Good Shoes cannot help but be interested in our splendid showing. Prices Right.



We have a splendid assortment of Tan Footwear in Light and Dark shades.

We start in with some splendid Shoe Values, \$8.00, \$10.00, \$12.00 and \$14.00, and run up to Shoe elegance and luxury at \$15.00 and \$17.00 per pair.

There's a long price range on our lines of Men's Boots, but at whatever point you buy, you'll receive a heaping measure of splendid Shoe value.

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THE HOME OF GOOD SHOES.

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IS ALWAYS PUT UP IN AIRTIGHT ROUND TINS  
--for your protection--  
AND IS NEVER SOLD IN CARDBOARD.

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By Gene Byrnes

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I HAD A FINE TIME—I WAS PLAYIN' WITH ROVER NEARLY ALL THE TIME AN' THEY HAVE NINE NEW TEENY WEENY PIGS

AN' YOU OUGHTA SEE ALL THE CHICKENS GRANMA HAS—'BOUT A MILLION AN' YOU OUGHTA SEE THE LIL CALFIE—HIS NAME IS BOSSY

AN' YOU'D LAUGH IF YOU SAW THE FUNNY BED I SLEPT IN—IT LAYS DOWN AT NIGHT AN' STANDS ON ITS HIND LEGS IN THE DAY TIME

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