

Reconstruction Problems Suggested for Dominion of Newfoundland.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—Choice blessings to our country for 1919. Do we ever think of it? Why not?

Let us try and do some thinking before the boys come home. If we don't, three thousand are coming who will be some talking. Newfoundland, take warning. What are you going to do? Are you going to prepare for a general exodus of our young soldiers after they return to see their friends, or are you going to adopt a policy of reconstruction. We have been shouting enough.

"When Shall Their Glory Fade?"

We want the living to remain with us. Over twelve hundred of our brightest and best human jewels have gone west. It is the suggestion of Mr. Raymond Kipling, their name liveth for evermore is the phrase that will be engraved on the great altar-stone to be erected in the military cemeteries abroad. Those of us who have heard the great war lecture by F. A. McKenzie, the great war correspondent, and witnessed the pictures of our boys, must have been impressed with the particular. The rows of headstones giving the appearance of a station on parade, and suggesting the spirit of discipline and order, which is the soul of an army. We hope some day before very long, to awake to a sense of our duty and erect something to perpetuate their glorious memory.

The bravest and most daring seamen afloat, the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve, over one hundred and fifty now sleep beneath the waves, where no stone can ever mark the spot.

All's Well.

On the earth and in the air, from the land and from the sea, and from under land and sea, not a man shall miss him, Britons every one."

In a recent issue of the Montreal Star on War Memorials for Canada, it is well that attention should be given to the need for monuments in honor of Newfoundland's fighting men, living and dead. But no monuments erected to recall their service will be worthy of them if adequate provision be not made for the welfare of the living, now.

The immediate task is to safeguard those who have sacrificed their economic security on the altar of patriotism and human needs. The most pressing duty of all is to protect the lives and children of the soldiers, living and dead. Unless this duty be performed up to the limit of the national power, there will be something unworthy and grotesque about memories recalled by the finest monument we can build.

The stuff of which the best memorials are made is gratitude, expressed in effective measures for the prevention of suffering. Could the dead in Flanders speak, they would say, Care for our wives and children, do not forget our comrades. Until this duty be performed over the closing phase of the war, monuments to look at will be of secondary importance.

The Chimes of Victory.

Did you hear the joy bells on Christmas Eve peal forth from the grey tower of the Cathedral on the hill? Did you hear at intervals the beautiful chimes almost saying in words,

O Come, all ye faithful
Joyfully triumph.

But it is not all joy. Many a sorrowful heart beats throughout Newfoundland to-day. Many a mother has realized the price that has been paid for these chimes. There lies in her heart like fire in the heart of the opal, the thought of the loved ones who will never come back. Never in all the world's history has there been such a well-spring of tears. But as the sunshine breaks through the dark clouds at eve, touches the rain drops, and transmutates them into sapphires and emeralds, and a revelation of glory, so the cheering of victory has transfigured the soft rain of a mother's tears into radiance and into joy.

Our First V.C.

Another honor has come to the Dominion of Newfoundland—3102 Private Ricketts awarded Victoria Cross, D.C.M. and Croix de Guerre.

We extend our sincere congratulations to the brave young soldier. Up to August 19th, 1918, exactly one thousand Victoria Crosses had been bestowed since the Victoria Cross was founded more than sixty years ago. Recipients of the Victoria Cross since October 31st, 1917 to the signing of the armistice, will number about one hundred and fifty.

Brave young Ricketts,
V.C., D.C.M., C-de-G.

