

Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, - - - Proprietor

FRIDAY, Jan. 25, 1918.

The National Government and the National Duty.



We return again to-day to the subject of the Regiment, not for the sake of arguing with the papers that speak for the Government and of quibbling and splitting hairs after the manner in which they delight, but because the matter is of such premier importance, involving a problem which must be faced and solved and which will compel us to keep the subject to the fore until the proper solution is found. The sole excuse which the Government now appears to find for not propounding one immediately is set forth by the Herald, which finds it in the antagonism of ourselves and the other papers to the Government. The newspapers have suddenly acquired a new importance not ascribed to them as a rule before. And it is certainly a new and strange doctrine that a Government should not do its obvious duty in one respect because it is criticised and attacked in others. Which respect, moreover, is the very and only one as to which the Government knows it will meet with no opposition, except such as consists in helpful suggestion, and as to which the papers have expressly stated that they will offer none. The only qualification of that statement is to be found in our own announcement a few days ago, that we would not actively support, though we would not oppose, any scheme in which Mr. Coaker had a part. Though we have not thereby suffered in the esteem of the public, who know Mr. Coaker's true sentiments in the matter, the Government has seized upon our statement with great alacrity and eagerness. We are glad to be of such importance, but in order that even this flimsy excuse may not be left them, we withdraw our words unreservedly. We shall examine, not impartially, but sympathetically any plan that is proposed without inquiring into its authorship, and so far from putting obstacles in the way of its execution will be prepared to further it in the same way as we did the autumn recruiting campaign.

But what does the absurd excuse amount to? It is about the first instance on record of the Government being in the least deterred by the prospect of adverse criticism (which, we repeat, will not be forthcoming) from carrying out any design it has formed. When it has been a matter of appointing ministers, creating committees or departments, or doing anything else which has been certain to excite a regular storm of opposition and objections, we have not noticed that the foreknowledge of such consequences has moved the Government in the slightest or that the consequences themselves have had the smallest effect. They have been, in some strange way, only the envious

vapourings of a disappointed few against the growing power of the "masses", the spread of "democracy" and what not. But in this particular case of reinforcing it, an atmosphere of peace and quiet, extending to matters in no way related to it, is absolutely essential. Its critics will not be still, so the Government refuses to do anything until they are. The great National Government in a fit of sulks! We are to cease objecting to illegal and unconstitutional practices in matters purely domestic, and then, but not till then, the Government will condescend to attend to the Regiment. This is literally what the Herald keeps on saying. We are forced to the conclusion that our esteemed contemporary is a great deal more concerned over the composing of political differences and the silencing of the critics than over the matter of recruiting. We can understand the Herald's anxiety.

As a plain matter of fact the excuse is too thin and trivial to deceive anyone. The questions which have been so hotly discussed and called forth the attacks that are so strongly deprecated have not the remotest connection with this all-important matter. The Herald knows, the Advocate knows, everyone knows, that all parties are ready at once to drop their quarrels when it once comes under discussion and as long as it is there. It matters not a jot whether we or anyone else approve or disapprove of the Ministry of Shipping if the question concerns the Regiment. The plain truth of the matter, the unpleasant truth, is that the Government hesitates to touch the subject from a craven and disgraceful fear that any action in it may prove unpopular. If they really wished to tackle it, they would not regard their critics, journalistic or otherwise, for a moment. They do not wish it; it is the last thing they wish. And yet they have the effrontery to call themselves a National Government! Here is the one truly national duty that confronts them, the one that transcends all others, the one that concerns not merely the nation's welfare but something more important still, the nation's honour. That honour has been increased and enriched in the eyes of the world by this very Regiment. We say with all deliberation, and weighing the full meaning of our words, that the Government we now have in power would rather see it clouded and the Regiment itself left to fare as best it may than risk the loss of a few contemptible votes, though they were the votes of the very men whom it is their duty to approach and, if need be, to compel. Time flies and every day lost is serious, yet if within a month the Government takes any effective steps in this regard, we shall retract our words and offer our apologies.

CROSSING TO FRANCE.—The Minister of Militia, J. R. Bennett, Esq., received a message this morning from his son, Lieut. V. S. Bennett, Royal Flying Corps, stating that he was crossing to France for active service with his squadron.

