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**The Mail and Advocate**

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., OCT. 26, 1914.

**OUR POINT OF VIEW**

**The New Company**

**P**RESIDENT COAKER is giving considerable attention at present to the matter of the establishment of a new company backed by Union fishermen and co-operating with some of the smaller exporters for the purchase and exportation of codfish, codlin, lobsters, salmon, herring, berries, &c.

The proposal is meeting with a very favorable reception by the fishermen and planters and when the Union Convention considers the matter there will be every hope of favorable decision.

The company will aim to purchase fully half a million quintals of fish or about as much as Job, Baird, Bowring, Balne Johnston, Goodridge and Smith & Co. now export.

The establishment of such a company with headquarters here and large packing centres at Catalina and Burn, and collecting aided by the Trading Co.'s stores would revolutionize the fish trade and give the exporting company command of most of the markets.

The trade would have to pay the prices fixed by the Export Co. and all their present power of combining and planning and scheming at the Board of Trade rooms daily would become harmless and unavailing.

The prices paid for fish the past season are far below the real value of the article as viewed from prices prevailing in the markets. Shore fish should have fetched \$6 in the outports and \$6.50 here since September 1st if the country possessed buyers with the independence that characterized buying the last four or five years.

Shore fish remaining will advance to those prices and \$6 (taqual) all will hold out for after today.

The outport price advanced on Saturday to \$5.75 and few fishermen will sell at less than \$6 at the outports which will make the price here \$6.50. Labrador (dry) will advance to \$5.75 after a day or two as \$5.60 is now being paid.

Labrador (stopp) is selling in the outports today at \$3.50—the same figure that prevailed here on Saturday. Seven-eighths of the Labrador (soft) this side of Seldom has now been shipped and what remains to come will advance to \$3.75 here before many days—\$3.60 is the figure paid today by some.

All the fishermen are greatly interested in the formation of a fish purchasing export company and there is little doubt that by the time fish is ready for shipping next summer the new company will be in operation.

Every fishermen should gladly welcome such a proposal as it will make the fishermen their own exporters—as they are now their own importers.

The Trading Company will arrange to issue supplies to all the shareholders of the company and there will be no need of independent men sacrificing their fish as they have done the past Fall.

The fishermen's day has come and no longer will they have to go about with their fingers in their mouths asking someone to give them an offer for fish, nor will they have to take supplies from firms that do not purchase fish, for the Trading Company will attend to the wants of those planters

here, at Catalina, Twillingate, Change Islands and Greenspond, where large premises will be operated.

The work of Mr. Coaker to uplift the fishermen is now gradually bearing fruit and convincing all reasonable men that the establishment of the F.P.U. was the greatest work ever attempted in Newfoundland on behalf of the toilers and for the benefit of the country.

All that the fishermen desire now is a new government, controlled by the F.P.U., which they believe will make the country blossom as a rose before being in power two years.

**Without Understanding**

**A** FEW days ago, as intimated in a news item on the front page of today's issue of this paper, the authorities at Ottawa received from the German-Canadian Alliance of Saskatchewan a petition which asked that certain restrictions should be placed on the English press of the Dominion, alleging that these papers are not "doing justice to German civilization, but are bound to do harm in this country by stirring up race-hatred and ill-feeling."

Of course there is no chance of such a petition being acted upon; but the presentation of it shows that Canadian subjects of German origin have not, for all their residence in a British Dominion, entered into the spirit which actuates British ideals and makes permanent British institutions.

The liberty and independence of the press, which constitutes the avenue through which all classes of the population in British countries express their ideas on subjects of popular import and make their demands for reform or modification of existing institutions, constitute one of the greatest and most effective bulwarks of our general liberty and, hence, are not to be tampered with lightly.

But the unfairness of the demand is immediately obvious. We have yet to learn that the German-Canadian Alliance has registered any protest against the campaign of falsehood and misrepresentation that the Germans have, through their own press and through the press of neutral nations, been waging against the Allies. What about those "inspired" articles, tissues of malicious untruth, most of them, that have been given prominence in certain of the American newspapers? Surely it would be more in keeping with their positions as naturalized Canadians for the German-Canadian Alliance to enter emphatic protest against the screeches through which Germany hopes to degrade these very institutions which make life in British Dominions so untrammelled.

Take, for instance, the following which appeared in papers scattered broadcast in Amsterdam, after the fall of Antwerp:

"Antwerp is the sacrifice to England's self-seeking ambition and cowardice. England forced this catastrophe. England is too cowardly to set her own national power in the field. England has tricked Belgium and brought her to the shambles."

