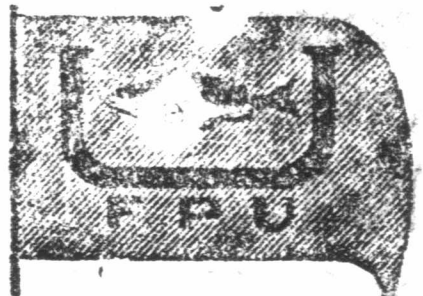


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**The Mail and Advocate**

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Editor and Business Manager  
**JOHN J. ST. JOHN**

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., DEC. 6th, 1915.

**OUR POINT OF VIEW****Prohibition**

THE whole Country has now awakened to the impertinence and consummate cheek of the thirty or forty Saloon Keepers of this City who have attempted to muzzle the Prohibition measure that was carried on November 4th by a majority of 20,000 and with 400 votes over and above the outrageous conditions of 40 per cent demanded by the Liquor interests in the Government ranks.

That one man belonging to St. John's should have the right to ask for a recount for the 18 districts of the Colony and to hurl such an insult into the face of the big Northern districts that have rolled up a vote of 50 per cent of the electorate against liquor is an outrage that won't be tolerated with impunity.

If the law is what Judge Johnson asserts it is by his decision of Friday, then laymen may as well admit once and for all that one of the requirements to make a first class lawyer, does not include the hitherto believed requisite of common sense. What ever else may be claimed as a foundation for such a decision, laymen at any rate, will conclude that the qualification so essential to success in most walks of life—common sense—is not requisite when arriving at legal decision.

The Court has decided that one man—a Saloon Keeper of St. John's—has the power to make a formal affidavit that carries with it the right to recount votes for Prohibition cast in 18 districts. That the election was one election, that the count will be one count; that there was not 18 districts or an election for each district. Yet 18 Proclamations were issued, 18 Returning Officers were appointed to control the work, 18 district returns have been made, some 2000 voters who were absent from their districts on Nov. 4th were deprived of their votes because the vote was not one general vote but cast in districts.

If all this is law, then we again assert that Common Sense is not requisite to construe the meaning of legal enactments.

The whole thing has extremely disgusted the Country and respect for law and order will not benefit much by the proceedings in the Court to date upon this matter.

The only course open to the Government now is to state absolutely before the Court, through

the Minister of Justice, that no matter what the outcome of the technical struggle before the Court on the Prohibition measure, that the Government intend to stand by the demands of the 25,000 electors who voted against Liquor on Nov. 4th. If this is done the Liquor interests will of course bow to the inevitable and end the torture they have endeavored to apply to the conscience of the 25,000 electors who recently said NO liquor for Newfoundland.

If the Government do not adopt this course and will stand by while Mr. Furlong's "process" of strangling the measure is put into operation, and compel the Opposition to move in this matter, it will be the saddest crime permitted to be committed in Newfoundland for many a year and will result in busting the Morris Government into atoms.

It will also introduce a sectarian struggle in the House and thence into the Country that will be neither creditable or beneficial to the Government.

Such Prohibitionists as Messrs. Goodison, Parsons, LeFeuvre, Downey and Currie must stand by the measure passed last May and see that the 25,000 electors who voted YES on November 4th are not insulted and outraged; and such representatives as Messrs. Piccott, Crosbie, Emerson, Young and Moulton, as well as the six members for St. John's—East and West—cannot ignore the overwhelming vote cast in favour of Prohibition in their districts, if they regard their trust as public men in any way compatible with their duty in recognizing the expressed wishes of their constituents as expressed through the highest tribunal in the land.

For our part we are convinced that no recount will cut down the surplus vote over 40 per cent sufficient to defeat the measure; and if such was accomplished we have no doubt whatever of the measuring being enacted into law as soon as the Legislature opened.

Why then inflict upon the Country the outrage now in process which cannot aid the Rum Sellers, but can accomplish much unpleasantness and arouse bitter feelings that won't soon subside?

