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## The Daily Mail

Issued every week day from the office of Publication, 167 Water St., St. John's, Nfld. The Daily Mail Publishing Co., Ltd., Proprietors, and Union Publishing Co., Ltd., Printers.

**Subscription Rates.**  
By mail, to any part of Newfoundland and Canada, \$2.00 per year.  
To the United States of America, \$3.50 per year.

All correspondence on business and editorial matters should be addressed to Dr. H. M. Mossell, Managing Editor.

Letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only and the real name of the author should be attached. This will not be used unless consent be given in the communication.

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., MARCH 5, 1914.

### OUR POINT OF VIEW.

#### THE CRISIS.

Yesterday was probably the most exciting day ever witnessed at the House. Immediately after the opening, Mr. Kent made a motion in reference to The Daily Mail charges against Mr. Cashin and asked the House to resolve itself into Privilege in order to prove or disprove the serious charge made by The Daily Mail against the honor of a member of the House.

Mr. Kent claimed that the matter was one that concerned every member of the House and should be immediately proceeded with in order to prove or disprove the charge.

Dr. Lloyd strongly supported Mr. Kent's motion and the Premier at once consented to have the fullest investigation and was anxious to go into the matter at once.

Mr. Furlong then entered the House and turned it into a consultation room and the result was that the Premier changed his course of action and refused to permit an investigation to be made by a Committee on Privilege, stating as his excuse that the Minister's lawyer had advised him not to proceed as it might prejudice his case in the Court, as he intended issuing a writ against The Daily Mail to-morrow.

This caused a warm discussion in which Mr. Kent, Dr. Lloyd, Mr. Coaker, Mr. Cliff, Mr. Halfyard, Mr. Stone and Mr. Grimes took part.

The Premier would not consent to any investigation by the House.

Mr. Coaker told the Premier that if the Minister was innocent he would not fear fifty investigations while if he refused it would be construed as a weakness on his part.

Mr. Coaker stated further that the Editor had informed him that the writer of The Mail article had informed him that he had derived his information from reliable sources.

The motion to investigate The Mail charges against the Minister of Finance was voted down by a strict Party vote.

The House was crowded with visitors and when Mr. Coaker sent his challenge across the floor for an investigation that would not be feared by any innocent man, the visitors cheered and applauded in a manner seldom heard in the House, thus showing that all deeply resented the action of the Premier in refusing the Minister an opportunity to prove the words he uttered the previous night when he stated that he had not purchased a pound of tobacco.

If that statement was true what had the Minister to fear from the fullest investigation?

The Country will decide that Sir Edward Morris dreaded an investiga-

tion which would at once produce the facts and publish them to the Country.

The honor of the House was involved and no Court should deal with such a matter.

The dignity of the House was assailed, yet those on the Government side of the House voted in favor of supporting the assault, not only upon the House but upon every member of the House.

The people will answer the question of the charge to-day as they learn of the cowardly course taken yesterday by the Premier. His action will be generally condemned and most people will be inclined to consider that the honor of the House and the reputation of the Government and Premier demanded that an immediate enquiry be held by the House and those concerned be summoned to the Bar of the House to give evidence.

What Mr. Coaker stated in the House expresses the opinion of the general public and the citizens of St. John's are amazed over the indiscreet and involved action of the Premier in offering first to accede to the motion of Mr. Kent's to open at once a full and searching enquiry in order to prove or disprove the serious charges made against the honor of the House and a Minister of the Government.

The last of this matter has not yet been heard. If the House is to sit day after day considering Ways and Means with a Minister in charge that has been openly charged with a serious breach of constitutional practice which involves impeachment if true, the honor of the House will be so degraded as to make it a reproach to the Country.

What does His Excellency, the Governor, think of such an action on the part of the Prime Minister? Can he permit a Minister of the Crown to hold office while such a charge is hanging over his head and which he refused to permit a Committee of Privilege of the House to investigate?

For be it remembered that the Minister charged refused to consent to have the matter investigated by the House under the plea that his Counsel so advised.

A libel case would not serve the public interest at present.

It will take months before it can be investigated by the Court.

It will prevent public criticism and stifle the expression of public opinion in the Press.

