



## Evening Telegram

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C. T. JAMES, . . . Editor

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Thursday, April 27, 1922.

### Penalising the Trade

We direct attention to-day to a communication appearing on this page signed Importer, the subject of which is one that most vitally affects the future of this Colony so far as trade conditions have to be reckoned with. If it is the studied intention of the Government to extort the last cent from business men under the Profits Tax Act, such a determination is not calculated to produce good results in the way of carrying on the general business of the Colony: nor can it be argued that the cutting of the pound of flesh from off the body commercial will promote the prosperity that every true Newfoundlander desires to see restored. Conditions to-day are far from normal. Everybody is facing circumstances without precedent in the every-day life of the whole population. To extract then the last cent from a trade already overtaxed and overloaded with expense will have a most deterrent and disastrous effect on the business community. Trade like every thing else thrives on reasonable protection, and if that measure of protection be not forthcoming up go the shutters with the inevitable aftermath of employees being thrown out of situations, and either becoming charges on the state, or shaking the dust of an ungrateful country off their feet and emigrating to other lands in their search for work, thereby becoming irrevocably lost to their native soil, and by their loss precipitating the crisis which must follow their departure.

Good fortune cannot follow any penalization of trade. This Colony has experienced instances of this all too recently. The motto of the hour should be stabilize conditions, not demoralize them by insisting upon the payment of the uttermost farthing. Assist the trade of the Colony legitimately. Enable the business men to employ the population, thus making all classes producers. It is not for the Government to usurp the prerogatives of the commercial body and to become the employer of unproductive labor at a cost which will reduce the country to irretrievable bankruptcy. But it is the duty of the Government to assist by doing everything possible, and consistent with economy in the maintenance of the public services, in lightening the burden of taxation, and cutting down correspondingly the load of expenditure. Persecuting the trade with a demand for arrears of taxes that should be remitted is not the quality of encouragement to offer under present circumstances. When firms through the stress of the times have to reduce their staffs of employees, surely that is not the opportune hour to take advantage of their misfortunes and insist that they must dig down still further in an already depleted trade treasury for money which cannot be found there, but which has to be forthcoming under penalty of the law. Such conduct on the part of Government is but adding to misfortune and driving the men who form the business centre of the Colony's trade into the deeper waters of insolvency, the end of which is the cessation of employment and ultimate ruin for both country and people.

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### Shannon Chapter Royal Arch Masons.

INSTALLATION CEREMONY.

The annual installation ceremony of Shannon Chapter, No. 9 R.N.S. was held last evening when the High Priest and officers for the coming year were installed by Excellent Companion W. Barker R.E.G.S. assisted by Grand Chapter officers W. A. Ellis P.G.H.P. and G. W. Gushue P.H.P. After the installation service a banquet was held at which the usual toasts were honoured. The officers for the coming year are as follows:—  
W. J. Milley—M.E.H.P.  
Gower Rabbits—E.K.  
C. Noonan—E.S.  
E. M. LeMessurier—Treas.  
E. W. Lyon—Secy.  
Dr. M. Fenwick—Chaplain.  
L. J. Harman—C.H.  
L. T. Stick—P.S.  
E. S. Finest—R.A.C.  
E. Hawkins—Capt. 3rd Vell.  
J. McNeill—Capt. 2nd Vell.  
H. N. Burt—Capt. 1st Vell.  
Capt. Major—Tyler.

### Radiophone Concert.

The radiophone has at last found its way to St. John's and at frequent periods the fortunate owners of wireles receiving outfits will be enabled to hear concerts by means of their apparatus. On Tuesday night, Mr. J. J. Collins, Marconi Superintendent here, gave a gramophone concert. It was heard so clearly at the Mount Pearl station that by means of an ordinary telephone, the music was transmitted back to Mr. Collins. Those who travel by S.S. Kyle are enabled on nearly every trip to pick up a concert which is being held in the States. Mr. Collins hopes to send a local concert over the radiophone shortly.

Dancing Classes every Monday and Thursday at S.U.F. Hall, Water Street.—apr27,li

### Fairyland and \$20.00.

The interior of P. C. Mars & Co.'s Exhibition Room, Smallwood Building, is like a scene in fairyland. Samples of all their vari-coloured delicious drinks dazzle the eye. And if you guess the correct number of plants in the central display a fairy will press a \$20.00 bill into your hands. Come one, come all while the exhibit is open to the public to-day and tomorrow. Bring your own thirst.

There is Dancing Classes at the S.U.F. Hall Monday and Thursday.—apr27,li

### St. George's Day Celebration.

CONCERT AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION AT BELL ISLAND.