**Rev. Francis Boone**

ON Saturday we had the pleasure of a visit from the Rev. Francis Boone, son of Mr. Robert Boone of Lewisporte. While stationed as operator at Lewisporte fourteen years ago this lad, Francis, worked at Miller's lumber yard and was a steady sensible chap. We became interested in him and he began to study during his evenings. He subsequently offered himself to the Methodist Conference and was sent as a probationer to Hamilton Inlet, where he spent two years.

He returned to Newfoundland and laboured for one year at Farmer's Arm, Dildo, N.D.B. The following year he went to America and entered College, where he remained two years. After an uphill fight that truly tested his enthusiasm and endurance, he overcame the difficulties of a neglected early education, and was ordained a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is now in charge of Grace Church, Moorhead, Minn.

Mr. Boone deserves every credit for what he has made himself and his achievements against such heavy odds, should prove an inspiration to many a fisherman's son. He hopes to return to Newfoundland to labor in 1917, which if he will should give the Methodist Church another faithful, devoted and practical preacher of the Gospel.

Mr. Boone left by the Stephano on Saturday en route for his home via New York.

It may be all right to wait for dead men's shoes if you have some of your own to wear in the meantime.

**Frank Lind's Letter**

THIS morning News contained a letter from Frank Lind, written from the Dardanelles, Oct. 30th. We republish that portion of the letter referring to matters and conditions we exposed a week ago in our editorial columns.

There is no doubt about the unnecessary hardships being endured by our lads at the front, and there is no doubt about someone making big blunders. We trust our lads, in khaki fighting so eagerly for King, Empire and the Liberty of the World have received those comforts and necessary articles of clothing, that they were so badly in need of five weeks ago.

The public are uneasy over the delay in furnishing the requisite information by the authorities. The country must be satisfactorily assured that such negligence will not be repeated again.

Our boys at the front may rest assured that their own flesh and blood are more interested in them than in any other issue or public matter now before the public. Their comforts and care are the first consideration of every man and woman in the Colony. Their noble self-sacrificing spirit, which led them to offer their ALL for Empire in her most urgent hour of need will never be forgotten. All that can be done to provide comforts and essential clothing will be done willingly and lovingly.

The public are somewhat displeased with the authorities and the W.P.A. for the negligence which has been so plainly proven, and all the particulars must be promptly forthcoming, and every precaution taken to prevent such from again occurring.

**Squid Bait**

SOME time ago a correspondent stated that squid bait was selling at 7½ cents per pound at the Bait Depot at Rose Blanche. We find the highest price charged this fall has been five cents per lb. Our correspondent therefore quoted an incorrect figure.

**THE WORLD'S PRESS****March Breast-Forward**

London Daily Telegraph:—Legitimate and strengthening criticism has sometimes been most foolishly suppressed, and the absence of that fuller information which we believe to be quite compatible with military security has had a deplorable effect upon public opinion, which even yet the Government fail adequately to realize. We know, too, that when unquestioning trust is placed in Governments mistakes seem to follow as though by direct causation. Nevertheless, we hold it to be the duty of every loyal Briton in these days loyally to support the Government, which is not merely a Government which could command a majority of the House of Commons in the present crisis of affairs, and when Ministers make mistakes to help in their redemption. Other things may be doubtful, but not that.

**Extracts From Frank Lind's Letter Published in This Morning's News**

WE don't hear any war news worth while here, and have no idea of how things are going in Flanders or on the sea. Would you believe it, we get lots of news on our own home papers, although rather late, but news we cannot get here at all. So you can understand how much a home paper is looked for amongst us fellows.

**Where Does It Go?**

It is a little warmer the past few days, but we dread the cold days and nights to come. Perhaps to-day it will change again, and then comes that rotten cold dampness for days and days.

The people who fitted us out for a warm climate, when sending us here, had a poor idea of what it is like. I don't suppose there are ten men in the regiment who were lucky enough to have brought a pair of drawers with them.

I hope you won't think I am complaining, but I am sure I voice the sentiments of every man in the regiment when I tell you that we feel disgusted on looking through the St. John's (Newfoundland) papers and read about so many thousand pairs of socks, thousands of underclothing, etc., being knitted by the good women at home for "our boys at the front."

