

THE 'PARTING YEAR

WE, of this generation unaccustomed, as we have been, to turbulent times, only know to stand on the threshold of the New Year and to wave fond adieu to the departing year. Our helmsmen with vibrant tongues have only, with musical voices, rung out the old, ring in the new. With gladness and gratitude have we stood to speed the parting guest and to welcome the new arrival at our gates; gladness that we are privileged to see the birth of a glad New Year, and with gratitude for the blessings of the past.

But this year how different. All the most painful efforts to understand from the mind and heart, what our feelings are fall futile to the ground. In vain do we search the darkening sky for a fixed point, from which to obtain our meridian and some well-known position, from which to work out our exact bearings. After long and wearied flights the tired thought we sent out into the void returns to its seat, and leaves us still groping in the darkness.

Appalling Circumstances. In vain do we project thought after thought into the abyss around and above us, the mind is still unable to even analyze its own feelings at this the most momentous hour. We seem to have been stunned, at it were, by the terrible events that have taken place and are still working out their awful scenes before us.

We know not whether to weep or with joy to hail the dawn of a New Year. To the departing one, what can we say? The old forms to which we have long been accustomed wherewith we accompanied the old year to the portals of eternity and saluted him as he faded from our ken, are not suitable this year. How to stand for the last time in his presence, and what attitude are we to bear towards him, can any one say?

Time Not Accountable. Is time accountable for all that has

happened? Was 1914 laden with misery to mankind? Was he the selected tool of some evil fiend that reeks vengeance on mankind? Are we to regard him as a curse that time sent to blight us, or are we to look upon him with pity for the sorrows that have stamped their vivid marks upon his aged brow?

Not the year is to blame for the withering crimes and benumbing catastrophes that have made the year 1914 their manifest time. Man himself is to blame. It is the sinful ways, the avarice, the jealousy, the grasping greed, the pride and pomp of man, that have caused the sorrows that the world has witnessed.

Commercialism, that rightly restrained, is a blessing and a world awaking influence, sustained by just of power and forgetfulness of our brotherhood to man, is the curse of the age.

Commercialism Overgrown. Commercialism has overgrown itself and outgrown our ideas of a higher duty; to our God and fellow men. It has from being a blessing, become a curse, simply because we have made it our higher aim. To this end is all education directed, that the citizen may become a more proficient money-getter.

The purple and gold and fine linen of today, replace the genius of charity and cover a multitude of sins. Charity itself receives another interpretation in this age, when politics patriotism and often religion itself are commercialized.

Today we find men of vast fortunes, no matter how sinfully acquired, parading as lovers of mankind. Of the wealth, wrung from the toil, the sweat, the very lives of human beings, they make a vehicle to mockery of fame. They give largely, but there is no charity in their giving; they give because it satisfied their vain glory, just as it satisfied their sordid souls to grasp it. Having grasped, they find they have but gathered Dead Sea

fruit, and hope to realize in the end by giving away the dross that cost them nothing but the sacrifice of their souls.

Men Enslaved

But, what of the poor beings, that in a boasted age of liberty, they made their slaves! What did the accumulating of all the wealth in the coffers of the slave driver cost them. If you need an answer, go ask them that toil.

The tremendous events transpiring in the world outside, great and engrossing as they are, can scarcely hide from our eyes the fact that momentous doings have marked the path of the departed year, even here in Newfoundland.

Firstly, for the first time in history we have seen poor, humble fishermen standing on the floors of the Assembly. That is a very important thing to us, so important that not the few words we can say here, can ever portray the significance of it. It marked a new epoch in Newfoundland, and set a sign-post that will be a shining beacon to lovers of our country for all time. For the first time, the reality of what representation means gave place to the sham, and Freedom cheered, whilst politicians raved, and saw their end in sight.

Tear-Stained Page

Early on the tear-stained pages of the year is written the painful story of the Sealing Disaster, wherein so many precious lives were sacrificed and untold misery inflicted on the country. That calamity has left a trail, not only of pain and sorrow, but of unavenged and rankling injustice.

Insult has been added to injury by the deliberate attempt on the part of the Government to shield the parties responsible for the loss of life, and by a heartless pretence at holding an inquiry. A notable feature in this connection is the splendid single-handed fight put up by the President of the F.P.U. for an impartial investigation.

The fishery business this year has developed features never before witnessed.

Lost Their Grip

The war upset the business men so

completely that they lost, in a most pitiable way, their grasp of business. Long accustomed to working in a groove, they were utterly lost when they found the old groove no longer feasible. Mr. Coaker came to the rescue, and with his usual acumen took a firm hold of the situation, and the commercial world was saved.

For the first time in our history we have organized a troop and sent soldiers to Europe and sailors to man the battleships of Great Britain.

Matters in connection with the sending of those men to England deserved and received some severe criticism from the Press, particularly that part of it represented by *The Mail and Advocate*. Scandals were brought to light in connection with the payment of certain officers—Mr. Timewell in particular.

Mr. Coaker, ever on the watch-tower, sees a need for the Government to organize some means to relieve the distress that prevails on account of the scarcity of labor, and this distress,

he points out, is sure to increase with the passing of time. He urges the Government the need of an early opening of Parliament to meet those situations, and to be able to take up, before the sealing voyage begins, certain recommendations of the F.P.U., that aim at the safeguarding of life. These recommendations were proposed at the Great Catalina Convention held in November last, to which reference has so lately been made in these columns that it is not necessary to refer to it here.