Amongst the celebrations at Bell Island on Monday the 24th inst. in honor of St. George's Day was the presentation of prizes and concert held in the Church of England School Building. A very large audience was present. Rev. John Stead as Chairman voiced the opinion of all present when he expressed his unqualified pleasure at the excellence of the programme, which showed the careful training of the popular principal, Mr. William Shepherd. Capt. Leo Murphy of 'Ours', was present, by invitation, to judge the Barbell and Dumbell contests, for which special medals had been presented by Mr. J. P. Burke; these were won by Masters Wallace Bennett and Gordon Bennett respectively. A prize offered by Mr. W. J. Higgins, K.C., M. H.A., for punctuation supplied a very interesting competition which was won by Master Hiram Bennett; consolation prizes being awarded to Master Hubert Miller and Miss Laura Normore. An exhibition of reading was reviewed by a Committee from the audience, who awarded first place to Miss Edith Warrilow. The prizes following the result of examinations held before the Easter vacation were presented by Mrs. Stead. Pressure on space forbids publication of the complete list but it is obvious that good results were obtained by the pupils. In physical training the boys have made great strides, and in their exhibition of Barbell work would have done credit to a city institution. After the National Anthem the audience were the guests of the scholars, who served refreshments and made ideal hosts and hostesses.

### Jackie Coogan.

The first Nfld. shipment of Jackie Coogan Caps is now showing at BISHOP'S Boys' Clothing Department.

## An Open Letter on Railway Matters.

XII.

To R. C. Morgan, Esq., C.E., of Winnipeg, in the Dominion of Canada, and of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, City.

Dear Sir,—The Contract for the construction of the Branch Line Railways was entered into on the 7th day of December, 1909, and it was confirmed by the Legislature during the next ensuing session. The contract price was at the rate of Fifteen Thousand Dollars per mile, but, contrary to precedent, this amount had to be paid in cash, on the completion of each five mile section. Under previous contracts, the contractor was paid in four per cent. Debentures, which he had to convert into cash at his own cost. The difference meant nearly a Million Dollars to the taxpayers of this country, for that is what it cost the Colony to convert its Debentures into cash. In other words, the Contractors received a gift of that sum of money from the Government, which, according to their own admission, they "financed" into power. I say a gift, because in my opinion under Section 13 of the 1901 Contract the Reid Newfoundland Company were bound to construct such branch lines, as were necessary, at Fifteen Thousand Dollars per mile payable in Debentures of the Colony. That position was argued in the House of Assembly by Sir Robert Bond. In reply to that gentleman's contention, Sir Edward Morris, Prime Minister and Attorney General, said he had consulted learned Counsel in England, who had advised him to the contrary. In rejoinder, Sir Robert Bond reminded him, that when before the Lyttelton Arbitration Court in 1902 the Reid Newfoundland Company's own learned Counsel advanced the plea, that under Section 13 of the Railway Contract of 1901, the contractors had to provide such branch lines "as were necessary to accommodate the industries of the country," and he added that as lawyers differed on the question, the clear duty of the Government was to submit the question to the Judge of the Supreme Court. That was not done. (See Speech Sir Robert Bond in Evening Telegram of 9th February, 1910). Had it been done, in my opinion, a Million of money would have been saved for the country, which was the difference that resulted from payment in gold, instead of in Debentures of the Colony. Further, this remarkable Contract of 1909, provided that the Contractor shall construct at "least fifty miles of railway during every year of the period during which the Contract shall continue." You will observe, that it fixed a minimum of work to be performed in any one year, and left it to the Contractor, if he found it to his advantage, to double or treble the amount, no matter what it cost the Government to provide funds to pay him. It was a clear demonstration of the game,—

(To be Continued.)

### Remit the Tax.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—I notice by the newspapers that the Business Profits Tax Act is now before the Legislature, and that the object of the new Act is to compel the payment of the Tax on the "paper" profits made a few years ago.

There could be no objection to this during normal times, but under present conditions the question may be asked, is this a wise policy? It is interesting to note the attitude of the British Government towards business concerns during the past two years. The Government knew that if the last pound of the Profits Tax was extracted many firms who made heavy losses in 1920 and 1921 would be forced to suspend and their employees would be added to the ranks of the unemployed which would mean a further drain on the Government.

The decision therefore was that any firm whose statement showed heavy losses on their 1920-21 business should have their unpaid taxes cancelled and if the tax for 1919 was paid it was returned in full. In this manner millions of pounds were returned, and so offset some of the losses. This enabled many firms to keep their doors open and employ as many of their staff as possible.