The question somebody asks every day is: "Where does it all go?" for men in the Regiment are cold and wretched standing sentry at nights with perhaps one thin shirt under their tunic. I would shock you if I told the length of time most of the shirts have been on the men since being washed. Lots of them are wearing the same shirt put one either in Aldershot or en route.

We have not received anything from the W.P.A. since the time we were at Fort George.

**No Y.M.C.A.'s There**

Now all along until we got to the front, none of the men bothered, as we were always in places where there were shops, and when a man wanted any clothing or anything he went and bought it, but here as I have already told you,

we are isolated. Money is of no use, and if there were shops to buy things nobody would say a word.

Are you aware that in the firing line in France the men spend, I understand, about 48 hours in the trenches and 96 hours out, but when out they have not dug-outs as we, but Y.M.C.A. canteens, stores and houses to go to, and have a good feed, a bath, and all sorts of luxuries, and buy anything they need.

Yet they seem to be getting the clothing that is so badly needed amongst our men. Don't think I exaggerate when I say "badly needed" for "The half is not told." I see things that would make your heart ache. Then of course, a soldier's life is rough, but why not make it as pleasant and comfortable as possible, and the winter is set in here.

**Sent But Not Received**

All the different Regiments here their packages time after time sent from the country or city, as the case may be, which they represent: parcels of chocolates, cigarettes, and all sorts of things given by the people to their Regiment "at the front."

For instance, the London Fusiliers have no end of stuff from London; the Royal Scots from Edinburgh, and so on. The Royal Scots were near us last time we were out of the trenches, and when we met them they gave our fellows no end of cigarettes, candies, and in some cases pairs of gloves and mufflers, etc. They had more than they knew what to do with.

Then the Australians, you ought to see the way they are looked after by their people. They need for nothing, and give piles of it away to whatever Regiments happen to be stationed near them from time to time, and those Australians are certainly "gone" on the Newfoundlanders, ("Colonials, you know," they would do anything for our chaps. If we happen to meet up with any of them the word Newfoundlanders bears a charm. It is "Newfoundlanders ask what you will and you shall have it."

The duty of the citizen is always plain in time of war. It is to march breast-forward and assist the Government all he can.

**A Glorious Work**

London Daily Telegraph:—The British people may well be proud of the work which has been done during the present war through combined operations of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Union is strength. In a spirit of loyal devotion to a great cause, the two organizations have co-operated to a splendid purpose. It is impossible to form an estimate of the results achieved—the dying whose last hours have been soothed, the timely aid given to the wounded, the comforts sent to prisoners, the heart agony in thousands of homes which have been relieved by the kindly offices in tracing men reported missing and

**Labor After the War**

New York Evening Post:—Political upheavals in the belligerent nations, after the war, have been freely predicted. Something of that sort may easily occur. One thing seems certain, that the higher cost of living, and the increased taxes sure to follow for a long time, will lead to a resolute demand by the working classes that the increased wages which they have been getting in war-time be continued or even be made larger still. We in this country shall doubtless face that as well as Germany and England. Already it is a sense of the role which the laboring men are going to play which lends importance to what their spokesmen are saying now.

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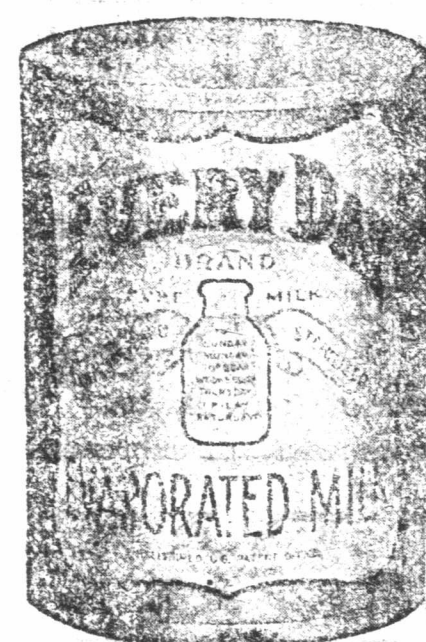
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