His Excellency, the Governor, is expected to demand at once the resignation of Mr. Cashin as a Minister of the Crown and a member of the Executive, as Sir Wilfred Laurier demanded from Mr. Emmerson, a member of the Cabinet and Minister of the Crown, a few years ago when charged with a minor offence.

Will His Excellency act? The public depend upon him.

The members of the House who refused yesterday to be parties to supporting a decision that showed the majority of the members had but little regard for its dignity and honor, expect him to act.

If no action is taken by His Excellency to cause the Prime Minister to demand Mr. Cashin's resignation pending the enquiry which may or may not take place, a blow will be struck at Responsible Government that this Country will not recover from for many years and the confidence of the people in our Governors will be sadly shaken.

#### ANOTHER CROSBIE EXHIBITION.

The exciting scenes of yesterday before tea, which have seldom been paralleled in the history of the House, were but the forerunner of a far greater scene which took place last night.

The Premier had replied to the criticisms of the Opposition on the Budget, when Mr. Crosbie arose and as usual opened-out in a tirade of abuse of Mr. Coaker, vailing his remarks as usual in insinuations that were unbecoming to the House and insulting to the member for Bonavista.

The House has seldom listened to such a cowardly attack or to such a disgraceful tirade of personal abuse as that which emanated from the Hon. J. C. Crosbie.

The galleries, which were overcrowded, at once became restless and the strongest indignation was manifested.

Mr. Kent arose to a point of order and asked the Chairman of Committee, Mr. Parsons, to decide whether Mr. Crosbie's remarks were relevant to the question before the chair.

The visitors expressed their appreciation of Mr. Kent's action by loudly cheering him.

About 500 persons were present and as Mr. Crosbie was brought to book and his conduct challenged, they cheered and clapped, and at one time it looked as though the whole gallery of visitors would sweep all before them and enter the Assembly Chamber and deal themselves with Mr. Crosbie.

The Chairman acted unwisely and even disrespectfully towards the Leader of the Opposition, who had to insist for the tenth time upon the question being decided, to which de-

mand the Chairman as often had failed to respond.

Again and again Mr. Crosbie attempted to continue his speech and Dr. Lloyd and the whole Opposition had to demand in unison that a ruffing be given.

At length Dr. Lloyd, backed by the Opposition, secured the seating of Mr. Crosbie and the Chairman, Mr. Parsons, at last felt compelled to do something and decided that Mr. Crosbie was not out of order. This called forth Mr. Kent's strongest protest and he, appealed to the House against Mr. Parsons' decision, and after some further commotion the Government members in a body upheld the ruling of the Chairman and order was restored, and Mr. Crosbie resumed his speech, and again indulged in the use of language that was insulting and extremely offensive to the Opposition Party.

Mr. Crosbie was told by Mr. Coaker that his attack was cowardly and he was not man enough to come out and make a straight charge.

This brought forth some fierce language from Mr. Crosbie, which brought from Mr. Coaker the retort that only a contemptible clown would use such expressions.

Mr. Crosbie at once demanded that the words be taken down and reported to the Speaker.

The Speaker was called in and the Chairman of Committee, Mr. Parsons, at once reported the words to him. The Speaker acted manly and without favor and nobly performed the duties of his office in this respect last night, and he called Mr. Coaker's attention to the words in question which he stated were unparliamentary.

Mr. Coaker arose and stated that he had uttered the words and they expressed his feelings, and that the Hon. member for Bay de Verde could take them to mean what he liked and could twist them as he might.

Mr. Crosbie demanded an apology. The Speaker asked Mr. Coaker to apologize. Mr. Coaker arose and explained the conduct of the Hon. member for Bay de Verde and showed that he had deliberately insulted him and mentioned the words he had uttered, and stated that until Mr. Crosbie withdrew his remarks that he refused to withdraw his.

The visitors again showed their appreciation for the galleries and the floors of the House re-echoed with clapping and expression, showing the Assembly's indignation for the conduct of Mr. Crosbie.

Mr. Crosbie started in to dictate to the Speaker but His Honor handed him firmly and demanded that he withdraw the words he uttered offending Mr. Coaker, and Mr. Crosbie replied by saying his words were not intended for Mr. Coaker and were not a reflection upon him.