Many Newfoundland firms are reducing their staffs who would otherwise be able to keep their employees if they had the Profits Tax returned or cancelled as in England. The most important question at this time is, which is the better policy; to force the payment of a tax on profits which no longer exist, or to help keep business concerns on their feet and enable them as far as possible to employ the rank and file. A closed business is of no advantage to the country.

Yours truly,

IMPORTER.

Come with the crowd to the Dancing Class at the S.U.F. Hall Monday & Thursday.—apr27,li

"Heads I win, tails you lose." In every essential particular the Contract tended to the advantage of the Contractor, and the disadvantage of the public. And this monstrosity, you now seriously propose should be immediately abandoned, "unless maintained as a public charge." Neither justice, or reason, can find place in your proposal. I submit, there would be equal justice and reason, were a Judge to say to a prisoner at the Bar,—My good fellow, you clear out with the swag, and your unfortunate victim shall pay the penalty. Ratify an alms legis! Let us come down then to reason. "W. D. Reid" President of the Reid Newfoundland Company—this fact cannot be emphasized too much,—has declared over his own signature, that he "financed" the Political Party that framed and carried into effect, the Branch Line Railway Contract of 1909, and I believe, in the case of Coaker vs. Reid, swore his statement to be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. If such it be, then, I submit, it is a matter that must, in justice to this people, be inquired into by a Court of Law, for if his statement be true, then he "financed" a body of Public Trustees whose public act—"The Railway Operating and Construction Contract of 1909"—is now under review. It would be for the Court to say what effect that "financing" had upon the validity of the Act, or the pecuniary obligations under the Act, or arising by reason of the operation of the Act, in view of the fact that the Reid Newfoundland Company were at the time—public Contractors; and it would also be for the Court to determine, whether or not Lord Chancellor Lyndhurst's decision in the case of Charter vs. Trevelyan, to which I have previously referred, applies in any way to the submission I have suggested. The law of England is very clear in respect to the influence of public contractors upon legislation, and it runs back as far as the reign of George III. Many Millions of Dollars, wrung by taxation from this people already almost bled white, is involved, and no Government, unless under the influence of the Reid Newfoundland Company, would dare shirk the duty and responsibility of putting the issue to the test before the Supreme Court. Justice demands that it be done. Then let it be done, though the heavens fall. I make no accusation in this matter. I state only a case for the hearing of the Court. I would say further, that I entirely exonerate the majority of the Government Party of 1909 of knowing complicity in any possible wrong-doing, for I believe they knew not what they did; and as for the others, I would leave them under the clear White Light of God, which never sees itself, makes all things visible.

### Our Local Pedlars

HIS DIARY.

April 27th.—Early up and to see Superintendent O'Neill about certain business, and he tells me how he hopes if I have a motor coach, I will have and get me a license to drive it. For else, he says, it will go hard with me if I appear in the common court. I did tell this to my wife at lunch and she most unreasonable, nor will she excuse me from buying a motor coach. If there be a score of licenses to pay. Great talk in the city of how Sir Robert Bond will be asked to address a public meeting, and many hope he will do so, and will again come into politics. In the afternoon, I to the Parliament, and have discourse with Mr. Scammell on the worries of publishing a news sheet. At night, to work and so to bed.

### McMurdo's Store News.

THURSDAY, April 27.  
If you have a cold hanging round you and feel the need of a tonic that will at once clear up the remains of the cough and at the same time strengthen you against a relapse and act as a spring tonic regularly, we suggest your obtaining a bottle of our nutritive Hypophosphites, a preparation designed for just such cases, and one which we are pretty certain will not "let you down." This remedy has long proven its value as a tonic and builder, and we cheerfully recommend it as such. Price 50c. and \$1 a bottle.

The Llewellyn Club will hold its last meeting for the season this Thursday night. The President will lecture on "The Church in the Firing Line." This will be an open night and the ladies are cordially invited. Collection will be taken.

apr26,li

MINARD'S LINIMENT USED BY PHYSICIANS.

# You Will Be Interested if you call and inspect our offers this week for Prices are Down

### AMERICAN TABLE DAMASKS.

4 bundles only Remnants White Table Damask. Value for \$1.50 yard. Sale Price, 85c. yard.

### LADIES' HEATHER HOSE.

A few dozen pairs Ladies' Heather Hose. Sale Price, 32c. pair.

### GENT'S SILK NECKTIES.

24 dozen Gent's Colored Silk Neckties, wide ends. Value for \$1.00 each. Sale Price, 40c. Also a big variety of other qualities and prices.

### MEN'S BLACK VICI BOOTS.

Clean-up lines of Men's Black Vici Boots, laced; medium toe. Regular Price, \$7.00. Sale Price \$4.50 pair.

