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ST. JOHN'S.

(Next door to F.P.U. office.)
jan20,s,tu,th

The Daily Mail

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The publication of any letter does not
signify that the Editor thereby
shows his agreement with the
opinions therein expressed.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., FEB. 12, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.**EXCELLENT MEASURE.**

On all sides commendations are to
be heard of the Sealing Bill intro-
duced into the House by Mr. W. F.
Coaker. The measure is approved as
a necessary and decided reform and
is pointed to as evidence of the en-
ergy, public spirit and statesmanship
of the Leader of the Union Party.

The Bill embodies the provisions of
the famous agreement made with the
Sealing Steamer Owners by Mr. Coaker.
It provides for good and varied
supply of food and for proper cook-
ing. It assures the Sealers of warm
comfortable quarters and of qualified
medical attendance when sick.

When this Bill becomes law, it will
place on the Statute Book an Act that
confers the greatest benefits on the
Newfoundland toiler and the originator
of the measure will be hailed as the
leading benefactor of this generation.

It has been remarked that any body
could have framed such a Bill. May-
be—but the point is they didn't. And
herein lies the characteristic that dis-
tinguishes W. F. Coaker, the worker,
from the average politician. The
Union leader is eminently energetic
and altogether practical. He dis-
cusses ideas and ideals and at once
sets himself to bring about their con-
summation. The vote-catching poli-
tician also talks ideas and ideals and
immediately after election sets him-
self to forgetting his campaign oratory
and promises.

W. F. Coaker talked Sealing re-
form. He drew up a measure with
which he approached the owners. The
latter received his suggestions in good
part and soon an agreement was signed
that brought about the amelioration
of conditions on board the ships.

We need more such men as W. F.
Coaker in the House; men fearless,
untiring, practical and conscientious.

DOING THEIR DUTY

The Herald is not in sympathy
with the tactics of the Opposition in
the House and characterises them as
"dilatory."

The Opposition, however, have a
duty to perform and are setting them-
selves to the task in a wholehearted
conscientious fashion that is com-
mending them to the good graces of
this city and of the country in gen-
eral.

Eminently practical, Mr. Coaker and
his followers possess the faculty of
getting straight at the heart of things.
Their forte is not gallery appeals of
high flown language, nor do they at-
tempt bluff and bluster. Their line of
action is to shape out the truth with
sledge hammer blows of practical old-
fashioned common sense.

Witness the probing and delving

into public accounts and public esti-
mates that have characterised the last
few sessions of the House. The coun-
try has learned more than it ever
knew before of public affairs; the
taxpayer has been posted as to the
disposition of the revenue of the
country.

The administration of this country
needs persistent probing that its
weaknesses—and they are many—may
be discovered and remedied.

The Government are apathetic.
They do nothing to check waste, to
ensure economy to bring about sta-
bility and business system in the ad-
ministration of our affairs. It is then
to the Opposition that the whole
country turns for information and
for protection. And the present op-
position are nobly fulfilling the trust
reposed in them by the electorate.

It would, of course, shroud efficiency
in argument very well to have gross ir-
regularities, waste, or acts of injustice
passed over by the Opposition, but
as was proven in the House yester-
day this is extremely unlikely to hap-
pen while Mr. Coaker and the Union-
ists are delving deep into Govern-
ment secret acts and places.

TWILLINGATE COUNCIL F.P.U.

Although yesterday was a very
foggy day at Twillingate with the tem-
perature about 4 below zero, 350
Union men turned out to celebrate
Union Day and paraded through the
town.

Mr. Jennings read a message in the
House of Assembly yesterday from
the Twillingate Council of the F.P.U.,
showing that the Council had paraded
and numbered 350.

He did this in order to show the
Premier that the North was stronger
Union than ever.

The announcement was well received
by the visitors at the House for
they gave it much applause.

The message ended, "Wish you good
luck," which seemed so appropriate
that the House considered it worthy
of applause.

And still the Union grows in
strength and influence.

The Prime Minister soon after an-
nounced that he intended introducing
resolutions dealing with Combines in
Trade which is another of the Union's
political planks of the Bonavista plat-
form and were included in Band's
manifesto last fall.

If the Union is not the greatest po-
litical factor in the Colony to-day we
would like to know what is.

