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("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

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Editor and Business Manager
JOHN J. ST. JOHN

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., DEC. 13th, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

The Price of Flour

THE price of flour has advanced 30 cents per barrel in the local market and the supply at present is very limited. A quantity is held up between Truro and Port-aux-Basques, and many importers who purchased for November delivery have found December half gone, yet no sign of their long-looked for shipments of flour.

Oats and cattle feed is also scarce owing to lack of transportation facilities. Flour and cattle feeds, beef and pork will likely be very much higher in values by the 1st of May. Large quantities of flour has been purchased by the Allied nations and there has been a large falling off in the acreage of the winter wheat crops; while in Canada weather this fall being unfavorable for ploughing, there will be considerable shortage in the acreage sown in wheat next year.

It would be as well for our people to note those important facts and act accordingly.

The refusal of the French Government to open their market to our soft codfish is anything but what was expected. The refusal is based on the pretence that other countries would under treaty rights be entitled to any favors bestowed on us; but what other country under heaven could find fish to export to France under existing conditions? We venture to assert that if France had agreed to the request made by Britain for the free entry of Newfoundland fish into France during the war, that 1000 quintals of fish would be the extent of importation from countries other than Newfoundland. The Greek market having been closed against us we would only have to find a market for about 100,000 qtls., and that would be about all we would require France to take; but the want of a market for this 100,000 qtls. of soft fish will make a difference of \$250,000 to the value of our codfishery, and our fishermen will be that much the poorer by France's refusal if persisted in.

We trust our Government will not accept France's refusal as final but will persist in doing all possible to convince the French Government of their error in this regard. Let the Trade Commissioner in Spain be sent by Britain to arrange with the French Government and it is likely the mat-

ter will be adjusted. France needs our soft fish and we need her market if Greece is to be cut off from us. It is the Government's duty therefore to keep at it until the matter is favorably adjusted.

The Last Fleet

YESTERDAY and to-day's N.W. wind enabled the last fleet of fishing schooners with dry fish to come along. The season is about three weeks later than usual, and it is some years since a fleet of schooners with fishermen's fish reached St. John's so late in the season. Some of the fleet that recently arrived have been harbored at Catalina for two weeks awaiting a time here.

It is easily apparent that if a large establishment for buying fish and supplying goods was opened at Catalina, that much precious time would be saved to the northern fishermen in fall and spring, as the time now wasted at Catalina awaiting a time to and from ports north of that harbor, would be cut out. Consequently it is with lively interest the northern fishermen are watching the movement to establish Union headquarters at Catalina.

Many of the fleet recently arrived will have to remain here until spring as it is too late in the season to attempt to get north of Catalina.

Sir Tax Morris

WE have before us the manifesto of Sir Tax Morris, issued to the people of this country in 1913, and we have already stated in those columns that the vein of humour running through it show the real make up of the genius who wrote it. This becomes more apparent as one goes through the many "hot air" appeals to the people, who whether conscientiously or otherwise fell into the trap so skillfully baited by the now acknowledged champion of Gall and Bluff, we cannot say.

Under the heading of "advertising the Colony's Resources" we find the following example of this man Morris's deliberate attempt at coddling the electorate of this country:

"The present Government has made a special effort, since taking office, to bring before the outside world the advantages of this country for the settler, the capitalist, the sportsman and the tourist, in the belief that by ceaseless advertising of its resources, through the medium of articles, addresses, interviews, pamphlets, and otherwise, its advantages in these respects might be converted into substantial results, and already projects are on foot which promise to operate most beneficially. The growth in the sporting and tourist traffic of the country has increased by leaps and bounds and ensures large expenditures amongst our people. This policy will be continued in the future, and such efforts made in this direction as seem likely to be productive of adequate returns."

A special effort this "Nifty Edward" of ours tells his people will be made by the present Government? to bring before the world the advantages of this country for the settler, the capitalist, the sportsman and the tourist, etc. Now all this, at the time it was penned would we admit, be very pleasing intelligence to the vast majority of our countrymen; but unfortunately all the progress that has been made so far was confined to the wholesale distribution of this "green" cover hot air manifesto.

Advertising our resources. Ye gods isn't it rich. Morris has advertised our resources all right but in such a manner as to bring ridicule and shame upon the people of Newfoundland. Was advertising our resources by Morris the idea held by him when over his signature he wrote a paragraph

for our E. C. Robinson, the promoter of a "get rich quick" scheme known as the Labrador Syndicate? This syndicate issued a prospectus in which it was stated in cold black type that the fishermen-laborers of this country could be paid in Truck. Was this an advertisement for Newfoundland of which we should feel proud of? Was this uncalled for insult what the thousands of fishermen and laborers who voted for Morris's Picnic Party expected from one who always posed as their champion? In the quotation from "Nifty Ned's" manifesto referred to above we find that "this policy will be continued in future, and such efforts made in this direction as seem likely to be productive of adequate returns."

Adequate returns for who? Certainly not for the toilers of this Colony. More likely the Premier had in mind the land sharks and hoodlers who have hung on to his coat the past six years. Had advertising the Colony on the part of Morris anything to do with the action of some of his executive members who issued that prospectus known as the Bay-de-Verde Mine Co. which contained the names of F. J. Morris, M. P. Cashin, C. E. Emerson, D. Morison, a prospectus the nature of which was enough to damn Newfoundland in the eyes of all outside capitalists for ever more. This "get rich" bunch had this prospectus registered in North Dakota, U.S.A., and the write up in the initial pages of this "gold brick" document was about the best specimen of gall we have ever been privileged to gaze upon.