C.L.B. BAND

Will parade at the Armoury at 9.30 a.m. New Year's Day for the purpose of parading with the Volunteers. Bandsmen who have volunteered will also parade. Fur Head Dress. Practice Thursday evening at 9 o'clock sharp.

S. W. CAKE,
Bandmaster.

VISION OF BROTHERHOOD

Christian Science Monitor:—"Not the least of Canada's blessings is its neighbors," says a modest but penetrating publication of the Dominion. This sentiment, with another application, can be truthfully and heartily repeated on the other side of the line,

and may the time come when it shall be as truthfully and heartily repeated, with unlimited application, throughout the world! This will come, and it is bound to come, when among the nations of the earth armaments are abolished to make room for mutual respect, confidence and brotherly love.

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<p>OIL CLOTHES We keep the Goodyear Brand only (Black Color) Made up according to our own special instructions, which have given universal satisfaction. Unequaled for durability, very soft and double-stitched all thru. A voating of Linseed Oil preserves them for years LOWEST PRICES</p> <p>Men's Soft Black CAPE ANN OILHATS</p> <p>Anchor Brand HERRING NETS 30 ran up, in 2¹/₄ 2³/₈, 2¹/₂ in. mesh</p> <p>Steam Tared Lines COTTON TWINE HEMP TWINE & MANILLA ROPE</p> <p>Mustad's TRAWL HOOKS in sizes No. 14 and 15</p>	<p>Large variety of MEN'S TWEED SUITS Made with superior linings that make them undoubtedly the BEST value ever offered to the public.</p> <p>MEN'S TWEED PANTS Selected from popular patterns. Medium and high qualities.</p> <p>BOYS' AND YOUTHS' TWEED SUITS In Rugsy and Norfolk styles.</p> <p>MEN'S LINEN COLLARS</p> <p>All prices and qualities—in—</p> <p>MEN'S AND BOYS' JERSEYS</p> <p>Ladies' White Linen and Lawn BLOUSE ROBES</p>	<p>Splendid selection of LADIES' BLOUSES In Light and Dark Cottons, Delaines, Lawns.</p> <p>Cashmere and Silk BLOUSES In Cream and Black with dainty Embroidered and Lace effects.</p> <p>Ladies' Fancy COTTON OVERALLS Large variety of designs in Light and Dark colors.</p> <p>Childs' White PINAFORES Trimmed with Insertion Hemstitched</p> <p>CORSETS in all Sizes and Prices</p> <p>Women's, Boys' & Girls' STOCKINGS</p> <p>Men's Black & Colored SOCKS</p>	<p>Blue Denims, Brown Duck, White Cotton Duck, Regattas, Flannel ettes, Grey, Red and White Flannel, Blay and White Sheetings, Red Tick, Cotton Blankets, White H.C. Quilts, Marcella Quilts, Tapestry Table Covers, Cream, Buff and Green Window Blinding, Curtain Muslins (Tassels and Plain), White and Fancy Dress Muslins, Cotton Cashmeres, Lustres, Melton Cloth, Poplins, Venetians, Serges, Ottoman Cloth.</p> <p>DRESS TRIMMINGS All Colors</p> <p>STAIR OIL CLOTH 15 in. and 18 in. wide</p> <p>STAIR CANVAS 18 inches wide</p>	<p>Handsome designs in FLOOR CANVAS 6 feet wide</p> <p>30 HOUR TIMEPIECES with 10 minute alarm and stem shut off</p> <p>Splendid Quality WRITING TABLETS Letter size and Ruled</p> <p>ENVELOPES</p> <p>Scrubbing BRUSHES</p> <p>Shoe</p> <p>Stove</p> <p>Clothes</p> <p>TABLE KNIVES AND FORKS</p> <p>POCKET KNIVES AND SCISSORS</p> <p>WOOL CARDS</p>	<p>Children's, Youths' Boys, Girls, Women's and Men's SOLID LEATHER FOOTWEAR</p> <p>Wood and Tinned TRUNKS</p> <p>SUIT CASES All sizes and grades</p> <p>POUND GOODS —in— Regattas, Flannelettes, White Check Muslin, Fancy Cottons, Tweeds, Calico, Shirtings, Towels, Towelling, Sateens, Velvets, Misprint, Denims, etc., etc.</p> <p>Motor Boat SUPPLIES</p> <p>KERO OIL LINSEED OIL AXES, STOVES TINWARE</p>
<p>Best Quality TEAS and High Grade FLOUR —at— Rock-Bottom Prices</p>	<p>New shipment of MOLASSES just arrived Prices Right</p> <p>Fine Granulated SUGAR</p>	<p>LAMP BURNERS LANTERNS and LANTERN GLOBES PAINTS OILS LEADS</p>	<p>BISCUITS of all kinds</p> <p>CREAMERY —and— STERLING BUTTER</p>	<p>RAISINS CURRENTS TINNED PINEAPPLE and APRICOTS</p>	<p>HORSE HARNESS and TRACES</p> <p>BEEF, IRON & WINI SLOAN'S LINIMENT F.P.U. LINIMENT PAIN RELIEVER</p>

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