When you want something in a hurry for tea, go to ELLIS'—Head Cheese, Ox Tongue, Boiled Ham, Cooker Corned Beef, Bologna Sausage.

The Menace to the Country.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Sir,—In my letter of the 10th instant I said, that "under the Coalition agreement made by Sir Edward Morris with the Cookerites, we find ourselves to-day at the mercy of men who are Anarchists in methods and principles." Is that true? Some people have said to me that they supposed my allegation to be a mere figure of speech. Oh, no! It was more than that, it was the truth, as I shall now prove by the relation of incidents that cannot be disputed. Let me first define what I mean by Anarchy. Carlyle's definition supplies my meaning. "It is consecration of cupidity and braying of folly, and the stupidity and baseness in the affairs of men." Now to the proof. In the month of November 1913 the General Election, for members to serve in the House of Assembly, was held, and, before the end of that month the excitement, and high tension of party feeling, incident to Parliamentary Elections the world over, had subsided with the close of the polls. Later, with the "braying" folly, the stupidity, and baseness" of the Anarchist Mr. Coaker, through the medium of his "official organ," set their gastronomical work to destroy the Savings Bank of this Colony by inciting a run upon the deposits in that public institution. The Newfoundland Savings Bank is peculiarly the poor man's Bank. In it people of slender means deposit their small savings for safe keeping, or, to meet the demands that bad times or other misfortune may occasion, or perhaps to accumulate a little store in loving trust for a dear old mother or father. It was this institution then that Mr. Coaker, the self-acclaimed friend and champion of the poor fishermen, "the toilers and underdogs," sought to destroy confidence in, and very nearly succeeded. He so played upon the fears, credulity, and suspicion of these depositors that a large number of them made a run on the Bank and drew out, I learn, more than one third of its deposits. The run was only stopped by the prompt, patriotic conduct of Sir Robert Bond who, as the Daily News at the time announced, on information received from the Cashier, went down to the Bank and spoke words of assurance to those who stood within its portals demanding gold for their deposits. Governor Davidson, I understand, sent a note of thanks to Sir Robert Bond for his patriotic service in averting a public calamity. Mr. Coaker, through the medium of his "official organ" grossly insulted him for interfering. What was Mr. Coaker's object in frightening those poor depositors into taking their savings out of the Bank? It cannot be attributed to a mere thoughtless political dodge, for, as I have said, the General Election was over. However, I am not concerned with that question at present; I set out to prove my allegations that we "are at the mercy of men who are Anarchists in methods and principles." Is further proof necessary? Then it shall be forthcoming later. I have often wondered what has become of the savings that were withdrawn from the Bank at that time. Some of it I know has since been lost through fires destroying the homes to which the deposits were brought back. Some has doubtless been recklessly squandered. Some of it probably hidden away at a loss of interest, and at the risk of total loss. But what has become of the bulk of the money that Mr. Coaker scared out of the Savings Bank in 1913 I do not know. I can only suppose, as Mr. Coaker's "official organ" has announced that four thousand fishermen have "their savings to the amount of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars" invested in the Union Trading Company, that some of the amount withdrawn from the Savings Bank, as a result of the scare, found its way into that Company. If that is so, then Mr. Coaker owes a double responsibility to the shareholders in the Union Trading Company, and, if his first consideration is the welfare of the fishermen it would be well for him to remember, as I said before, that responsibility goes hand in hand with capacity and power. It was the disgraceful conduct of Mr. Coaker in relation to the run on the Savings Bank that formed one of "the other reasons" that Sir Robert Bond set forth in his letter of resignation for retiring from public life. Here, in part, is what he wrote,—"I cannot be blind to the fact that the Fishermen's Advocate, whose utterances are directed by the President of the F. P. U. has since the Election persistently encouraged a feeling of distrust among depositors in that Bank. . . . Knowing how easily our Outport people are alarmed in respect to their Bank deposits; knowing from the many letters that I have received within the past few weeks from anxious depositors what a feeling of panic has been created by those newspaper articles, I cannot but regard with feelings of indignation and contempt those responsible for bringing anxiety and distress into the lives of hundreds of our people. You have only to turn to the last issue of the Fishermen's Advocate, December 27th, to see how flippantly and insolently my effort to allay anxiety and to prevent possible loss to depositors, by the withdrawal of their deposits, has been resented by the Editor of the Fishermen's Advocate." As the Opposition party is at present constituted it would be exceedingly difficult for me to com-

bat a charge of joint responsibility for those political activities of the President of the F. P. U. while I remain leader of that party. In consequence then of what has taken place I lay aside a position which has ceased to be either dignified or efficient.

