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Hill.

J. J. ROSSITER

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., FEB. 8, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

A Question

WHAT is up at the Customs House? Some cheques for officials for January wages were paid by cheque drawn on the Royal Bank of Canada, and not on the Bank of Montreal—the bank which has been doing the Government's business since a branch opened here. What does it mean? Will someone explain? Is it that the Colony's accounts are in such a condition at the Bank of Montreal that no further advances will be made, and credit is now being secured from the Royal Bank?

Useless Effort

AN effort is being made by some of the political friends of Sir Edward Morris, to deck that fraud and huge bluffer, that political button-holer and confidence man, that master player upon human credulity, that most insincere sponger of platitudes, that diabolical and soulless fooler of the people; an effort is being made to say, in some quarters to accredit Sir Edward Morris with being a consistent and persistent advocate of cold storage for this Country.

We have been accustomed to hearing praises unmerited bestowed upon Sir Edward, but never has a more groundless assertion in that direction been attempted than this.

Consider Sir Edward Morris really wanting cold storage, and then ask yourselves the question: What has prevented him carrying his so great desire into execution?

He has had all the machinery of the Government at his back. Not only this, but he has had the people demanding cold storage for him, and for one session, and one extraordinary session of the House he has had an opposition whose platform has been cold storage.

In the face of all this, Sir Edward's anxiety for cold storage, a country clamoring for cold storage, and an opposition demanding cold storage, we have no cold storage yet, and no attempt being made in that direction by the Government.

At least one million dollars are lost to the Country yearly because of this neglect.

Sir Edward Morris found the time and the means to launch upon a senseless and highly expensive monkeying with agriculture.

He has found the means to inaugurate an almost criminal railway building. He has built railroads that are now idle, and others, for all that they are worth to the Country, that might as well be idle. Millions have been thrown away upon this, the most gigantic bit of folly ever attempted in this Country, and millions more must be found to finance the cursed policy.

This railway policy of Sir Edward Morris has brought nothing but a heap of taxation and charges upon the people of the Country. A shameless piece of fraud from beginning to end and in all its ramifications.

So great has been the bungling in connection with this railway policy, that it is scarcely wide of the mark to say, that it has been criminal.

In view of all these fruitless undertakings of Morris, in view of the fact, that he has had the finances and will of the people supporting him, and in

face of the fact that the will and wish of the people have been for cold storage, we find a man to-day with cheek enough and brass enough in that cheek to tell us that Sir Edward Morris is laboring and has labored to get us cold storage.

To what depths of peridy will some men abuse themselves to support a political master.

As To Education

ONE of the greatest evils in Newfoundland to-day—one of the greatest menaces to the future of our Country—is the lack of educational attention. No serious attempt was ever made to combat this unnecessary evil until the Convention of the F.P.U. held at Bonavista in 1912 outlined a proposal in what is now known as the Bonavista Platform of the F.P.U. That Convention laid down the following resolution: "Free and compulsory education seven months each year."

At the time this scheme was made public through the columns of The Advocate the Government press sent up a howl that reached the ears of all who loved Graballism. Nothing was too wicked or untruthful for these self-styled champions of the people to hurl against this plank of the Union platform.

It was made a special feature of the 1913 campaign in several districts. The voters were told that Coaker and the F.P.U. were evil doers. They were warned by political yaws—who cared not a straw how they won their election as long as they succeeded in fooling the electorate—that their churches and schools were in danger of destruction if the Liberal-Union Government came into power.

Did not one of the Cabinet Ministers of Morris' Government say last session from his seat on the floors of the Assembly that the 3500 men of Bonavista—who voted for President Coaker and his two colleagues—were "illiterate cullage."

What a spectacle for the outside world? What an insult to be hurled at a God-fearing hard working people? Would it not have been more Christian and honest for this man to have raised his voice in support of a measure which would bring joy and comfort to many a young fisherman, who through no fault of his own—but through the fault of past Governments—was deprived of an education in the days of his youth, but who would gladly remedy the evil that proved to him a crime?

The greatest asset a country can boast of is an educated people—and until such time as the rotten barriers of prejudices are smashed will Newfoundland have to bear the stigma of being an educationally backward people.