The news is flashed from over the hill and near and far is read; the living know it over seas, but who will tell the dead? The victory being gained, and do they

diers and sailors in other parts of the British Empire. Fair treatment, gentle in darkness and know nothing? Do our men who died from Mons even to Mons back again, and who made their lives and their graves a highway over which the soul of the world swept on to triumph, deem themselves turned into inanimate clay. It was these who saved the world and won the victory. Are we beginning to forget our dead. Are we finished with the living. There is only one thing to do, and that is to prove ourselves worthy of the dead and the Nation's view of the living for the future. By the dead who died in Flanders, in France, and in Gallipoli, and through all the East, and by their far-strewn graves we will make a better Newfoundland, a cleaner world. It was for that our boys died. Their blood has cleansed the foul streets of Europe. Many a mother and wife in the coming days, as they see a fairer world arise, shall say, It was for this my son died—my beloved died. By the memory of the dead we vow it.

Newfoundland must not remain deaf, dumb and blind. We have all a great duty to perform; but somebody has a greater. If they would only rise to the occasion in a gigantic Reconstruction Policy for the country. We are tired listening

"When Shall Their Glory Fade?"

Unless we are prepared to do something substantial for returned soldiers and sailors who are living, very soon they will leave our shores, and fade away to other lands, and swell the ranks of another country. The greatest problem that awaits solution in St. John's, is a gigantic Housing Scheme, and the building of one thousand houses for our workmen and industrial workers, at a fair and reasonable rent. Comfortable, pure homes. The toll of consumption is becoming greater in this town every year. It is estimated that a quarter of a million consumptives are in Great Britain to-day, and that 60,000 deaths occur from this disease every year, the larger portion of whom were to be found among the working classes. Among the contributory causes of tuberculosis were malnutrition, sweated labor, impure milk, bad housing and overcrowding, and ill ventilated workshops and work-rooms. This is a serious matter, and should be dealt with by the Government.

Reconstruction Problems.

Our fishermen soldiers and Royal Naval Reservists of the Army should be placed in a position to become producers of the country, and not a burden upon the state. A new start in life, money to be advanced at a reasonable rate of interest, grants of land and houses built. Motor fishing boats fully equipped with traps, lines and twines, a fit out such as the above to every soldier fisherman and fisherman of the navy who has volunteered and fought for their country.

A thorough systematic business governmental programme of reconstruction problems, based on co-operation, thrift and common sense will build up a new Dominion.

Statesmanship Necessary.

Let the problems of the country be carried out on a broad basis of statesmanship, built on a sure foundation of practical common sense and business education. Soldiers appointed to the Civil Service (first claim); attempts to improve housing conditions, fishermen's, sailors' and workmen's cottages, national shipyard for building and repairing sailing vessels, encouragement of new industries for the country such as forestry, factory for motor engines, factory for boat building, especially corties, and motor boats, grants of land to our soldiers of the army and navy, houses built, farming implements for soldier-fishermen farmers. We ask for a reconstruction policy that will be an everlasting memorial to the dead, a credit to the country, and a blessing to the living. Their name liveth for evermore. Sorrowful, yet always rejoicing.

Dominion of Canada.

Six months' pay for returned veterans. It is very pleasing to note that the Canadian Government has decided to increase the allowance, mainly to afford the veteran ample opportunity to seek and find a place in civil life before his money is gone. If the six months' allowance were given to all soldiers, the post charge pay would total \$90,000,000 instead of \$45,000,000 expected under the old arrangement. Whether provision is made by the Government to those who have not been combatants on the 20th Dec. has not been decided, but it is believed that they will be given such generous provision. I hope the Royal Nfld. Regiment are receiving similar treatment.

On behalf of the relatives of the dead, on behalf of the wounded soldiers, on behalf of the men of the navy, we ask the same generous treatment that has been meted out to sol-

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ous treatment, is a debt the country owes and should be paid, "if there is any gratitude left in us.

Yours truly,

JOHN ANDERSON.
St. John's, Jan. 2, 1919.

