

MOONSHINE
Chewing Tobacco.
PARK DRIVE
Smoking Tobacco.
J. J. ROSSITER
Distributor.

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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OUR POINT OF VIEW

The Colony's Present Financial Position

THE current expenses of the Colony in 1913-1914 exceeded the revenue by \$300,000, which deficit was met by taking \$300,000 from the Reserve Fund of \$500,000 accumulated chiefly by the Bond Government and intended for a rainy day.

The current expenses of the Colony in 1914-1915 exceeded the revenue by \$700,000. This deficit was met by taking the balance of the Reserve Fund (\$200,000) and a temporary loan of \$500,000 secured from the Bank of Montreal at 6 per cent.

The Colony in 1914-1915 had secured another temporary loan from the Bank of Montreal to pay for expenditure made the fall of the elections which amount added to other temporary loans authorized by the Legislature for various services, bring the Colony's indebtedness to the Bank of Montreal up to about \$1,000,000, which bear interest at 5 to 6 per cent.

The Colony also raised \$1,000,000 in London last year, as a temporary railway loan, which was to be repaid this year when the Amended Railway Loan Bill of \$2,000,000 was floated.

To float such a loan is impossible, and the \$1,000,000 temporary loan of last year is now an outstanding demand call upon the Colony. The balance of the \$2,000,000 loan is mostly due to Reid, but it cannot be raised until after the war ends; and it looks as if Colonial loans will have to wait some years after the war if they are to be floated in London. It may be possible to float such loans in New York, but the interest won't be less than 5 per cent.

In addition the Colony is expending another million dollars war loan, had from the British Government. That million dollar loan will all disappear by the end of November; 1500 Volunteers are now being paid out of this loan.

The demands upon that loan are many and will increase, and will double after 1916 come in, as another 1000 or more Volunteers will be required if the war continues for another year. The war expenditure will therefore not be less than \$2,500,000, when adjusting day arrives.

The revenue of the Colony, although increased by heavy taxation during the past year, which extra taxation amount to half the revenue now being collected, is still a long way short of what is required to meet current expenditure; and when June 30th, 1916,

arrives another million dollars deficit will face the overburdened taxpayers of Terra Nova, as the fishery this season will not be any better than last year's and prices are about the same as last year.

It must also be noted that labor is less than last year; the seal fishery this year was a blank and the lobster fishery will not amount to the tenth part of last year's value; 2000 producers, whose earnings would amount to \$600,000, are engaged in the war. The damage caused by the North East gale of two weeks ago, will cost \$250,000 to replace.

All these matters tend to reduce the revenue returns and build up the chances of a large deficit at the end of the year 1915-1916. Therefore reasonable men are worried over the financial outlook which will confront the Colony at the close of the war, or even at the end of the year.

Then, in addition to all this, the two branch railways remain unfinished and will require another \$2,000,000 to meet obligations entered into with the Reids. It is therefore certain that about \$8,000,000 will have to be floated by this Colony as soon as war conditions will permit, say 1917. This money will cost at least 5 per cent and probably will cost 6 per cent; at 5 per cent it means an additional \$400,000 annually to the Colony's expenditure.

In addition the annual grants to dependents of our brave lads who will have laid down their lives for the Empire, must be added and no one can estimate what those grants will amount to; but the Colony will be lucky if the total do not exceed \$200,000 per year.

Therefore present taxation will be continued for several years after the war ends, and not only continued, but increased, as a \$5,000,000 expenditure will have to be provided for in 1917; while the earnings of the people for four or five years after the war will not be much more than at present.

Such conditions should cause all to think seriously. They will undoubtedly create apprehensions that point to a very critical financial outlook; yet there are men in public life to-day gambling with their responsibility and trust as though they had no consideration, but that of graft and grab, intent on securing all possible for themselves before the bottom drops out of the Ship of State.

Prohibition

TEMPERANCE workers and others are invited to attend a meeting, to be held at the T. A. Hall to-night. All interested in carrying Prohibition in Newfoundland will have an opportunity to attend and do their little bit to bring about this much desired reform. Let us hope that all denominations will co-operate to ensure the success of the vote to be taken on this matter, next November. If the liquor traffic is the curse most people admit it to be, it should be removed.

Thanks to the action of the Opposition Party the people will have an opportunity to destroy this great evil by their votes. For many years this opportunity was desired by many; at last the opportunity has come, thanks to changed political conditions.

