

House of Assembly.

THURSDAY, May 5th.
The House met at 3.15 p.m.

After the presenting of petitions and notices of motion and questions had been given, the questions on the Order Paper were dealt with.

The Prime Minister told the House what had been done in the matter of alleviating conditions in Placentia and St. Mary's.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries told Capt. Lewis that the Trade Commissioners would be brought home at the expense of his department and that no more would be employed during the present year.

The Prime Minister said that owing to difficulties of printing, supply would be delayed until Monday.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill for the Repeal of the Codfish Exportation Act. Mr. Samson took the Chair of Committee.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries told Capt. Lewis that the export duty on fish would be reduced.

Capt. Lewis spoke briefly on the Bill before the House. He dwelt on the autocracy of Mr. Coaker and said if a Bill were passed in 1921 or 1922 giving more power to him, it would be time to abolish the House. Referring to the Consorzio he said that it was only kept up because of Hawes and the Fish Regulations. As a consequence of the Italian market falling the Spanish market was flooded with fish and the price dropped in proportion.

He said that day orders were being received from Italy at 65s. In that case, it should have fetched 70s. or 75s. last November. In that month 150,000 qtls. of fish could have been disposed of at 70s. per qtl. He anticipated a boom in the granting of supplies when the Bill had finally passed and he did not think that after his past experience, the Minister would try to bring in a new Bill.

He cited instances of well known West Coast merchants who had been practically ruined by the Regulations. One had been forced to sell at Oporto, for \$1 per quintal, fish which had cost him \$14. He spoke about the steam trawlers which were being sent out by the French and Islanders to the Banks and suggested that restrictions be put on these going to Sydney and getting their coal there. This had to be done if Newfoundland were to remain a fishing country and in his opinion, it could be nothing else. It looked to him as if Newfoundland would fail in 1921.

Sir John Crosbie continued his speech of Tuesday and spoke at great length. He touched upon all the most important aspects of the Fish Regulations and his address was a most striking one. He began by asking Hon. Mr. Coaker if the regulations had been taken off by the Prime Minister against his express wishes.

Minister of Marine and Fisheries.—"You are right, in a way."

At this juncture Sir John was interrupted by a man in the gallery. He said that the man who had interrupted him on the previous day was named Avery and he works in the Department of Public Works. He stated that these men were paid by the Government to sit in the gallery and he would, if forced, tell the House what happened at a certain meeting held recently in the Star Office. He read the letter of Mr. Penney of Ramey published in the Telegram of May 5th as an instance of the manner in which our merchants had suffered through the Fish Regulations. On the previous day he had not been disposed to blame the Government for the destitution rampant in the district of Placentia and St. Mary's, but from information which he had received later he had altered his opinion. The Marystown Trading Company owed some of these starving people \$50,000 for fish and one man with \$1300 to his credit on their books had been refused a barrel of flour unless he paid cash. Some fish held up by the Regulations at Oporto had to be thrown overboard it was so bad. He spoke about the unfortunate position of coopers unable to sell their casks at any price. He stated also that able-bodied relief was being distributed in Spaniard's Bay and Port de Grave. He had received a letter from Mr. Moses Young, a former M.H.A., who had begged him to let him store his fish with him (Sir John) until the fall.

Mr. Gosse.—"But these people wouldn't sell their fish when they had the chance."

Sir John Crosbie.—"If they got the price you did they would have sold it."

Mr. Gosse.—"I would have bought it."

Sir John Crosbie.—"Did you ask Mr. Young to sell you his fish?"

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WAKE UP Newfoundlanders!

Every Newfoundland should be interested in Newfoundland industries. All genuine Newfoundlanders are! They buy local-made products.

\$60,000 in hard, cold cash paid every week in wages when our factories are working full time—keep the factories busy—buy their goods.

The man who manufactures local products, helps in supporting your schools, your churches, your homes. The foreign manufacturer has no interest in the welfare of your community.

Goods made and sold in Newfoundland
By Newfoundlanders
Means prosperity for Newfoundland

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Mr. Gosse.—"I would have bought it."