Dr. Lloyd and the members of the Opposition almost in unison protested asserting that every person present in the House knew perfectly well that Mr. Crosbie's remarks were intended solely for Mr. Coaker, of which declaration the visitors again expressed their approval.

The Speaker secured from Mr. Crosbie a complete withdrawal of his offensive remarks and reported this to Mr. Coaker, and asked Mr. Coaker if he would consequently withdraw the remarks he had made concerning Mr. Crosbie.

Mr. Coaker replied saying that, as Mr. Crosbie had withdrawn his remarks, that he had no objection in withdrawing his towards Mr. Crosbie and the incident closed.

The whole House felt proud of the Speaker for his firmness with Mr. Crosbie and his tact with Mr. Coaker brought the incident to a satisfactory conclusion.

Mr. Crosbie continued his remarks in a more moderate vein and closed by reading some observations that he or someone had prepared for the occasion.

Mr. Coaker replied and delivered a speech that was manly, firm and effective, showing Mr. Crosbie wherein he had failed to observe the decorum of parliamentary debate, asserting that he himself had not spoken in ungentlemanly fashion of any member, nor had he used any unparliamentary language since he occupied a seat in the House.

He plainly told Mr. Crosbie that his attack was unmanly, for he would not openly charge what he was coward enough to insinuate; if he had Mr. Coaker would have been enabled to deal with him in a manner that would teach some of the members some facts they knew nothing of.

Mr. Coaker showed Mr. Crosbie that he opposed him on principle in the House and in the Press because as a member of the Executive Council he secured mail contracts and contracts for supplies, conduct which in England would drive him from public life.

He claimed that no member of a Government should receive any public contract or have any financial dealings with the public treasury. This is what he and the Union objected to and they would insist on the principle and traditions of the British Parliament being applied to administrative affairs in this Colony.

He believed that any man serving

the public should be paid for his services and that they should be properly and well compensated but they should only receive what was voted them by the House and be debarred from receiving any further compensation and should not have any further connection with the Treasury.

If \$2000 be not enough then make the salary \$5000 but pay a salary and allow no other connection with the Treasury or with the public funds.

With regard to Mr. Crosbie's complaints about The Advocate, Mr. Coaker said Mr. Crosbie had a remedy in the Courts, and if he disliked what was published he had a cure within reach; but as for what he wrote or what any paper controlled by him would print, he would not permit any member of the House to dictate to him his line of conduct as to what was done outside the House.

What he said in the House he was ready to shoulder responsibility for, and if he trod on any one's corns in debate he was ready to take his medicine in return; but he would never use language unbecoming to the House or that was unparliamentary, and he would not allow any member of the House to treat him otherwise than as treated by himself.

The House closed at 1 a.m. this morning after passing through a day that probably has no equal in its annals.

Mr. Kent surprised the House by the warmth with which he insisted upon the Chairman of Committee making a ruling upon the point of order raised by him and by his subsequent appeal to the vote of the House.

It was the first time this session that Mr. Kent showed such spirit and firmness and demonstrated that he possessed a temper that can assert itself when occasion required.

The conduct of Mr. Parsons is very regrettable, for he exhibited great weakness and want of firmness in dealing with the incident.

Had Speaker Goodison acted in as weak a manner as Chairman Parsons the matter might have ended in a far different manner, and probably the whole assemblage of visitors would have rushed into the House and wrecked their vengeance upon the offending member.

The public feeling is now fully aroused against the Government and few approve of the Premier's inaction and silence during the exciting midnight events.

The Premier asserted no influence or authority. His warmest thanks are due the Speaker for the intelligent and tactful manner in which he handled the very delicate situation last night.

Let us hope that the Hon. J. C. Crosbie will learn a lesson from his last night's experience and in future keep himself within decent bounds and learn to debate public issues without using insulting personal references to members of the House and turning the Assembly into a bear garden.

We congratulate Mr. Coaker upon the manner in which he controlled his temper last night under such strong provocation, and on the splendid tact he manifested in dealing with a very trying position. All who were present admired his judgment and his remarks, which were exceedingly effective and highly appreciated.

He received the congratulations of the Opposition members. Many who were present waited on him last night after the House closed to express their appreciation of his conduct.