Hold Public Demonstration.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—Allow me to make some comments on the correspondents who lately saw fit to enter your columns on the subject of the annexation of St. Pierre et Miquelon. Like the Irishman coming to New York and asking "is there a government here for if there is I'm agin it." Your correspondent seems to be against the annexation of these mis-called French islands, and he doesn't know why he's against it. One effect of his extreme ridiculous letter should be to call all Newfoundlanders attention to the presence in the country of a traitorous anti-Newfoundland element. More than one of our Newfoundland Bishops have favoured this annexation as the logical solution of the old Treaty Coast problem. The correspondent referred to seems to imply that the French are more temperate than the Irish. Perhaps they are, and perhaps it would be easy for them to be so. But what have Newfoundlanders to do with such drivel? We are not Irish, we are Newfoundlanders, and if we make temperance legislation, surely it is our own business. If the Irish don't want temperance, well let them have self-determination in this matter too. Perhaps if the Irish had more temperance and less Sinn Feinism it wouldn't do them a bit of harm—not a bit. Then your anti-Newfoundland correspondent seems to imply that the French fought better than the Irish in the late war. Is that our

fault? Why should Newfoundlanders be abused for Irish failure to do their bit? I quite agreed with your editorial in favour of annexing St. Pierre. The people of the French islands are very nice in their way, and would make peaceful neighbors, if we got them. Anyway they're not always writing in the newspapers like the unhappy Irish. Neither is it fair of your correspondent to blame Newfoundlanders for quarrels in politics between the French and the Irish in various Canadian towns. If the Irish can't leave their neighbours in peace is that our fault as Newfoundlanders? We don't want war and slaughter, blood and thunder. We want to prevent these things, and that is why we would ask the St. Pierre people to join with our Dominion. They'll enjoy the climate once they come in, and in future years the member from St. Pierre et Miquelon will rise in our Newfoundland House of Assembly and in the sweetest tongue of Franco, will give a bit of his mind, if he has such a thing, to the Newfoundland Government, that will in any way fail to make a greater St. Pierre by placing street car lines, etc., across those truly picturesque islands. And yet all this is to be opposed by your correspondent because it wouldn't fit in with the views of a few people in St. John's—East—who want to get their liquor smuggled or otherwise.

As regards your correspondent's hints that Newfoundlanders want to tear the people of St. Pierre out by the roots and fling them over the moon—who ever dreamt of such a thing? Newfoundland does not want St. Pierre for any positive advantage, but for the negative advantage of preventing it falling into the possession of some nation less friendly than France, which would convert it into a new Hellgoland and turn its guns against Newfoundland and finally that apparently insignificant rock might be the means of wrecking the British Empire in North America. Is your correspondent prepared to risk all that for a few glasses of smuggled rum? Why doesn't he start a still in at the White Hills instead of being so unpatriotic? As regards your correspondent's statement or implication that the people of St. Pierre did better than Newfoundland in the recent war, I am on the point of calling it a impudent lie, but being Christmas time I shall merely call it a startling inaccuracy. The St. Pierre men went to the front as conscripts, the Newfoundlanders went as volunteers, and

nothing, but their native modesty hinders them from publishing their glories from Dan to Bershaba, or at least from Riverhead to Magoggy Cove. By all means hold public demonstrations in favour of annexing these little islands. Such demonstrations in St. John's will strengthen the hands of our English diplomats. France will get compensation from her British ally and, Newfoundland will be a Dominion in every sense.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES McQUINN.
New Brunswick.

Shipping Notes.

The schr. Minnie has cleared from Port Union with a fish cargo for Oporto.

The Gaspe and Schmidt are loading fish at Jas. Baird, Ltd., for across. The Frances Louise is ready to sail for Gibraltar with fishery products from La Morue Francaise.

The T. M. Nicholson left Wood's Island yesterday with a load of herring for Bucksport.

The Armored, Tessier & Co.'s new vessel, will take over 8,000 qtls. of codfish to Italy.

Stafford's Essence of Ginger Wine at Stafford's Drug Stores for 20c. bottle. Postage 5 cts. extra.—nov25,18

Evangelists Arrive.