Sir John Crosbie.—"Did you ask Mr. Young to sell you his fish?"

Mr. Gosse.—"He didn't ask me to buy it."

Sir John Crosbie.—"Oh, it was a case of your not asking him to sell and he not asking you to buy."

Mr. Gosse.—"Why didn't you buy fish in Spaniard's Bay?"

Sir John Crosbie.—"Why did you not do so? There are not twenty families in Spaniard's Bay now who do not get Poor relief."

Mr. Gosse.—"That is because they only got \$8 per quintal for their fish."

Sir John Crosbie.—"No, it was because they didn't have the pull with Coaker that you had."

Sir John then dwelt on white naped fish and said the black nape was a sort of trade mark by which buyers knew our fish and they had no use at all for the white naped variety. All over the island able-bodied relief was being distributed as a result of the fish regulations. He believed Hon. Mr. Coaker had had good intentions when he introduced them but he should have removed them in October last. The reason for their failure was that nothing could alter the law of Supply and Demand. He admired the Hon. Minister for admitting his failure. Speaking of Mr. Hawes he said it was an unfortunate day for the country when the Minister of Marine and Fisheries took up with him. Sir John was a firm believer in outright sales of cargoes.

Minister of Marine and Fisheries.—"So you're a Coaker man now."

Sir John Crosbie.—"I never can be one any more. I taught you to be against shipping on consignment."

Minister of Marine and Fisheries.—"I never forgot your lesson."

Sir John Crosbie.—"Yet you let Hawes fool you. You would never have let him do it if you had learned the lesson I taught you, well."

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Sir John then showed up the duplicity of this Mr. Hawes. The trouble over the Fish Regulations was caused, he said, by the Advisory Board. If they had not been so selfish and had been fair to the public as they should have been the disaster now facing us would not have been so great. The fact that there were no regulations in Spain turned that country into a dumping ground. Some of the gentlemen on the Advisory Board were Hawes' best friends. If Hon. Mr. Coaker could devise some scheme to enforce outright sales he would do all he could to assist, but he would not devise any plan for them. After a few more remarks pertinent to the Bill, Sir John concluded his speech.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries said that Sir John would propose resolutions re the introduction of outright sales he would support them.

Sir John Crosbie.—"That's the usual story. Give me the brains and I'll work it out." He refused to accede to Mr. Coaker's request. He then spoke of the infamous Hawes agreement and told how he had refused to sign it. Hawes, he said, was contriving to get control of all our markets and he was a menace to the country's fish trade.

Mr. MacDonnell spoke briefly on the Bill. He was glad the Amendment to the Address in Reply had not passed as this discussion had been a most enlightening one. He complimented Mr. Coaker on withdrawing the Regulations. If, however, he were a member of the Government, and, believed, like the Premier, that the policy was right, he would not vote against the Regulations. It had been stated that the regulations were artificial props. If this were so why was it intended to put others into force. Business men objected to Government interference.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries explained the matter of outright sales.

Mr. MacDonnell thanked him for his information and passed a few more remarks on the matter, concluding by saying that he expected to see the same energy used in putting Hawes out as there was in putting him in.

Capt. Lewis said that Hawes controlled the cold storage plants in all our markets and advised that care be taken not to antagonize him.

Hon. Mr. Coaker again gave a short explanation of the circumstances. The Debate was then adjourned until the following day.

On the motion to adjourn the House, Sir Michael Cashin made reference to the amount of \$150,000 still owed the Government by the Anglo-American Telegraph Co. Sir Michael spoke at length on the matter and severely castigated the Minister of Posts and the Government as a whole for their failure to collect this amount. The Minister of Posts attempted to put up some excuse but Sir Michael soon tore it to shreds and told the Government they were all irresponsible.

On the encroachment on the public road by the Trustees Genl. Cemetery; (2) that the matter of opening of proposed road through Norris' property, Leslie Street, be submitted to arbitration.