To-day scores of his friends are tendering him their congratulations. The one most noticeable occurrence yesterday was the almost unanimous approval of the public of the handling of the Cashin and Crosbie incidents by the Opposition Party and especially by Messrs. Kent and Coaker.

The cheering in the House yesterday was extraordinary in spite of the strenuous exertion of the officials and of half a dozen policemen who did all possible to restrain the enthusiasm of the visitors in the gallery and on the ground floor.

No better investment can be made than by taking a Contract Space in the DAILY MAIL.

#### POEMS OLD AND NEW.

##### SIC TRANSIT.

This life, which seems so fair, Is like a bubble blown up in the air. By sporting children's breath, Who chase it everywhere And strive who can most motion it be-queath.

And though it sometimes seem of its own might, Like an eye of gold to be fix'd there, And firm to hover in that empty height, That only is because it is so light.

—But in that pomp it doth not long appear; For when 'tis most admired, in a thought, Because it erat was nought, it turns to nought.

—W. DRUMMOND.

## Gleanings

### From Mr. Coaker's Speech on The Budget.

#### In The House Tuesday Night

Where has the money gone, Mr. Chairman? What has been done with the \$30,000,000 spent by the present administration during the last five years? They have spent \$20,000,000 raised as revenue and about \$10,000,000 in loans.

When they get this extra \$700,000 increased taxation who will benefit by it? Will the people? Will it not go to the grabbers and those with influence and an ardent desire for more grab who support the Government?

They have been throwing money broadcast for five years and now the reckoning has arrived and the Country will realize how it has been fooled and coddled.

#### How It Went.

Let us see how some of those enormous amounts which came from the pockets of the fishermen went.

Here are a few amounts paid out in the year 1911-12:

Bishop & Sons . . . . . \$ 4,400  
Jesse Whiteway . . . . . 8,120  
Nfld. Produce Co. . . . . 13,500  
Daily News . . . . . 6,400  
M. A. Devine . . . . . 1,840  
Twillington Sun . . . . . 467  
Chronicle Pub. Co. . . . . 14,450

These are only "feather bites" and for odds and ends taken in many cases from Contingencies account.

Now for a few items from 1912-13 account:

Jesse Whiteway . . . . . \$ 4,600  
Bishop & Sons . . . . . 12,400  
Nfld. Produce Co. . . . . 31,220  
Chronicle Pub. Co. . . . . 8,000  
Daily News . . . . . 8,600  
P. F. Moore & Co. . . . . 10,500

This does not include all of the \$14,200 paid Crosbie & Co. as insurance premiums on the Dredge for eighteen months; it includes an item of \$7,628 in one payment for coals supplied the Hospital and \$2,165.00 as payment made for coal for the Lunatic and \$466 paid the Fogota for bringing relief to Squid Tickle fire sufferers which did not occupy more than two days.

Why, if we could get sops like that for the Kintail we would be able to supply coal to St. John's people for \$5 per ton.

#### Big Sops.

Crosbie's account includes \$9,331 paid on account of the Dredge and \$2,985 paid on account of the Fiona for coal and insurance.

The Chronicle account includes \$5,300 paid for printing for the Postal Telegraphs and The Daily News account includes \$5,242 also for the Post Office during the same year.

Those figures don't include all the amounts paid to those papers for those periods.

We could not find time to go to get through all the accounts. I can give you day and date for those payments. They cannot be disputed.

In the years 1911-12 The Chronicle received \$4,588 for one job alone which was printing the Journal of the House; \$3,000 for printing speeches and reports of the House, and \$3,619 in one payment for ordinary printing and advertising.

Arbitration Payments.

Now for a few items paid the railway arbitrators and lawyers:

R. A. Squires . . . . . \$ 2,352  
M. P. Gibbs . . . . . 7,200  
W. H. Howley . . . . . 6,300  
W. C. Winsor . . . . . 3,900  
J. R. Bennett . . . . . 3,700  
C. Emerson . . . . . 3,313  
Jordan Milley . . . . . 3,000  
J. R. Goodison . . . . . 5,000

All but Mr. Milley were members of this House, and three of them are members of the Executive Council and if such happened in England it would cause them the loss of their seats immediately if was discovered and would leave them all open to a heavy fine by the Courts and it may be imprisonment.