"Prejudice" is easy to create and hard to destroy. It is sinister of wit and wisdom. Its perceptions are false. It sees in darkness; it nurtures lies and rejects truth. Breeding hatred it blasts sympathy and only rules those who give it light. It is the monster of the mind and pollutes thought, serves despair and vanishes right. It offends against facts and is a stranger to logic. It is the hand maiden of error, the Nemesis of knowledge.

There should be no difficulty in dealing with this question if we get together and work for the common good of all. The Morris Government have voted increased amounts for the educational grants since they assumed office, but the money has not been spent in the right way.

It is useless establishing good schools and placing good teachers in charge of those schools if the children's parents won't send their children to school. Some do willingly others indifferently, other don't trouble.

The F.P.U.'s aim is to make every man an interested factor in seeing that his children attend school. To send a child to school one day and keep him home the following day, is almost as bad as not sending him at all. The schools are there, the teachers are provided and it becomes the duty of the Colony to insist upon the regular attendance of all children—from the ages of 7 to 14 years—at least seven months out of every twelve.

This issue was somewhat ventilated at the last session of the Legislature and the excuses put forward by opponents were incapable of holding water, and we trust the Union boys will strike another blow for this longed for blessing when they again face Graballism in the House of Assembly—for they are fighting the cause of right and the cause of the coming generations.

Destitution

NO steps have been taken by the authorities to deal with the serious situation caused by lack of employment in Conception Bay, and the short fishery last year at a large number of places.

In Conception Bay the people of several settlements are beginning to be alarmed and people are looking for the authorities to take immediate ac-

tion and relieve pressing cases, otherwise looting must result within a few days, for scores of persons are actually starving.

We again warn the Government to attend to this matter and feed the starving and thus prevent looting. Let Morris call the Legislature together and the peoples' representatives who are conversant with affairs in their districts will then be able to discuss ways and means to aid those in need.

Each week will find more destitution and it is not likely that people will starve while an abundance of food is stored in the respective settlements.

In St. John's hundreds are without fuel. It is a sad sight to see a poor woman buying twenty cents worth of coal on a winter's day with the thermometer down to 10 below zero. Very little is being done to help those out of employment in St. John's. The charity disposed are not eager to give out charity indiscriminately and what is most needed here is a responsible committee to receive contributions and distribute them systematically after proper investigation.

Something like 2000 workmen are now out of employment in this city. About 500 are tradesmen who will starve before they beg. Some may have a little savings and may drag along for another month, but we feel sure that there is more destitution in St. John's to-day than for any time in the past thirty years. Many of the people in St. John's are well to do and they should until their purse strings and aid the needy, industrious workmen who have been deprived of labor through war conditions and other matters which none could control.

Many would probably give a few dollars at such a time as this but there is no official and competent organization working to-day, to which such contributions could be sent for proper distribution. Hundreds of well to do families have attics stogged with discarded clothing and boots, the accumulation of years. All such articles should now be brought forth and distributed to the needy poor.

What is wanted is the formation of a committee to collect such articles and see them properly distributed. Now is the time to get to work. No further time can be lost.

The members for St. John's should take some action immediately. Could not meetings be convened by the representatives of St. John's and a central committee organized? Surely there are hundreds in St. John's willing to do a part to help those in need over the winter and spring.

The greatest need is fuel. Much wood is collected from door to door, but coal cannot be collected, and what sort of conditions prevail in a home without any fire?

God pity the poor woman who is compelled to beg twenty cents and expend it for coal. What a sight: Come you well to do people of St. John's, open your hearts and your purses and do something to succor those who through no fault of theirs are now without work for one or two months or longer, and who will not be able to secure employment, probably before June.

Now is the time to show your patriotism and to aid your townspeople to overcome some of the miseries of war.

The Government must also act. There can be no excuse for their inaction. The starving people throughout the Country must be attended to and fed.

In Conception Bay returns can be secured in hoops, drums, etc. Let the Government arrange to purchase at a fair value what hoops and fish drums hose in need have to sell.

Thousands in Conception Bay have hoops and drums that are unsaleable, because there is no demand at present for such material, but the Government, if they purchase, can hold the material and dispose of it to the trade here later, for if a fair fishery results from the fishermen's exertions next summer, there will be a fair demand in the fall for such material.