On the recommendation of the Medical Health Officer, Laurence M. St. John, a permit to be given to the property, Warberry St., provided adheres to regulation governing erections.

Petitions were read from the residents of McKay and Springdale St. for the former for attention to drains and sidewalks, the latter for water and sewerage extension to this section. Both matters were referred to the Engineer.

J. F. Carter will be given status line on Circular Road West.

J. F. Newman asked permission to use outdoor gear premises adjacent to St. for stable purposes. Health Officer Brehm is to be consulted as to his views in this matter.

With the view of improving and widening Monkstown Road, Circular Road, the Secretary is writing the owners of the property, (Estate Whiteway), that the Council intends expropriating a portion of this land.

A recommendation was received from J. R. Smallwood, Editor of the John's Times, regarding a public clean-up day for the city, and asking the Council of the support of the "Times" in this respect. This matter will be given consideration.

Plans submitted by Jos. Ellis for extension, 150 New Gower St., were passed, subject to the Engineer's approval, while those presented by St. Lee, to extend premises at Ravelin Cross, were ordered deferred for two weeks so that particulars may be obtainable re this erection.

Owing to the large number of names appearing on the register of the unemployed and it being impossible to employ an at the time, it was decided those who had been at work for past 8 or ten days to finish up work to-morrow, Friday, 6 p.m., and that their places be taken by others on Saturday morning. The list was left in the hands of the City Engineer, who will arrange matters to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Reports of City Engineer, Health Officer, Plumbing Inspector, and others were read, pay rolls and accounts presented were ordered paid, after which the meeting adjourned.

Shipping Notes.

S.S. Rosalind is expected to leave Halifax to-night for this port.

S.S. Sachem left Boston yesterday for this port and is due on the morning of this port.

S.S. Winona has been delayed at Montreal and leaves there to-morrow for this port.

Schr. Annie M. Parker arrived at port yesterday afternoon, 15 days from New York, via Bath, with a cargo of anthracite coal to Morey & Co.

Minard's Lumber & Lumbermen's Friend.

Civic Commission

WEEKLY MEETING.

The weekly meeting of the Municipal Council was held yesterday afternoon. Acting Mayor Mulally presided. Councillors Morris, Ayre, Peet, Jackson and Vinicombe were present.

After the minutes of previous meeting were confirmed the following business was transacted.

The Minister of Justice replying to the Council's request for the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the Palace fire stated the matter had not yet been given consideration by the Government. He asked if the Council is prepared to pay the costs of an investigation. The Council is willing to pay half costs of same.

A communication was read from the Minister of Public Works stating the matter of the condition of the South side Road had been referred to the West End Road Inspector for attention.

Harvey & Co., asked attention to retaining wall Shea's premises. The work was undertaken last fall but was not completed when the winter set in. Work will be resumed when weather conditions permit under the same arrangements as last season. The Company paying half cost of same.

Deputy Minister Posts and Telegraphs complained that water was coming into the basement of Post Office Building. The City Engineer was enquired and report to the Supr. Public Works.

On the recommendation of the Inspector General of Constabulary Messrs. H. J. Stabb & Co. will be allowed to install gasoline tank on the premises.

Communication of Jno. H. Dwyer regarding surface drainage Carriage Road was referred to the Engineer.

A letter was read from Mr. W. B. regarding proposed expropriation of his property Pleasant St. The Treasurer was instructed to make necessary arrangements for purchase of the land.

Mr. Jas. King was reappointed as instructor for the swimming pool at Quidi Vidi Lake for 1921.

Hon. F. J. Morris on behalf of the residents Waterford Bridge Road asked property owners on this road willing to contribute towards the cost of extending concrete curb and gutters.

City Solicitor, Carter, reported on the encroachment on the public road by the Trustees Genl. Cemetery; (2) that the matter of opening of proposed road through Norris' property, Leslie Street, be submitted to arbitration.

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Minard's Lumber & Lumbermen's Friend.

MUTT AND JEFF

MUTT BIT ON THIS ONE, LIKE A POOR FISH.

By Bud Fisher.



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