TO THE EDITOR.**MAYOR ELLIS' VIEW**

(Editor The Daily Mail)

Dear Sir,—In the report of the
Executive Committee of the Citizens'
Committee, my name appears as one
of the members of that and I am
represented implicitly if not
positively as favoring the proposal set
out in the last clause of that report
namely, that the Governor-in-Coun-
cil appoint a Commission of ten men
to take charge of the administration
of civic affairs for the next year, that
they may gain the necessary insight
into its workings to enable them to
draft a new charter for the city to be
submitted to a plebiscite next year
prior to its being laid before the
legislature.

I desire to say with reference to
this that I was invited to become a
member of the Executive of the Citiz-
ens' Committee. I declined to do so
in the ground that I considered it
incompatible with my position as
Mayor, though not hostile to the move-
ment, seeing that it represented a
display of interest on the part of the
citizens that I was glad to observe
and I expressed my willingness to
serve on the Housing Committee, as
I thought that its labors and recom-
mendations would not conflict with
my position as Mayor.

I write now to make my position
perfectly clear to the citizens. I
disagree entirely with the proposition
for handing over the municipality to
any men in this fashion. I fail to
see any reason why such a course is
at all necessary. The Citizens' Com-
mittee can, by continuing their work,
gain all the information they are
seeking without this alternative hav-
ing to be adopted. I think, too, that
when the Citizens' Committee have
worked out their scheme it should be
submitted to the Municipal Council
for the views of that body upon it, as
with their experience of the actual
working of the Municipality, their
views ought to be at least worth con-
sidering, then the whole matter might
be considered by the Government and
a Bill enacted which would embody
the best ideas of all.

Yours truly,

W. J. ELLIS,
Mayor.

S. U. F. SOIREE.

The S.U.F. Soiree took place in the
British Hall last night and was a
great success.

**OPPOSITION THRESH OUT
CIVIL SERVICE GRANTS
AND OFFICIAL SALARIES.**

Call Attention to Unfair Discrimi-
nation in Making Increases.

REMEDY IS NEEDED

Poverty Pitiences Paid Many Out-
port Postal Offices

(Continued from page 1.)

afternoon he had not received his
mail. The Prime Minister will throw
in immediate "scare" into the hands
of the Post Master General and Mr.
Jennings will have his correspondence
by the first delivery.

Mr. Kent drew the attention of the
Committee to complaints which had
reached him relative to the mail ser-
vice at Sydney. There were four mail
officers at Sydney, Mr. Embery, Mr.
Shano, Mr. Dutot and Mr. Gushue;
he last named he understood worked
principally at Port aux Basques.
There was too much work for these
men to do; they had to work from
early morning until late at night un-
der accommodations which were very
poor and not at all adequate for the
services to be performed. Sydney now
was the most important point in dis-
tributing mail for this country. Vir-
tually all the mail coming from Can-
ada, the United States and other
places this side of the Atlantic had to
be handled there and the Postal De-
partment ought to provide the best ac-
commodation and service. Personally
he had not seen the "office" at Syd-
ney for 3 or 4 years—at that time it
was only a shed.

Doubled Him

The Colonial Secretary thought the
reports furnished Mr. Kent were not
in accord with the facts. Mr. Shano
advised him (the C.S.) about three
weeks ago and assured him that the
work was being satisfactorily done
and the present staff was well able to
cope with it. Mr. Shano was delig-
hted in his work and was at it night and
day.

Mr. Kent—"But that was no reason
why you should drive a free horse to
death."

The Colonial Secretary.—He was in
Sydney 5 or 6 years ago and visited
he place the mail was handled; at
that time the place where the mail of-
ficer had to do his work was only a
bathhouse. The Bond Government
ad made considerable improvements
in the building; there was no need of
any alarm because of the reports
made to the Leader of the Opposition.

Why The Increase.

Mr. Clapp wanted to know why the
salary of the postmistress at Flower's
cove had not been increased when
estimates were being so carefully
repared, and why the Government
ad not considered the justice of ten-
tain which doling out increases there
at year; she receives \$40.00 with
nothing allowed for rent and fuel. He
could say to the Government "lead us
into temptation," give the outport
postmasters and postmistresses some
real treatment. The postmaster at
Lorne Bay got \$200.00 and earned it
by night after night for the toiler
to arrive; the postmistress at
Flower's Cove had to do the same
work and should have her salary in-
creased when the House was voting
supplemental supply to at least \$100.

Given an Ovation.