During our visit North in July we found a unanimous feeling in favour of the measure and there is no doubt about a two-third vote of Northern Districts being cast in favour of prohibiting the importation, sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquors in Newfoundland.

There need be no big flare up over this issue; all is wanted is steady, resolute action by all churches, for it is one of those great issues that should strongly appeal to all interested in furthering God's kingdom on earth. We contend that the less the active politicians have to do with this matter the better; let the churches do their duty and all will be well. If Prohibition is not carried at this time it will be a sad reflection upon our country and our Christianity.

The million dollars spent for liquor annually in this Colony, is now required for national purposes. It is money wasted, which brings nothing but evil in its trail. Prohibition will mean a saving of \$1,000,000, now wasted, which will be expended usefully and thus enrich our country to an amount equal to 200,000 quintals of fish each year, beside the vast improvement it will create in matters of trade and commerce in this city, which will be as good as another \$500,000 annually to the Colony.

This paper stands for Prohibition, and we in our personal capacity will do all in our power to aid our countrymen to secure the manifold blessings that must result to any country that banishes liquor.

The Post Office

THAT the affairs of the Post Office are handled in a very loose manner is evidenced by the fact that a gentleman in the city, well and favorably known, recently received two letters from his son who is with the Volunteers (then at Stobb's Camp) some three weeks after the letters reached St. John's.

The letters in question were dated July 5th and reached St. John's on July 16th. This date was stamped on the envelope in the Post Office here. They did not come into his possession until Wednesday, August 11th.

Now what about this? Is anyone to blame? The public are paying a heavy price as a result of the packing the Post Office with party-healers and it is about time that this indiscriminate pitchforking of political patriots into offices of public trust should cease.

The Post Office under the Morris Government has become prostituted to such an extent that the public have lost all confidence in it and in the interests of the public who are taxed to death to keep this branch of the civil service (?) going it is time for radical changes there.

Similar cases as the one quoted above have occurred there of late and as far as the Post Master General is concerned he neither cares or worries.

Isn't it time for a change?

Whom the gods would destroy they first induce to marry foolishly.

did not blush to bribe even legislators to effect their purpose.

What was the result? The entire business of the Island was a Water Street Trust; and when there came evil days upon the fishing industry, the Trust and all that pertained thereto, went down like a house of cards.

"Black Monday," of December 1894, was but the aftermath of the operations of the Trust, or Combine which had ruled the Street for more than a generation; and there are indications that there are dark days coming in the near future which will overshadow even the gloom which fell upon us on that December morning.

The Combine has antagonized our only producers; and these will certainly resent the machinations of the Street in a very emphatic manner when their cup of bitterness is filled.

In the United States the Sherman Law makes short shrift of institutions which are guilty of acts what conduce to a restraint of trade; and even high finance cannot influence Courts or Inquiry to nitrate their findings.

We have, unhappily, no such means available to prevent operations by Combines; and that we have not such safeguards is due to the constitution of our Upper Chamber, governmentally known as the Legislative Council, but styled popularly, the "dumping room."

When Mr. Coaker, at various times during the past three years, introduced measures which would improve the status of the toiler, they were emasculated or ousted in the Dumpy, and when they came therefrom, were hardly recognizable.

This Institution is controlled by men who have no sympathy with the proletariat, and yet, by specious palavering, they are able to insinuate themselves into the graces of their dependents.

The Combine which regulates the price of fish, and even other commodities, is represented in the Dumpy by men—"honorable" men of course—and thus the great farce goes on with the inevitable result that representative government has almost become a byword.

Oil Stores

WE notice that at the weekly meeting of the Civic Board held on Friday evening last the Colonial Secretary wrote the Council asking them for their decision in the matter of granting permission to the Standard and Imperial Oil Companies to erect storage plants.

It is to be hoped that if such permission is granted to these Companies it will be on the condition that such storage plants are erected outside the city limits. We have one oil store within the municipal limits at present and that one is one too many for the interests of the city in general.

Structures of this nature should not and must not be erected within the city limits, and if the Council are so dense to the interests of the city as to allow these Companies to erect oil depots in the heart of the city the people as a whole will be justified in raising in their might and strongly objecting to such buildings. What action will the Insurance Companies take in this matter?

May we suggest to the Council that these Companies erect their oil stores and yards in the vicinity of Rennie's Mill or LeMerchant Roads, as they would be ornaments to further adorn those thoroughfares and we feel sure with beautiful erections would meet with the popular approval of the residents of either of those localities.