Yours truly,

January 24th, 1918.

City Council.

The Colonial Secretary wrote acknowledging receipt of communication in relation to the Council controlling the medical Health Officer.

A further communication from the Colonial Secretary in reference to the appointment of a community nurse. The acting Public Health Officer will be consulted and the Government in conjunction with the Council, will regulate the duties of the appointee. Sanitary Supervisor Dwyer in submitting his annual report drew attention to the bad condition of the sanitary stables which he described as being neither wind nor water tight and were not fit to stall the city horses. The Council recognizes fully the conditions complained of but owing to the lack of funds are unable to do anything in the matter. The report also dealt with the fish markets and public lavatories. The Supervisor suggests the removal of the fish market in St. John's Cove to near the Reid premises. The catch basins or hoppers were giving every satisfaction and that the people were beginning to realise their usefulness. The sanitary tank used for night soil had given satisfaction during the year. There was also a pressing need of more storm sewers to carry off the water after rain storms and thus save much labour in repairing road beds damaged thereby.

To this matter Council have given much consideration and an effort will be made to this end the current year. The dog nuisance was complained of and the Council agreed that something must be done at once.

The last paragraph covered the work of the sweepers. For the year 1917 some 30,000 loads of garbage were removed.

The Mayor having congratulated the Supervisor on his report, a vote of appreciation of his work was moved by Councillors Morris and Brownrigg and passed unanimously.

The application of Alex. Mercer employed at the West End Rock crushing plant for \$2.50 per day will be considered.

The Engineer reported that arrangements have been made for the installation of lights in the public lavatories, and also that something would have to be done to Job's Bridge to protect it against floating ice. With passing of requirements, etc., meeting adjourned.

Letter From Pte. Harry Wills.

8 Exploits Lane, Grand Falls, 21st January, 1918.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Sir,—Perhaps the following letter from my son, Pte. Harry Wills, who is a prisoner of war at Munster, Westphalia, Germany, may be of interest to some, and it certainly shows what discomforts the poor lads have to put up with. I shall be obliged to you if you will publish it.

Yours, etc.,

F. W. WILLS.

Munster, 21/1/17.

Dear Father and Mother,—Your letter of 31st of August to hand. You say in your letter that the War Contingent Association send us soap, and I can assure you it's mighty little they do send us. I've had about a quarter pound in two months, and we have to wash our clothes as well as ourselves with that. You ask about parcels. They are not so bad now, but after the first few they dropped away until the contents wouldn't feed anyone for a day, let alone a week. I wrote a complaint and they are not at all bad now. We are getting Nid. tobacco in our packets now, too, although I don't smoke a pipe and very few cigarettes. I'm afraid it's too late now to wish you a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year, but better late than never. You must make the best of a bad job and don't worry about me. I'm as well as I can be as long as I am in Germany. I weigh about ten stone six now, and was only a hundred and eleven pounds when I enlisted, so you can tell there isn't much amiss.

Your affectionate son,

HARRY.

How the above letter passed the German censor I can't imagine, as it is a well known fact that the boy's parcels are robbed en route after entering Germany.—F.W.W.

Everyday Etiquette.

"I wonder if I should buy Maud a box of chocolates to eat at the theatre?" bashfully pondered Robert.

"The custom of eating candy at the theatre is not just the thing," said his mother. "It would be better to get her some flowers."

Stafford's Phorotone for all kinds of Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma and various Lung Troubles.—nov6.1f

MEN'S WINTER

UNDERWEAR UNDER-PRICED!

JUST IN TIME FOR THE COLD SPURT.
Two particularly good lines of

Men's Winter-Weight Underwear.

Our stock of these is a bit heavier than we like it to be, and to hasten its reduction we make two very special price cuts. The garments are just what you would expect to find at this Store—shapely, easy-fitting and warm.

Drop in! We are more than eager that you should see these. Two special prices await you—

\$3.00 per suit and **\$5.75.**



Smyth's
ESTABLISHED 1875

Help to Win the War by USING LESS FLOUR.