Mr. and Mrs. Demarest, evangelists, arrived in the city by last evening's express. They have come from Chicago to conduct a campaign in Gower Street Methodist Church. Mrs. Demarest is a magnetic speaker, and Mr. Demarest is an organist and musician of repute. Their welcome will be a warm one.

Dock Workers Busy.

A full staff of shipwrights is employed on the steamer War-Mohawk and schr. Cambrai, and a large number of iron workers and machinists are engaged on the steamers Ranger and Harmony. Immediately the War-Mohawk is completed, the S. S. Trevanion will go on to have a new bow put in, and all the sealing steamers will undergo repairs later, thus assuring constant employment to all the workers for the next three months.

1918 CATCH BOUGHT UP.—During the present week quite a number of vessels have arrived in port with cargoes of fish from the West Coast. The whole catch of 1918 is undoubtedly gathered in now, but much remains for shipment abroad.

Last Night's Smoker.

The returned soldiers who were entertained last night by the Daughters of Empire at the Methodist College Hall spent a very pleasant evening. Capt. (Rev.) Clayton presided over the meeting. His Excellency the Governor came in during the evening and upon request spoke briefly, emphasizing the keynote of usefulness and saying that although the war of great self-sacrifices was past, still the war that remained was one that would need greater efforts on the part of all for the best of humanity. The concert programme was well carried out, consisting of songs by Misses Mitchell and Herder, and ex-Sergeant H. Mitchell and Warrant Officer Johnson of the S. S. City of Marcellus. Recitations were given by Misses Curtis and Keegan and by Mr. Brett of the Navy, and dancing by Miss Joan Rendell and Miss Orr. Miss Elsie Tait was accompanist throughout. All the items were well rendered, and that they were appreciated was shown by the number of encores. During the programme smokes were distributed, all the votaries of the Lady Nicotine doing their share of homage. After the concert teas and other refreshments were served and then still more smokes. The singing of the National Anthem brought the evening to a close and all wended homewards feeling immensely pleased with the efforts of the ladies.

Shipwrights Annual.

The following officers for the current year were elected at the annual meeting of the Shipwrights' Society in the Star Hall last night: President—George Chislett. First V. P.—Joseph Fynn. Second V. P.—Bert Squires. Treas.—Lemuel Simmonds. Secretary—Fred Pitcher.

Votes of thanks to the retiring officers and Mr. James Wheeler, who conducted the election, were passed. The regular business having concluded, a lively discussion on the prices of coal and other necessities took place. The Society failed to see how coal should sell at \$17 this season, without war risk, when with it coal sold last season at \$16. The Society will co-operate with other unions in taking measures to reduce prices.

T. J. EDENS.

PRINCE ALBERT TOBACCO.

Shipment just received. The price is lower this time.

By "Lady of Gaspe" to-day, January 3, 1919:
10 Barrels CARROTS.
10 Barrels PARSNIPS.
10 Barrels BEETS.
20 Barrels CABBAGE.

P.E.I. OATS.

50 boxes Taylor's Borax Soap.
50 boxes Early June Peas.

N. Y. CORNED BEEF.

PORK LOINS.

McCormick's Fancy Biscuits.
McCormick's Jersey Cream Soda.
Grape Nuts.
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Del. Monte Peaches.
Del. Monte Egg Plums.

GOVERNOR CIGARS.

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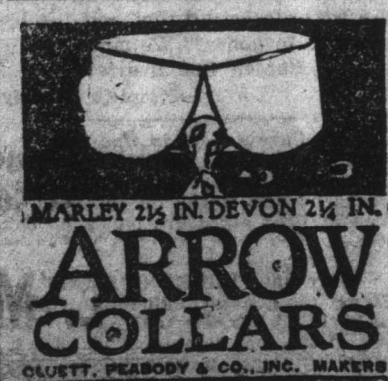
Our two shipments of P. E. I. Oats have been disposed of, but we are now booking

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