Or better still erect both structures in the field adjoining the residence of Mr. Harris, the Secretary of the Board of Works. We feel sure he would not object as he evidently sees nothing wrong with the present oil yard and store on Forest Road.

In connection with the oil yard and store on Forest Road we wish

Combines

THE Juggernaut of American industrial life is the Trust whose name is legion.

This pregnant sentence was written recently by an economist who has studied very carefully the awful effects of monopoly on American life, and with certain limitations, his thesis regarding the laboring classes is applicable to present hour conditions in this Colony.

Men have combined to settle the price of our great commodity regardless of the great principle of supply and demand; and they have doubtless been emboldened in their predatory operations by a recent decision of the Supreme Court.

Combines have been the bane of this country since the Devonian forebears of certain magnates worked the Family-Compact scheme to enrich themselves and to keep the toilers in a condition of perpetual serfdom. They scrupled not to degrade the fishermen and their families to the status of the mujik; and they waxed fat and prosperous under the conventional laws of the fish-flake fraternity.

In their mad desire for the accumulation of gilded shekels they broke down every barrier that decency or humanity had raised; and felt content with the result of their handiwork. Every movement for the amelioration of the toiler was taboo in the councils of the cod-fish aristocracy; and they

Mr. Simms' Letter

WE should not think it worth while to notice Mr. Simms' letter in to-day's News but for the fact that we are either deliberately misquoted or the author of "Fish As An Aid to Farmers" has not read our article of last Thursday with a clear understanding.

We are quoted in such a clumsy way as to make it appear that we are opposed to frequent stirring of the soil, when as a matter of fact we have advocated the cultivating of the soil as ardently as has Mr. Simms himself. It is really too bad that when conducting an argument such as this kind that men cannot conduct it in a manner as befits the occasion and not by jumping to the ill natured conclusion that the other fellow is actuated by some ulterior motive, as Mr. Simms evidently has done in this case, for it is impossible to arrive at any other conclusion from reading his letter.

Mr. Simms says, and we use his own words, "it was not my intention to refer again, at present at any rate, to potatoes, only that I saw an item in last evening's Advocate in which the writer states that if lots of humus abounds one is sure of a large crop of potatoes without 'stirring the soil.' I admit that soil rich in humus will throw an excellent crop but why not cultivate or 'stir the soil' and allow the God given air to do its good work which it will surely do, whether the ground is stirred with an expensive cultivating outfit or a sharp stick, and get a much larger crop?"

The words we used are as follows:—"Mr. Simms also lays particular emphasis on the stirring of the soil, this is a good bit of advice, for we think our farmers as a rule do not pay enough heed to this cultivation. However, stirring of the soil is not going to make up for other deficiencies, as for instance lack of mould or humus in the soil. There are too certain favorable conditions which render cultivation or stirring of the soil superfluous, and entirely unnecessary to the raising of a bumper crop of potatoes, and it will be found that this condition exists where vegetable mould is in abundance, as for instance in land newly reclaimed from the forest."

These words very clearly set forth our position in the matter. We hold that stirring of the soil, no matter how frequently, is not going to insure a good crop if other factors are not favorable, and we can hardly see how Mr. Simms can differ from us in this respect.

Our article from which the foregoing words are taken was written to expound our theory respecting "wet" potatoes, and we were not writing a treatise on cultivation, if it were, we could tell Mr. Simms that it is not with the growing crop we would begin but with the seed bed, before ever a seed were put into it. That is where all cultivation should begin, for no amount of stirring of the soil can ever make good any neglect of this first principle of husbandry.

There are many other weaknesses in Mr. Simms' arguments respecting soils, which are hard to account for, in a man who presumes to write on agricultural matters, and who one time held the position of Secretary of the Agricultural Society. But as we are not holding any controversy with that gentleman we will not refer to them here.

One mistake he makes we cannot permit to go uncorrected on account of the position of the writer, as it might do some harm. Mr. Simms, in speaking of "chopped boughs," says in a post script to say that we have further remarks to make on this matter and we intend to prove to the satisfaction of the public that this yard and store as they stand to-day are a menace to the interests of the city.

LeMerchant Road

WE are in receipt of a strong letter from a gentleman residing on LeMerchant Road dealing with the disgraceful conduct of some city sports who nightly infest this thoroughfare and whose conduct is such as would bear the immediate attention of the police authorities.