Oaten Bread Recipe

TAKE
1 sifter full of WINDSOR PATENT Flour and
1 sifter full of OGILVIE'S ROLLED OATS.

THEN

Scald the Rolled Oats with 2 cupsful of boiling water. Make sponge with $\frac{1}{2}$ yeast cake and one cup of WINDSOR PATENT; then add the Rolled Oats—after allowing sufficient time for them to cool.

ADD

1 tablespoonful of Butter,
2 teaspoonfuls of Salt,
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoonful of Sugar.

Knead well, adding WINDSOR PATENT as required to give it the proper texture before proceeding to bake.

The Above Recipe Will Make a Wholesome and Delicious Bread.

M. C. L. I.

The subject for debate last night by the Institute was: "Is an Income Tax along Canadian lines preferred to the War Profits Bill passed by the Legislature during the coming season." The affirmative was led by Messrs. Wm. White and Thos. Soper, while the leaders for the negative were Messrs. C. C. Pratt and E. Bursey.

The affirmative defined both taxes and incomes. In Canada all monies under \$1,500.00 for single persons and \$3,000.00 for married persons were exempt from the Income Tax. The negative side contended that the Canadian Income Tax and the Canadian Excess Profit Tax were entirely different forms of taxation. That the income tax would not bring us 50 per cent. of our present measure. The introduction of an Income Tax would be throwing the burden on the salaried man.

Besides the set speakers the following took part in the debate: Messrs. S. R. Penney, A. H. Parkins, Geo. F. Grimes, M.H.A., Jos. Moore, H. Young, S. Woods, G. Peters, G. Bradley, A. Hayward, C. Bowden, R. Hearder, S. P. Whiteway, A. H. Edgecombe, A. Moores, H. Wyatt, J. Baggs and W. Mews. On the vote being taken the negative was sustained by a small majority.

The Hon. John Anderson addressed the gathering and pointed out that both the forms debated by the Institute were unsuitable for this country and referred to the English Excess Profits Act which he thought was a better form for Newfoundland.

He congratulated the Institute on numbers present and referred to the Roll of Honour which now has some forty names, ten of which have made the supreme sacrifice.

The debate for next week is "Resolved that the wastage of life due to economic injustice is greater than that due to war."

St. Andrew's Society

John Browning, Esq., who for six years filled the President's chair of St. Andrew's Society, has retired and a new officer will shortly take his place. During the term the Society acquired the extensive and commodious suite of rooms in the Smallwood Building, which is centrally and conveniently located in the heart of the city. During his tenure of office the Society has increased its membership

Wedding Bells.

DBODGE—HUSSEY.

A very interesting event took place at Hamilton Street Parsonage, Jan. 23rd, when George Hussey, of Port de Grave, was united in holy wedlock to Miss Mary J. Drodge, of Gear Street, St. John's, daughter of the late Eleazer and Cassandra Drodge, of Long Beach, Random, T.B., by the Rev. H. Royle. The bride looked charming in a suit of cream veil and hat to match. She was supported by Eldred Churchill, III, while Mrs. Victor Churchill acted as bridesmaid. After the ceremony the bride and groom drove to Gear Street, the home of the bride, where a sumptuous tea was served. The bride was the recipient of some nice gifts. Their many friends wish Mr. and Mrs. Hussey much happiness of wedded life.—Com.

NORMORE—BADCOCK.

A very pleasing event took place at the Methodist Church, Bell Island, Wednesday, Jan. 23rd, when Miss Mildred Badcock, of Upper Gullies, was united in matrimony to Mr. Geo. Normore, foreman of No. 1 slope, Bell Island, by the Rev. W. Eddy. The bride was handsomely attired in a dress of sage blue silk with hat to match and was attended by Miss Phoebe A. Dowe and Miss Maud Normore, sister of the groom. The groom was ably supported by his brother, Mr. Charles Normore and Mr. Edgar Badcock, brother of the bride. The presents were numerous and valuable. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Normore wish them many happy years.—Com.

Cooper can easily be cleaned rubbing with a cut lemon dipped in water and polishing with a soft cloth.

A Grand Musical

will be held in the Masonic Temple under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor and Miss Harris on Thursday, 31st inst., at 8.30 p.m. An unusually interesting and attractive programme has been prepared.