Another great boom sounded by our "Nifty" Premier was shale oil. This was told by Edward going to be a great thing. The British Government, says E.P., are anxious to secure oil for fuel for the navy. The British Government evidently knew Sir Tax better than he did the former for we have yet to hear that the British Admiralty worried about the great shale oil fields in Britain's Oldest Colony. But this we do know, many supporters of Morris "bobbled up all the shale oil claims here were known to exist, and even yet we haven't heard the hum of machinery or seen the oil. We may hear about it further when 1917 election comes around. Booming the Colony! Well this poor unfortunate Colony has been doomed to ignoble glory by Morris and his Picnic tribe. If only they could manage to boom themselves out of sight all the people would say Amen!

The record of the Morris gang in connection with our Crown lands is one of glaring political jobbery. Our timber areas, the people's heritage have been handed out to party heeblers for pure speculative purposes. The Crown Lands Department has been turned into a gambling den and so bad has it now become that even those who were the most interested are now the most disgusted. Morris has been booming for twenty odd years and all he has succeeded in doing is himself to the detriment of our Colony and her people.

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SCIENTIFIC NOTES

POPULAR MECHANICS some time ago told about a motorist of Aberdeen, Wash., who uses a barge, built at a cost of less than \$100, for ferrying automobiles across a bay 20 miles wide. The barge is so equipped that the automobile being ferried across furnishes its own propulsive power. At each side of the barge, near the stern, is a propeller wheel which is housed for safety. The axle of each wheel is at such a height that when the auto is raised a few inches above the deck of the barge it will be in line with the auto's axle. Each axle is capped with an 18-inch hardwood wheel, two inches thick, with leather clamps for fastening it to the drive wheel of the auto. When a motorist wishes to cross the bay he simply drives onto the barge, raises the rear wheels of his machine clear of the deck, clamps them fast to the wooden wheels of the propeller shafts and starts his motor. All this requires about eight minutes. A light car can propel the barge at the rate of eight an hour and a high-power machine of course can make even better speed.

German chemists have developed a process by which alcohol can be produced from wood and a material sufficiently nutritious to be used as fodder for cattle can be obtained from the residue. When this material is mixed with their usual fodder the animals eat it readily and with apparent relish.

Tests so far made with a new drug, distinguished by the jaw-breaking names of "trimethylmethoxyphenol," the discovery of an English chemist indicate that it is a highly valuable intestinal bactericide, being when introduced into the intestinal canal 40 times more potent than a five-percent solution of carbolic acid would be.

German manufacturers have discovered another great boom—the Products Corporation. This boom was the giving away of our natural waterways to his dear friends the Reids, who as P.T. said in the famous Chicago letter, moved their game like pawns on a chess-board. The latest boom of "Nifty Ed" was going to work wonders on the West Coast, but as yet the people there have neither seen or heard anything of this Carbide-Wilson deal. It goes without saying at the next session of the House, Edward will have another great boom for his native land.

This Colony has been cursed by fakirs such as Morris and the quicker our people see themselves has others see them the quicker will they realize how systematically they have been coddled by Edward Patrick Morris, who during his term of office, if he "runs" it out will have saddled us with \$16,000,000 of increased public debt during his reign of squander, grab and graft. He will leave behind him a pawned independence and a heavily mortgaged future.

covered that the willow-herb which grows wild in Germany and also in America and is commonly regarded as a weed can be used satisfactorily as a substitute for jute and hemp. They are encouraging the cultivation of the plant. The wild willow-herb plants have been gathered extensively by school children during their vacations.

A recently invented substitute for the unsanitary and frequently condemned office towel consists of an electrical device by means of which a current of air, heated and perfumed, is blown through an adjustable funnel onto either the hands or face, drying them quickly and without danger of infection. The current is regulated by a pedal.

One of the newest inventions is a sort of self-starter for horses. It consists of a whip provided with two metal rings which, when the whip is laid across the horse's back, come in contact with his body. An electric current supplied from a battery placed somewhere in the vehicle can be turned into the whip at will by pressing a button in the handle. With the metal pieces touching the horse's back, he is given a slight shock when the button is pressed and this spurs him on to a faster gait.

The French Government has announced that long-distance wireless telephone experiments between Arlington, Va., and the Eiffel tower must be discontinued because they interfere with and delay war messages. Since long-distance wireless telephone communication has been successfully established there is but little more to be gained by further experiments anyway until a transmitting station can be established in France. This probably will not be undertaken until the war comes to an end.

Several weeks ago a man who was found unconscious in New York was taken to a hospital where the only injuries that could be found were a bruised eye and a fractured elbow. He was unable to tell the attendants nothing except his name and age before he lapsed into unconsciousness in which condition he remained most of the time until his death, 40 days later. An autopsy revealed a fountain pen that had been thrust into his eye, between the eyeball and the socket, penetrating the brain. Surgeons were surprised that the injury did not cause death much sooner.

Oil Will Clear Fog

Scientists now claim that vegetable oil poured on the surface of the sea will clear fog. The oil film prevents the air from coming in direct contact with the warmer water, and thus prevents the condensation of water vapour. This might work with good effect on fishing craft at anchor on the grounds, and aid in the prevention of collisions.—Canadian Fisherman.

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NOTICE!

The FIFTH Annual Meeting of Trinity District Council of the F.P.U. will be held at Winterton, Dec. 17th. All Councils in Trinity District are requested to be represented by Delegates.

J. G. STONE,
Chairman.

Catalina, Dec. 6, 1915.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS.

Return Tickets will be issued between all Stations and Ports of Call at **ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE**, good going Dec. 23rd to 25th, and good returning up to Dec. 27th, also good going Dec. 30th to January 1st, and good returning January 3rd.

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