There is we think, an Act on the Statute Book dealing with that loathsome business known as the White Slave Traffic. LeMerchant is now known as The Great White Way and nightly scenes are enacted there which are a disgrace to the city.

Motor cars, motor cycles with side car attached, can be seen scouting along this thoroughfare all hours of the night. Respectable married ladies and young girls are being insulted night after night.

This kind of thing has gone on unchecked by the authorities until now it is not safe for respectable people to use this thoroughfare after dusk. Scenes are enacted on LeMerchant Road nightly which would put to shame the "RESERVATION" districts of some of the larger continental cities or even Bowings' Park.

We have the names of many of these "RESPECTABLE" citizens who are railroading our young girls to the gates of hell, and unless they desist in their foul and unchristian actions we will deal with such cattle as they justly deserve.

The seats along this road evidently placed by the Council for people to rest and enjoy the evening air are taken charge of by "Hooligans" and the conversations and actions of these gentry are far from proper.

Let us hope for the benefit of our city that the police will be successful in rounding up these undesirable and make LeMerchant Road a thoroughfare that our citizens can use without having to further witness the disgraceful scenes that are now being enacted there.

Montgomerie

SOME unreasonable men fail to believe that Montgomerie and Paterson were really paid anything over and above the regular officers pay during their picnic to England. It will be remembered that Mr. Coaker asked the Premier, during the past session of the House, for a statement of those matters, and we now publish the statement tabled in the House by the Premier.

"With reference to the amounts paid Capt. Paterson and Montgomerie for their services in connection with the despatch of contingents to England, I table copies of their accounts, Capt. Paterson, it will be observed, only charged his captain's pay for the period involved, and eight days in England at a pound a day for his first trip, which I think no one will be disposed to quarrel with. The contingent was then at Salisbury Plain and this involved very little traffic. When the second contingent went forward the Regiment was at Edinburgh, and after completing the work there, both officers had to proceed to London in connection with various matters associated with the administrative and medical departments of the Regiment. Owing to the disorganization of the Transatlantic steamers they were detained a considerable period. Hence the items of board and travelling expenses at \$10 per day. Both bills were submitted to the Finance Committee and that Committee, before paying them, asked Capt. Montgomerie (Capt. Paterson in the meantime having gone with another contingent) to explain the circumstances under which this charge was made, because really the only items in question were the allowance for uniforms and the allowance for the period at \$10 per day. Before these gentlemen left, His Excellency the Governor, as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment, decided that they were entitled to the pay of their rank from the time of their departure until their return. They claim that in order to appear on parade with the Regiment on the other side, they had to be equipped as the regular officers were, and therefore that the amount claimed on account of uniform was legitimate."

The Premier stated, that board and travelling expenses at the rate of \$10 per day was demanded and paid by the decision of the Governor. Apparently they claimed, in addition to salary, travelling expenses and boarding, another payment for uniforms, and it now appears that they were paid salary, \$10 per day as an allowance, and another sum as an allowance for uniform.

Will Mr. Munn or someone who

Don't Miss This!

DAME rumour has it that one of the unco guid city editors has been guilty of a very serious breach of journalistic ethics for which he is likely to render an account that will cause our pious brother pangs of humiliation such as he has rarely experienced.

The "cat is out of the bag," our unfortunate brother of craft is likely to cause readers of Dickens to look up the biography of Uriah Heep!

Cant and hypocrisy inevitably bring their Nemesis; and masks fall off at awkward times. We hope to be in a position to elucidate this matter shortly.

The good dame also says that some of the Montgomeriana which have appeared recently in city dailies were ordered by the stockholders of the prints in order to divert public opinion from things that are happening in polite (?) circles. Our references to Mr. Goodridge have, it seems, caused considerable flutter in the dove-cote, and execrations loud and deep are being hurled at our unfortunate head—why, we have not learned. Truth is sometimes laden with unpleasant consequences.

According to the American Patriot, the cost to the brewer of a barrel of beer is about 60 cents, while the profits, depending on the size of the glass used in dispensing it, ranges from \$12.40 to \$28.35.

handles the Colony's war expenditure explains exactly what was really paid to those men? It is said one received \$1300 and the other \$1400 for their two picnics across to England; while the poor Naval Reservists who join the service and offers his life for Country, King and Empire receives 26 cents per day.