Here I have shown that Messrs. Crosbie, Bishop, Emerson, Bennett, Gibbs, Morison and Morris had direct connection with the Treasury; for Messrs. Morison and Sir E. P. Morris were large shareholders and directors in The News and The Chronicle Publishing Co's.

What Will Happen?

Where will it all end? How can the Colony be going to anything but sure destruction? Must those scandals be permitted with impunity? Must public men be permitted to grab from the chest and be recognized as patriots?

We stand for the introduction of British ideals in our public life and no man must, if he holds a seat in the

Cabinet, have any connection with the public Treasury.

If they perform public duties they must be paid salaries voted by this House but they must not in any manner have any other connection with the Treasury.

You must be ousted from power. The election petitions must be pushed and if wrong doing is proven you will be unseated and if bye-elections come off you will all be defeated for no district in the Country will now have anything to do with you or your policy.

Awakening Has Come.

Their eyes are now open. They see now they have been fooled. They will have no further use for any of you. You are taking \$2.50 more taxation per head or \$12.50 for a family of five than you did when you asked them for your votes.

You are taking \$120,000 more on liquor. A small whiskey has gone up to 15c. You have taken \$120,000 on tobacco, and the factory has made an increase of 9c. per lb. for Home Rule has gone up from 57c. to 66c.

That is not all. Every poor man buys his tobacco by the stick and as there are 14 sticks in a pound of small it will mean that a 5c. stick will now be sold at 6c., which means a rise of 14c. on a pound of tobacco, while you have not increased the duty on cigars and you have put the same increase on tobacco worth \$1.00 per lb. as you have on the poor man's which cost 60c.

Forty cents per pound will be the duty now to be paid on cheap tobacco.

Soaked the Toller.

You have added one cent per lb. to the butter and you have placed the same duty on the 23c. butterine as you have on the 23c. creamery; all pay 2c. per lb., so the poor man pays as much on 15c. as a well-to-do man pays on 23c.

On every article worn by a man woman or child you will take a surtax of 10 per cent., making the duty on these articles 50 per cent.

What a load you have added to the already heavy burden carried by the poor man and you have the impudence to tell us that the fisherman or workman pays hardly any taxes.

They will devour you politically when they get a chance and you may as well make up your mind that you will never get a chance to make another Budget if the Bye-Elections come off in districts where petitions have been filed against the sitting members.

Poor Terra Nova. Well may her patriot sons exclaim that those trusted have deserted her in her hour of need!

Well may all our people exclaim God pity our native isle for I am sure if God does not there is no hope of pity from the Government of Sir Ed. Morris.

Dark Future.

Dark clouds surround the colony. The future is but a gamble. No one can tell you what will happen. \$360,000.00 as a loan must be raised locally. \$2,000,000.00 for railways must be raised in London by next June.

I am proud the people on the South Coast voted against the Liberal candidates for had we been returned to power last October the F. P. U. would have been ruined.

We never would have recovered from the blow that would come to us if our first action in the House had been to reveal a shortage in revenue to meet expenditure of \$500,000.00 and a clean treasury with a \$2,000,000.00 loan to raise in a market that scorns all but 4 per cent. bonds, and is very timid even of those.

I repeat that God's finger moved to save us from destruction by returning the Morris Party to power and compelling them to shoulder the consequences of their policy of waste, extravagance and grab.

You are now right up to your neck in a mess you deliberately created, and out of it you will never get, for it won't be long before you will go under head and all.

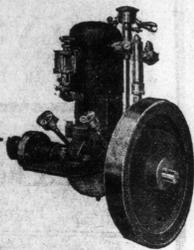
#### A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

Opportunity has hair in front, but is bald behind; if you meet her, seize her by the forelock for Jove himself cannot catch her again if once let slip.—Rabelais.

HELLO CENTRAL—The Stephano and Durango have arrived; tell S. E. GARLAND to send me some late Magazines and Newspapers and one or two good Novels. He knows just what I like.

You probably have noticed that poor men are never sued for breach of promise.

If half the people enjoy doing a thing the other half engage in an effort to pass a law prohibiting it.



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