Mr. Coaker arrived at 4.15 o'clock
to be given an ovation by the good
of the gallery. In fact every Opposi-
tion member who addressed the House
yesterday was made feel that the peo-
ple of St. John's are daily losing con-
fidence in Sir Edward Morris because
of his constitutional quibbling.
The Government is in very bad fa-
vor these days; a host of weary admi-
rers now feel that further delay in ap-
pointing Ministers to fill the Depart-
ments of Justice and of Mines and
Agriculture is not only dangerous,
but may prove disastrous.

Should Not Discriminate.

Mr. Kent continuing said that fol-
lowing the discussion and the views
expressed by his colleagues it was
very hard to see why such discrimina-
tion had been made in the payment
of salaries to outport postmasters.
Was it that the more aggressive man,
—he who has the pull—got more than
his neighbor? The salaries paid were
very unfair varying from \$10 to \$500.

At Torbay, a most responsible of-
ficer, where money orders were ex-
changed every day, the holder of the
office, a man who had held it for a
number of years and was desirous of
doing his work well, got \$50 a year.
Some kind of a logical, systematic sys-
tem should be undertaken. Grades
for a certain class and the salary fixed
according to class. In justice to the
outports there should be a thor-
ough reform in post offices.

Hackneyed Apology

Colonial Secretary Bennett offered
the hackneyed apology that "the last
administration of which the honorable
member was a member did nothing to

wards reform and though Minister of
Justice he had not raised the salary
of the Torbay postmaster."

Mr. Kent—"If you turn up the rec-
ords you will find that I did. I had it
raised from \$30 to \$50."

Colonial Secretary.—But not while
you were a member.

Mr. Kent—I did the best I could.
Sir Edward Morris then veered
round to a civil service frame of mind
and almost wept over the woes of the
outport postmaster; but he thought
there might be some situated like the
postmaster at Petty Harbor, who got
a very small salary, and, as Mr. Ben-
nett had said, it brought people
around his place and thus helped to
augment his income by increasing his
trade.

Resolution of Thanks.

Mr. Coaker suggested that as there
were 9 outport postmasters getting
\$8 a year, and as the Government was
not able to do any better for them, let
the House pass a resolution, thanking
those faithful civil servants for their
valuable services. He certainly
thought that no post office should be
paid less than \$15. There were 70
others who received only \$10.

The Premier with his usual adroit-
ness hitched on to the civil service
deas expressed by the Opposition.

Mr. Coaker explained how it was
that the salary of the postmaster at
Petty Harbor had been tinkered with,
and what could be done by Union
Councils from the bottom of Concep-
tion Bay to Quirpon when it came to
getting reliable data upon which the
House might act in regulating salar-
ies. The Colonial Secretary he hoped
when called upon to lay aside his arm
our would leave an up-to-date record
behind him; he (Mr. Coaker) trusted
that the call would not come too soon

For a Friend.

The clerk read on until he reached
he vote of \$200 for the Carboneau.
After carrier provided by that benig-
nant gentleman, His Honor the Speal-
er, for a faithful follower at Carbon
ear.

He reached as far as Cupids. Her
Mr. Grimes got off or rather got on
and wanted to know if some of those
on board the Government brig could
or would do something towards in-
creasing the salary of the postmaster
at Cupids; this was a settlement of
500 people, where the efficient and
reliable postmaster got \$20 per annum
or 6c. per day.

The so called "party of progress"
has been defended by the Colonial
Secretary this afternoon, by getting
off the old saw that because the pre-
vious Government had done nothing the
present aggregation should be ex-
used. The Government should get
down to business at once if they want
to be classed as "progressives."

Why not take some steps in this
direction by granting small increases
suggested by Mr. Coaker? \$10.00
ad gone into the pockets of the
larger salaried men; the small man's
wants should come first, and the pos-
tmaster at Cupids should get an in-
crease in the interests of justice and
air play. He did not know of one in-
crease that had been made in Port-de-
trave since the election; was this to
dishonor the people who elected him?

The Premier—"All these increases
were made before the election."

Mr. Grimes.—The person who held
he post office at Bareneed got only
\$30. \$40, Mr. Grimes contended
should be the minimum wage for keep-
ing a post office.

Made Him Tired.

At 5 o'clock, the clerk who had been
reading for over half an hour showed
great signs of weariness, and his as-
sistant had to be requisitioned.

The sergeant-at-arms, a strict stick-
ler for parliamentary etiquette, about
his time espied a gentleman occupy-
ing the vacant chair of the junior
member for Hr. Grace and would not
permit such an infraction of the rules
the gentleman was moved.