Small wonder that, as the correspondent in Amsterdam observes, "the natural effect" on the Dutch "is to cause a revulsion of feeling against Germany."

And shall those who have been given the right to claim the protection of the Union Jack be more zealous in their championship of a foreign flag, even if it be that under which they once lived, than to resent the attempts of men whose actions have proved them dishonorable, to besmirch it with the foul mud of immoderate falsehood?

If so, then we shall be more pleased than otherwise if the utterances of the Canadian press shall, to quote the petition of the German-Canadian Alliance, stir up such "race-hatred and ill-feeling" as shall render it impossible for any erstwhile German subject to become a naturalized Briton.

For we desire only the acquisition of such elements as shall enter fully into our concepts of democracy and as shall, in all wisdom and moderation, co-operate with us in making "the bounds of freedom wider still."

**Rendering Thanks**

**I**T would be difficult to find anything more insolent or more opposed to Christian concept of the Divine than is contained in the Emperor's message to his aunt after hearing of the fall of Antwerp. "GOD," he says, "be thanked in deepest humility, for this glorious result. To Him be all honor."

It is to be noted that throughout all the Kaiser's expressions of religious sentiment there runs the general thread of an idea that the Almighty is essentially the God of battles and especially of such as are won by the German arms. To be an adept in the art of slaying one's fellow-man is to establish one's self high in the favor of the Creator and Judge of the ends of the earth.

This peculiarity is especially marked in that Bremerhaven speech of the Kaiser, to which we referred a few days ago. "Give proof of your courage," he said to the troops en route to

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China, "and the Divine blessing will be attached to your colors."

This is after all but a reversion to the old-time principle that "might constitutes right," and is a modern instance of the exaltation of brute strength over these higher attainments to which centuries of civilising methods have led the majority of the nations of the earth. Translated into terms of everyday life it means that the Kaiser considers the pugilist as more deserving of Divine favor and more likely to be granted it than the ordinary citizen, because in a trial of physical strength the pugilist is almost infallibly bound to make short work of his untrained opponent.

"It was a necessity to disregard our pledged word to respect the neutrality of Belgium," said the Imperial German Chancellor, "therefore, we made forcible entry into Belgian territory."

And we could understand the Kaiser as remarking, "Yes, and if we must suffice men to defeat those who would preserve inviolate that territory, we have entitled ourselves to the Divine favor."

No such sentiment as honor, as righteousness, as regard for the weak nation whose protector she had pledged herself to become, influenced Germany in her course of action. So Belgian territory was invaded, Belgian non-combatants, both men, women and children were massacred, and Belgian property, churches, as well as forts; peasants' homes, as well as princes' mansions were razed to the ground.

And, speaking with that egotism which has ever marked his career, but which, in this instance becomes the most outrageous blasphemy, the Kaiser gives thanks to the Most High, and says: "God be thanked, in all humility, for this glorious result. To Him be all honor."

And, having regard to the pronounced sentiments of the Kaiser and the bloodthirsty conduct of his troops, might we not consider ourselves as back in those times of which the old prophet complained when he said that certain peoples evidently thought that by much speaking they would be heard of the Most High and that they tried to propitiate him with the flesh of certain offerings?

For the Kaiser has been very prolific in his addresses to the Divine, and withal we have yet to hear of any instance in which he has exhibited that contrition and humility of heart which Holy Writ tells us is essential to an effective appeal to the Judge of all mankind.

And his men have offered up upon the altars of their military ambition, the honor, yea the lives of helpless, inoffensive women and the soft, unresisting bodies of piteous infants.

And shall He, who is proclaimed from innumerable pulpits as judging between man and man in the ways of righteousness, justice and truth, lend approval to all this? Shall the "Father of the fatherless" and the "Husband of the widow" look from High Heaven on acts of wickedness, of inhumanity and of dishonour and yet favor them with His smile?

If so, then is all our professed religion a delusion and a snare. Rather shall we, who oppose this barbarity, this high treason to the best in civilization, offer our bodies and our re-

sources of food and money to the resistance of these outrages and to the Him, the Most High, the Rectifier of all that is wrong, we

"Fighting to the end  
Commend our souls."

**War and Temperance**

**W**ITH the outbreak of war, the Czar of Russia issued a Ukase, or proclamation, prohibiting the manufacture or sale of vodka, the Russian national beverage. Originally this drink was distilled from rye, but as often as not maize and potatoes are used in its manufacture. The sale of this drink, which contains about fifty per cent. alcohol, has for some time been a government monopoly.