Whatever possible value must be

given in some way in return for any help given by the Government to the able poor. If the Government hesitate longer to take steps to deal with the serious condition now confronting the poor, their inaction must be construed as nothing short of manslaughter, for people are actually starving at scores of settlements in this Country to-day, while food is abundant and the Government is well able to supply means to relieve all destitution.

Let all seriously consider this matter now. The time for hesitation and delay is passed. Delay now will mean death from starvation—or murder—owing to Government inaction and negligence.

May it never be said that one poor soul should die of starvation because of the neglect of the Government.

Yet it will be said very soon if relief is not afforded. Now gentlemen be up and doing. We want to aid you, not censure you. Which must it be?

TO THE EDITOR

Annual Meeting Brownsdale Council

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—Our annual meeting took place on Dec. 12th and the following officers were elected:—

H. Rowe, chairman, re-elected;
H. Bryant, deputy-chairman, re-elected;
John Brown, secretary, elected;
Henry Matthews, treasurer, elected.

We are more determined than ever to stand by the F.P.U. and its President and we feel that in Mr. Coaker we have a man who will stand by the fishermen of this country and will see that they get fair play.

We had our annual parade on Jan. 18th. We left the Hall at 10 a.m. and marched all around the place. When we got back to the Hall, Friend Henry Lambert had his phonograph there and he gave us some fine selections. As we were entering the Hall, he played "Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching," and it was just fine.

We found that the ladies had a good dinner prepared for us at the Hall, and we did full justice to it.

At night we held a public meeting. Mr. H. Rowe presided. The meeting opened with a song "It's a long, long way to Tipperary," sung by James Pike, Plemon Manuel, Abram Matthews and Jessie Hopkins.

Addresses were then given by Wm. March, Stephen Rowe, John Thorne, James Head, Wm. Avery, Mrs. Willis March and Mrs. Reuben Martin. The addresses were along Union and patriotic lines. The meeting closed with the National Anthem. The Hall was then left open for the young folks until the wee sma' hours of the morning, when with three ringing cheers for the F.P.U. and three more for the King, the day came to a close.

Wishing the readers every success during the coming year.

H. ROWE, Chairman, F.P.U. Brownsdale, Jan. 23, 1915.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

A Government That Misgoverns

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir, Please allow me space in your much esteemed paper to make a few remarks regarding the merchants and the Government which governs this country of ours. Now you merchants, I may say merchants of our neighborhood, our fishermen, our toilers, our fathers before us have given them riches. We have fished night and day trying to make both ends meet with the merchants, and, while they have got rich, we have become poor.

The Lord saw it good to send a poor fishery the past summer, and lots of our fishermen are in want, not because they were lazy or did not try to be honest with the merchant. They were depending on the fish as in times passed, and fish did not come.

Now lots of our fishery men did not perhaps pay their accounts with the merchant, and what do the merchants say to them?

"Can't do anything for you!" If Mr. Coaker and the Union were in being in our fathers' day fishermen of today would not be beholding to the merchant.

Now you Government—Lord forgive me if I have wrongly named you. What do you mean to do? Are you going to let the people starve? They say, oh! the poor Belgians! I say, God bless the Belgians; the world is looking after them.

Now, Mr. Editor, I see by your paper, that Watson is getting volunteers and why don't Watson, Squires and Blandford volunteer themselves? They would stop a bullet as well as a fisherman.

I may say well done Hr. Grace and Coley's Point, and the whole of Conception Bay, stand by Coaker and the Union, as the North have. Clean Government and every man his own. WILLIAM TUCKER, Elliston, Jan. 27, 1915.



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but cannot promise for to-morrow. The fire that comes like a thief in the night may strike you before to-morrow's dawn. The man who takes chances of going without insurance needs only one lesson to teach him his folly. But it is a bitter one. Think of my low rates.

PERCIE JOHNSON, Insurance Agent.

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CASINO THEATRE, Wednesday, February 10th, 1915 Annual ENTERTAINMENT In Aid of Mount Cashel

The Theatre has been generously given free of charge by Mr. Kielly, and the following ladies and gentlemen will take part, viz: Master S. Leary, Misses Jean Strang, Mary Ryan, Mary Morris, G. Strang, L. Anderson, S. Johnson, Messrs. McCarthy, Slattery, Ruggles, O'Neil, Cameron and Hutton. Dances and Gun Drill Exercises by Mt. Cashel Boys. Volunteer March and National Airs by C.C.C. Band.

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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.

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