Mr. Winsor was promised details of
he salaries paid a hard worked P.O.
clerk who does duty on the Labrador
summer time on board the *Stella
Maris*.

Mr. Coaker suggested that the salary
paid the courier at Coakerville
should be cut out after this year; the
same could be done with the courier
from Boyd's Cove to Gander Bay. He
did not mean the set of couriers from
Lewisporte to Boyd's Cove, but a
courier put on in Bond's time.

Too Small.

Mr. Jennings intimated that the salary
of the courier from Farmer's Arm
to Moreton's Harbor, though a poli-
tical opponent of his, was not enough
for the work he had to do. He sug-
gested that when the estimates for
next year are being prepared, the ser-
vices for winter and summer be sepa-
rated.

Mr. Stone protested against taking
a P.O. job from a Mr. Gardner, F.P.U.
man, and giving it to a man named
Cooper. The Colonial Secretary ignor-
ed the protest but Dr. Lloyd backed
up his colleague until proper informa-
tion had been obtained and furnished
the House; this item was thereupon
deferred.

Another Victim.

The postmaster at Shoal Harbor,

Trinity Bay, has also been penalized;
presumably for his political affilia-
tions.

The apology for the reduction of
the salary from \$100 to \$20 was, less
work because of the Bonavista Branch
Railway.

It turns out that instead of less
work there is more to do for less pay.
however, the man didn't stand the
chopping. He refused to take the
money; the Government raised him
back \$20, he said the Colonial Secre-
tary and the vote is now set down in
he estimates at \$60.

The Government have much to do to
disabuse the minds of the people that
partisanship and politics have not
much to do with the case under con-
sideration.

It is very desirable that the Postal
Department should be made a busi-
ness office at once and run on abso-
lutely non-partisan lines.

About Telephones.

Mr. enquired as to how the loan for
\$150,000 authorized by the legislature
years for the installation of a tele-
phone system stood. In some few
places telephones had been installed.
A private corporation controlled the
system in St. John's, which was ad-
mitted by everybody to be antiquated
and no good for private business. A
policy of improving the telephone sys-
tem not only throughout the Colony,
but in St. John's had been announced;
when was it to be put into effect?

Mr. Hickman agreed with the leader
of the Opposition. We had the worst
telephone system on earth. The Board
of Trade had openly complained
of the neglect. The Anglo-American
Telegraph Co. had held a
monopoly for fifty years, and in that
period had operated twenty telephone
stations. Since the Government es-
tablished their lines 200 offices had
been opened all over the country. By
being connected with the Anglo in
his telephone business we were kept
10 years behind the times. About
60 telephones are in use in St.
John's, which at an average of \$35.00
piece, represent an income of \$28.
00 a year. It ought not to be any
rouble to interest local capital to
install an up-to-date telephone ser-
vice in this city. The Board of Trade
brought down an expert from Mon-
real, whose report was that an up-
to-date system could be put in at St.
John's for \$50,000.

Why He Was Dismissed.

Mr. Coaker told the House the rea-
son that the job of carrying the mail
was taken from Gardner and given
to Cooper, was because Gardner be-
longed to the F.P.U. Cooper was a
political fanatic. Mr. Squires knew
why the change was made. To throw
it on the troubled waters Gardner
had been paid for doing no work, and
now the Government says a mistake
ad been made in paying Gardner.
The Bonavista platform declared for
telephones in outports. He (Mr.
Coaker) had learned telegraphy to
get a grasp of the business. To put
in operation the Union plan the pre-
sent lines of telegraph wire could be
used to a very large extent; big sav-
ings by cutting out expensive tele-
graph offices and installing telephones.
A score of places were pointed out
to be Committee where such changes
could be effected at a big saving to
he revenue, while increasing the
benefits of the service ten times over
to the fishermen. The ordinary fish-
erman of Newfoundland was not look-
ing for strict privacy, but a quick
way to communicate with his friends
in case of sickness, or to find out
where the fish or bait was. Out of
60 telegraph offices 100 could be dis-
pensd with, the work done for one-
tenth the cost and much more satis-
factorily.

Where It Leads To.