### AMERICAN FLANNELETTES.

5 pieces good heavy Striped Flannelette, 36" wide. Sale Price, 25c. yard. White Flannelettes in all widths and prices 30, 32 and 40c. yard.

### LADIES' BLACK SILK HOSE.

10 dozen Ladies' Half Leg Silk Hose. Value \$1.00 pair. Sale Price, 37c. pair.

### CHILDREN'S BOOTS.

A clean-up line of Children's Boots, black vamp with white kid top. Value for \$3.00 pair. Price, \$1.98 pair.

### MEN'S TAN CALF BOOTS.

10 pairs only left Men's Tan Calf Boots, no heel. Value for \$10.00. Sale Price \$7.50 pair.

# Marshall Bros

### Lectured on Japan.

REV. CANON SMART DELIVERS INTERESTING ADDRESS.

A very entertaining lecture on Japan was delivered at the Canon Wood Hall last night by Rev. Canon Smart who is here on a visit from Hearts Content. Among those present was His Lordship Bishop White. The Rev. lecturer dealt chiefly with the history, life and development of the Japanese, laying particular stress on the extraordinary pains taken by them to increase agricultural production by intensive methods of cultivation. The Japanese educational system was amongst the most up-to-date in the world, both as regards their Kindergarten Primary and University syllabus, and Canon Smart dealt exhaustively with the moral, intellectual, physical and spiritual development in the bringing up of young Japan. The lecture was illustrated with beautiful coloured slides throughout, while before the lecture slides of local celebrities including His Excellency the Governor Hon. R. Watson, Rev. E. C. Earp and others were shown. A feature of the evening was the singing of "From Greenland's Icy Mountains" illustrated by 21 coloured slides. Songs were rendered by Miss Mina Brown, and Quartettes by Mrs. Churchill, Misses Stirling, Legge and Major, and Messrs. McIlwraith, Seymour, Fitzgerald and Hammond, added to the evening's programme. At the conclusion His Lordship Bishop White gave a short address and the Rev. E. C. Earp thanked the lecturer for his very interesting discourse. On to-morrow night Canon Smart will again lecture at Canon Wood Hall his subject being "The Challenge of Islam." This will be illustrated.

### Ships Still Fogbound.

EXPECTED THIS EVENING.  
The disabled steamer Oxonian which is being towed to port by the Winfredian, was still off port up to press hour awaiting for the fog to lift before entering. Yesterday evening the steamers were about 18 miles East of the Narrows. Cape Spear reports the fog lifting a little, and it is probable the ships will arrive this evening. The Oxonian besides having a large general cargo has some 750 head of cattle on board.

S.S. Canadian Sapper sailed for Montreal at 6 a.m. this morning.

### Store Open

Every Night.

Patched Oil Clothes, \$3.15 suit. Postage extra.

**BOYS' DRESS SHIRTS.**  
Made of soft finish Percale; neat patterns, pointed collar and pocket.  
Each, \$1.10, \$1.15.

**LAWN 95c. Pound.**

**MEN'S CAPS**  
A large assortment of Caps at a popular price; neat patterns and styles.  
Each, 75c. 80c.

**WATCHES \$1.90 Each.**

**OVERALL PANTS**  
Made of good Blue Denim, a long wearing, comfortable Overall.  
Pair, \$1.40.

**TWEED PANTS.**  
Medium weight Cotton-ade, double stripe pattern; plain bottoms.  
Each, \$2.00

**SATEEN \$1.90 Pound. SUIT CASES**  
Brown Leatherette 6 1/2 inches deep, metal corners, leather anchor handle.  
Each, \$1.90

**HAIR BRUSHES 35c. Each.**

**MEN'S NIGHT SHIRTS**  
Nice assortment of patterns.  
\$2.30 Each.

**MEN'S DRESS SHIRTS**  
Made of a neat striped percale. Coat style, soft cuffs.  
Each, \$1.45

**CREPE 10c.**

**CHILDREN'S HOSE**  
In Black and Tan ideal. Stocking for School year.  
From 20c. to 30c.

**MEN'S HOSE 25c. Pair.**

**NAINSOOK**  
Good serviceable length 95c. Pound.

M. J. SUMMERS, 330 Water Street

## Automobiles for Sale

- 1 "Overland" Model 90.  
First class condition; a snap.
- 1 "Arrol Johnson".  
Fine English Car; just the Car for the work.
- ALSO —
- 1 "Overland" Model 4 Touring.  
New, 5 Passenger.
- 1 "Overland" Model 4 Coupe—New.  
All the above Cars will be sold at very low prices to clear.

**T. A. Macnab & Co.**  
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