For a long time the general use of vodka has constituted one of the most insidious of Russian social problems, and so marked an improvement has resulted in the general welfare of the Russian working classes since the proclamation prohibiting its sale was issued that the authorities have intimated that they intend to make the prohibition permanent.

The French authorities have also fallen into line by prohibiting the sale of absinthe, the green drink, that has caused so much mischief amongst all classes of the population of France. This beverage, which is distilled from a number of plants, and particularly from Wormwood, often contains as high as eighty per cent. of alcohol. Its habitual or immoderate use has marked effects on the drinkers, causing horrible dreams, hallucinations and other symptoms of nervous disorder, while, in cases where there is much indulgence in the beverage, idiosyncrasy or paralysis often result.

The deleterious effects of indulgence in alcohol were also evidently recognized by Lord Kitchener, who can hardly be accused of being a temperance crank. It will be remembered that in one of the first army orders the Secretary of War issued to the men of the First British Expeditionary Force he expressly warned the soldiers against indulgence in the wines for which the country in which they are campaigning is renowned.

The Czar, the French Government and the British Secretary for War did not speak as temperance fanatics but as managers of great expeditions of which every member had to be as mentally and physically "fit" as possible, if the success of their arms were to be assured.

And that such action was essential to the well-being and good discipline of the Allied troops is proven by the conduct of the Germans during their campaign in Belgium and France.

The London Times, which has never shown any marked enthusiasm for total abstinence, has this to say: "The trail of the German troops is marked, as innumerable witnesses testify, by myriads of empty bottles. Their once proud soldiery is now typified by the colonel found in a stupor amid his unconscious men beside a cask in an Epernay cellar. We may contrast with this picture the spectacle presented by the allies—Russia absolutely prohibiting the sale of vodka and beer throughout her immense dominions, France forbidding the sale of absinthe, the British soldier marching through the best vineyards in existence, and temperately demanding, as many letters tell us, his cup of tea."

The great victory over drunkenness in Russia has received far too little attention in this country. Since China proscribed opium the world has seen nothing like it. We have been well reminded that in sternly prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquor Russia has already vanquished a greater foe than the Germans. Is it fully realized yet that for the Allies, and for the first time in history, this is to all intents and purposes a "total" war? We hope that the indiscreet people who insist on "treating" our soldiers and sailors on their return from the front will realize it very quickly."

**Mr. Morine In It.**

(Harbor Grace Standard.)

**T**UESDAY'S Royal Gazette contained Proclamations setting November 16 as Nomination Day in the Districts of Twillingate and Bonavista. Mr. Coaker, who has resigned his Bonavista seat, goes to Twillingate, while Mr. A. B. Morine goes to Bonavista.

The election will not be contested by the Government.

Mr. Morine, after several years of withdrawal from the political sphere in this Island enters again the arena and seeks the suffrages of the District which he represented for twenty consecutive years. He comes out as an opponent of the Government but does not attach himself to either wing of the Opposition, but is in sympathy as is generally known with the Fishermen's Protective Union.

To quote from his address to the electors of Bonavista:

"I am opposed to the present Government, and strongly disapprove of its policy and administration. I am in sympathy with the principles of the Fishermen's Protective Union and, in the main, I agree with its published political platform. As a representative I shall endeavour to work in harmony with the Union Members in the promotion of the best interests of the Colony."

Mr. Morine is acknowledged by friends and foes alike to be a man of exceptional ability of long and wide experience in the political arena and of very extensive acquaintanceship with public affairs, which if directed with single eye to the furtherance of the ends an organization such as the Union should keep steadily in view, the raising of the status of the masses as well as the classes, the purification of politics and the general wellbeing of the Colony, will, if availed of, tend to save it from the tactical errors and mistaken methods that are apt to make a movement good in the main misunderstood, less potent for good and to retard the day of the successful accomplishment, full and unadulterated, of its mission.

When one considers the vast possibilities for the welfare of this Colony, material, mental and moral in the reach of the new political and economic party that has placed itself in the field and secured such a commanding position in it within the past few years, one cannot help desiring that the direction will be given and availed of to the extent necessary to effective and beneficial results.

We need statesmen—men of high ideals, practical plans, forcefulness, tact. We need to be a people that can appreciate such qualities and be satisfied with nothing less.

Both our politicians and ourselves should move along the road of strenuous endeavours and amid many shortcomings strive to rise to these heights.

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