Mr. Grimes reminded the Colonial
Secretary that the road to the place
where the thermometer never touches
zero was "paved with good inten-
tions." The F.P.U. President had
shown the Government a way out. In
he District of Port de Grave the peo-
ple would hail with delight the ex-
tension of the telephone system. Mr.
Hickman, the honorable member for
Bay de Verde, in his remarks had
old the Committee plainly what could
be done and what ought to be done
and what it would cost. It was a
mistaken idea that nothing could be
managed by the Government. Mr.
Hickman, being a busy business man,
knew as much as any honorable
member on this question and he says
a good system can be put in opera-
tion in St. John's for \$50,000. The
Reid Newfoundland Co. gets the larg-
est slice of the revenue at the present
time and the public get but a very
small portion. If we had public tele-
phone stations a poor man would not
have to run around the city for an
hour, as he has now, to find a doc-
tor.

Too Much Work.

The Leader of the Opposition ob-
jected to piling too much work on the
Government Engineer. Plans for
public buildings was no part of the
engineer's work and belonged to the
Department of Public Works. The
Government Engineer should give all
his time to matters pertaining to the
operation of the railway system, and

the construction and equipment of the
branch lines. He agreed with Mr.
Coaker's remarks on the extension of
the telephone service and would like
to hear from the Prime Minister if
any report had been made on this
subject by the Government Engineer.

The Prime Minister replied that a
lengthy report by the Engineer was
in the hands of the Government, but
it was not considered advisable "in
the public interest" to make that re-
port public at the present time.

Mr. Jennings said the F.P.U. was
not likely to go back on anything
they had decided upon. He contended
that linking up small settlements by
telephone would be a great boon to
our fishermen. The Premier hoped
before "we meet again" the matter
will have taken definite shape.

The Committee rose at 6.30 o'clock
to meet again this afternoon at three.

**DR. LEHR, DENTIST, 203
WATER STREET. BEST QUAL-
ITY TEETH \$12.00 PER SET.
TEETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT
PAIN, 25c.—jan20,6m**

**DID YOU EVER FEEL
LIKE THIRTY CENTS.**

Nearly everybody has, at
some time or other, been "up
against" an embarrassing situa-
tion. Not so funny at the
time perhaps, but laughter-
provoking, when you got
over the confusion of the mo-
ment.

Write and tell us about it.
It's only fair to give all a
chance of enjoying the joke,
even at your expense, al-
though nobody will ever guess
your identity, if you wish it
kept secret.

Make your story as short as
possible.

**COOKING LESSONS
IN THE HOUSEHOLD
SCIENCE SCHOOL.**

The Superintendents of Education
beg to announce that if a sufficient
number of young ladies apply even-
ing classes will be organized for
a course of Ten Lessons in Cooking.
Inclusive fee for the course, \$2. Ap-
plications should be made immedi-
ately to

MISS MADDOX,
160 Gower St.

**NORTH SYDNEY
COAL.**

Due to arrive on Wednesday,
January 14th, ex BEATRICE
a small cargo of SCREENED.

W. H. HYNES,
Eas End Coal Dealer

ALFRED B. MORINE, K.C.,

BARRISTER,

SOLICITOR & NOTARY PUBLIC.

**BOARD OF TRADE BUILDING,
Water Street.**

ROOM 34. PHONE 312.

FINE FAT**HERRINGS**

**NO. 1 TINNED
SALMON
SELLING
CHEAP.**

Smith Co. Ltd.

Smith's Wharf,
Water Street West.

jan16tu,th,sat

"Rewarded."

A certain firm in St. John's adver-
tised and sold a large number of a
certain article last Spring. It was a
new article, the first ever made for
the purpose for which it was sold—
it was highly recommended by the
manufacturers—after selling several
hundred a great many of which were
shipped to Labrador, the fears of the
firm selling the article were aroused
in case it would not come up to repre-
sentations and that many through it
might lose their summer's voyage.
They therefore decided to send an ex-
pert to Labrador to see if all was go-
ing well and did so at a great ex-
pense. However, they were rewarded
by finding every single one of the ar-
ticles working most satisfactorily. Not-
thing but praise was heard right
down to Cape Harrison, the new ar-
ticle was a boon to all who had
bought it, and hundreds of others
were after it, and since, it has been
imitated by a great number who when
it was first introduced tried to
"knock it."

The firm who sent the expert to
Labrador was Franklin's Agencies,
Ltd., and the article was the famous
FRASER kerosene adapter which
runs the FRASER engine so success-
fully and cheaply on kerosene.—Jolt



The question is:

**Are You Going to The
C.L.B. BAND
DANCE
February 23rd?**

All new Two Steps with
Encores thrown in.
THE BEST TIME YET