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St. John's, Newfoundland.

Letters of Interest

From Mail and Advocate Readers

WRECK AND RUIN WROUGHT BY THE MORRIS GOVERNMENT

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir.—The date of the birth of "The People's Party," with Sir E. F. Morris its progenitor, is still well to the fore in our memories. And, believe me, Mr. Editor, we little thought at the time that we nursed and cradled by our votes and support the embryo of this big misfit in a governing capacity we were providing, instead of a medium for the promotion and stability of the welfare of our country, an agency that, in little more than a term of office, would utterly wreck and destroy the very foundation—and that a firm one—on which our country stood. That the Morris regime has done this effectively the financial condition of the Colony, revealed since the House opened, offers sufficient proof.

In other directions the so called "People's Party" has wrought a gross injury to the moral constitution of our country. The management of that party has been so loose and unscrupulous, so extravagant in respect of public moneys, that the well-meaning disposition on the part of the people relative to public endowments has been deeply tainted. They look upon the proceeds of any Government work as their right without any labour which is given grudgingly and in conflict with the will.

"Following the gospel that 'To the victors belong the spoils' they revolutionized the Road Board, and all other local offices throughout the district, and placed therein all heeler-hangers on whether whether they could write their names or not, and without caring whether their past records were consistent and in keeping with the dignity of their commissions. As a consequence the confidence of the people is completely shattered in matters appertaining to the civil constitutional fabric.

If a man should lose his cow and subsequently discover another man has her, has he any confidence now in invoking the law during the Morris tenure to recover the animal? Why did a Joker say recently that met Mr. So and So who had been many years dead leading a cow through an adjacent settlement by night? And why did a second Joker say that Mr. So and So, soon wouldn't know his children? And again why did a third Joker who admired Mr. So and So's beads in church say that he fancied he saw a cow pulling them away from him?

When deliberate misdoings are perpetrated by agents of the Morris Government such as that from which emanated the above remarks it is little wonder that the people regard with little confidence, much suspicion, and more mistrust the administration of civil affairs under Tory rule. And let me say, Mr. Editor, that the moral effect of an example with rowdism or any such lesser vice is far greater on a community, especially the youthful element, when coming from those who (whether they are or not) had an opportunity to be cultured and learned. The continuous gossip relative to their wilful misbehaviour produces its effect on the rising generation, and being of a tendency akin to the inherent conceit of humanity is able to combat the effect of the best of preachers.

We have a habit of digressing, Mr. Editor! Perhaps we would cure that complaint if we would write you oftener and thus dispose of the superfluity of putrefying matter that is constantly flowing from the numerous cesspools of the Tory Jungle that eventually at the present time has stamped to a stand-still the progress of our country.

Our intended premises this afternoon was the remnant of a road board that we possess, and the government's system of relief.

With the advent of Tory rule the old administration in road board matters was wiped off the slate, and a new governing body appointed with James Cole, chairman. Between two and three years ago one of the members

died, and some 8 or 10 months ago a second member died, but no appointments have been made to fill the vacancies; and it would be interesting to know when a meeting of this said road board was held.

The chairman keeps on spending, but he keeps off paying, because several amounts spent since last summer aggregating \$120.00 more or less are all in arrears yet. To add to this, and on complaint from the mail man, it is said, (and not on complaint from the many who are hauling loads over it) he employed some fifteen or twenty men a few days ago, and repaired the road in the riverhead. They, too, must wait till the "cow calves" to get their money.

Now Mr. Editor, those in our settlement who are the fathers of this condition of affairs were loud in their denunciations of the former road board and its chairman, Mr. Samuel Whelan. Mr. Whelan was an honest road-board chairman; he practised economy with his several allocations, and we would wager with any man in the settlement that the light of day turned on his accounts would not cause him to blush. This is the man who was censured on all sides by those hawking after his job. And what is the condition of affairs to-day?

The road board account about \$120.00, more or less, in arrears, and the public roads impassable. When Samuel Whelan and his predecessors held the office of road-board chairman we doubt if they made one visit to St. John's looking for money—either the local grant or special. They could do their work by correspondence, and this saved the expense of going to St. John's on every pretext in connection with road matters. Now the old order is changed, and we must run over to Mr. Woodford to look for money every time a sop is wanted. Is the hire of Reid's mare charged up, or is she gratuitous in the matter?

Oh, but that corporate personage, Captain Bonia, hit us up last week and added his quota of indebtedness to the above arrears. He first called on Mr. Patk. Grace

and for the 200 yards or so of main line that he is superintendent of the Captain gave him \$10.00. Twenty yards farther on the Captain called on Mr. John Phillips and for a like stretch of that thoroughfare that he is superintendent of he gave him \$15.00. About two hundred yards farther on the Captain called on Mr. Edward McGrath and for the stretch of main line and for the stretch of main line that he was commissioned to superintend—about a mile—he gave him \$20.00. I am in error here; he did not give them the money; he only gave them authority to expend the amounts, and payments will be made, as in the former cases, when the cow calves.