Secure your tickets early as only a limited number have been issued. These may be had at the Temple or from Messrs. H. Salter, T. A. Macnab, Capt. Major, Gray & Goodland and W. Spry. jan25.18

Hockey Notes.

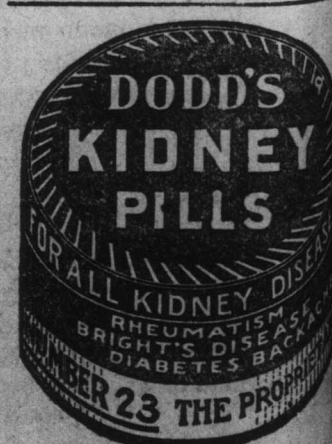
The Terra Novas have practised decided on their line up for this season and in addition to a few of old reliables will have McGee and Kelly who worked hard for Bon's last season.

Ex-Pte. Erol Munn who a few days ago followed the "disc" for the Vics will again support his old team this season.

"Doc" Power, the former goal keeper for the St. Bon's, will be the todian of the net for the Victoria. The Feldians as usual are being things quite which is a satisfaction that they have something up their sleeve.

If the weather man will only do part Skipper Frank can be relied to apply the juice.

Cooper can easily be cleaned rubbing with a cut lemon dipped in water and polishing with a soft cloth.



STYLIS

WHITE DAMASK TABLE CLOTHS
HEMSTITCHED
Size 45 x 45 in. Reg. \$1.45 ea.
Size 50 x 50 in. Reg. \$1.75 ea.
Size 44 x 44 in. Reg. \$1.85 ea.
Size 56 x 56 in. Reg. \$2.00 ea.
Size 56 x 56 in. Reg. \$2.20 ea.

TABLE NAPKINS
Regular 20c. each. Sale Price
Regular 30c. each. Sale Price
Regular 35c. each. Sale Price
Regular 45c. each. Sale Price
Regular 55c. each. Sale Price

Many W

Amazing W

Blouse Values.

This season's prettiest models, becomingly trimmed with embroideries, lace, tucks, etc. All in keeping with the newest style ideas.

WOMEN'S MUSLIN AND
Regular \$1.00 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.45 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.65 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.75 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.85 each. Sale Price
Regular \$2.10 each. Sale Price
Regular \$2.25 each. Sale Price
Regular \$2.40 each. Sale Price
Regular \$2.75 each. Sale Price
Regular \$3.25 each. Sale Price
Regular \$3.50 each. Sale Price
Regular \$3.85 each. Sale Price

STRIPE MUSLIN WAIST
Regular 90c. each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.00 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.45 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.75 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.85 each. Sale Price

CREAM CHALLIE BLOUSE
Regular \$1.25 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.35 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.50 each. Sale Price
Regular \$1.75 each. Sale Price
Regular \$2.00 each. Sale Price
Regular \$2.50 each. Sale Price

GEORGETTE CREPE BLOUSE
Regular \$6.00 each. Sale Price
Regular \$9.00 each. Sale Price
Regular \$10.75 ea. Sale Price

WHITE SILK BLOUSES
Regular \$3.00 each. Sale Price
Regular \$3.25 each. Sale Price

CREPE-DE-CHENE BLOUSE
Regular \$3.75 each. Sale Price
Regular \$4.25 each. Sale Price

Big Reductions Curtains.

The Curtain Department is replete with an up-to-date stock of beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains; numerous new floral and other designs in white and cream. The Curtains are real good values at the regular prices. At the Sale Prices we expect to clear them out very quickly.

WHITE CURTAINS
2 1/2 yards long.
Regular 85c. pair. Sale Price
Regular \$1.00 pair. Sale Price
Regular \$1.20 pair. Sale Price
Regular \$1.50 pair. Sale Price
Regular \$2.00 pair. Sale Price

3 yards long.
Regular \$2.20 pair. Sale Price
Regular \$2.45 pair. Sale Price
Regular \$3.20 pair. Sale Price

MADRAS WINDOW MUSLIN
Regular 32c. yard. Sale Price
Regular 35c. yard. Sale Price
Regular 45c. yard. Sale Price
Regular 50c. yard. Sale Price
Regular 60c. yard. Sale Price