Mind, Mr. Editor, those divisions of the main line are consecutive; I mean one adjoins the other. Is it for efficiency, economy, or what that such a short section is superintended by three men, neither of whom can write his name, and one of whom, it is said, must always employ an even number of men that he may be able to make up the day's expenditure? No attention was given by one of the foremen to the men of his section in need of a pound of tea or a gallon of molasses. Even one man told the solicitor of his services that he should find out the men of his section who were that morning without a cup of tea for their breakfast, and employ them; but it was the old, old tune—give me my Tory friends for this job. And his Tory friends did the work—those to whom an absence of labour for twelve months to come would not bring hunger's pang, while the lame, the orphan, and the hungry on that morn last week were actually denied the day's work that this individual had the mis-placed authority to give. In justice to Mr. Phillips we think he acted better than he need in this respect.

Having this letter already too lengthy we will defer the relief system for another one.

—A NEW HAND.

Colliers, May 15, 1915.

People Do Not Understand

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—A certain Honorable Member in the Legislative House said, last Friday evening, "That the people did not understand." He spoke those words understanding that the people of Newfoundland—the voters—the controllers of every situation, did not understand or fully perceive the enormity of certain proposition which were really theirs to deal with.

The statement made by the Honorable Member of the Upper Council was an insult to every voter of the country, for it clearly defined that every man in this city, and outside of it, did not really understand or was not accurately aware of the import of matters of legislative moment placed before them. The words used by that member of the Legislature were an "insult" to every voter in broad Newfoundland.

Let us take for example the case of the New Reid Deal. Is that deal too deep, too vague, too defined to appeal to the intelligence of our people? Are we so dense that we cannot understand just what this Wilson matter means in its entirety.

Is it so worded in its act as presented to the two Houses, that it shall—or must—escape the divininations of a public who are so interested in its cause? "The people do not understand"—perhaps, but the people must be made to bear the result of party legislation as an issue of the verdict of those who have an axe to grind, or a cause to satisfy.

The people do understand what this new Reid Deal means, they grasp the whole significance of the play, they are wide awake to the whole situation, they perceive what is sought to be done by "bought and bribed" Reid advocates.

Understanding all this, they know enough, and are masters of the whole and miserable sequence, they know of the scheming methods of men who

Trouble Over Working Hours

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—Would you allow me space in your valuable paper for a few words in reference to a disagreement between the night-men and day-men of the Sanitary staff. Councillor McGrath came to some of us men on Water Street, we told him about the shift that was going to be made by the Sanitary Committee and asked him if we would take it. Certainly he said, take it to start at 12 o'clock at night and finish at 8 a.m.

We asked him about the day-men's pay, would it be cut, he said no it would not be cut, and we would get a little advance in our pay. We arranged to take the shift on Monday, May 9th, but we were stopped by the Stable Boss who told us the men's pay was going to be cut, so the work followed on as usual.

Next day Councillor McGrath came to the stables and had some hot words with us as to who was going to take the shift, and said we were going to cut the men's pay. So you see all the blame is laid on us, after following out the orders we were given by the City Commission Committee, and his, as president of the Longshoremen's Union.

It is causing a grievance between the men, so we are like a crowd of men led into a trap. Some of the men are spreading it about the town that we are scabs, but you will find we are as good union men as is working in the city. We were following out the Commissioner's orders, but not to cut or try to cut any man's pay.

Yours truly,

A SANITARY MAN.

May 17th, 1915.

belong to Reid and his interests, and who when they declare "The people do not understand" really mean the "People are not wise to the situation."

NATURE.

Budget of News From Hillview

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir.—Will you allow me space in your paper for a few words from this place, as I do not often see anything from Hillview. I am glad to say that the ice is gone now and that the men will be able get to St. John's for some provisions. The price of flour is over \$8.00 now. It will soon be impossible for the poor man to live.

The Union is forging ahead at Hillview and the men are determined

as a whole to back up Mr. Coaker. It has been a great winter around here fore sitting logs and pit props although there has not been much snow for hauling them out of the woods.

Some of our men have gone out to fight for their King and Country. We pray that God will protect them. On Easter Monday the Union men of the place held a parade. There was a sale of work in the afternoon and a concert in the night. The whole affair was a decided success.

Wishing the Union every success,

Yours truly,
UNION BOY OF HILLVIEW,
Hillview, May 12, 1915.

Remnants of Tweed

By the Pound at

Removal Sale Prices

COME in to-day and look through our tweeds by the pound—you'll pick up a bargain here in an excellent quality—better than are usually sold by the pound.

We are showing some high-class pure-woollen tweeds that we have priced to make a complete clearance before removing to our New, Modern Store, in the West and are offering them now at a third less than the original price.

Come and see the patterns—we are sure the qualities will give entire satisfaction—you can select a piece here to make a man's coat, a pants, or a pants and vest, and it is just possible that the piece you'll select will give you from two to five years constant wear—you know how a well-worn piece of pure-woollen tweed wears, better than we can tell you.

When you call take your time and look through the lot of eight hundred pounds, because the very pattern you are needing may be at the bottom of the pile—we'll wade through them and help you to be suited—a piece large enough for a man's pants may weigh 2 pounds and perhaps much less.

Removal Sale Price a pound \$1.00.

Splendid pieces amongst this lot suitable for making garments for sturdy school boys.

We also have a special lot of Union tweeds, in Men's Suit Lengths, in a variety of neat dark patterns. Regular a pound 90c.

Anderson's, Water Street, St. John's

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A Big Shipment
Choice P. E. I.
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