

Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, - - - Proprietor
H. A. WINTER, B.A., - - - Editor
SATURDAY, Dec. 29th, 1917.

The Premier's Resignation.

We understand that the Premier, Sir Edward Morris, has resigned his leadership and seat in the House of Assembly, and that the Governor will call upon the Acting Premier, Dr. Lloyd, to form a new ministry. The intelligence will come as a surprise to few. On the Premier's part his action is merely the logical conclusion of the events of the past year, of which he himself did so much to shape the course. For long he has assumed little share and evinced little interest in the work of government, absenting himself from the Colony for long periods on one pretext and another. Having adroitly shifted the great burden and responsibility of the war from the shoulders of the Government, where it properly belonged, to those of private individuals, he divested himself of the duty of leadership which was really his and contented himself with that incident of which consisted in stepping into the limelight whenever it reflected something of honour and credit upon himself. In the multifarious and extremely difficult war work of the country he has had almost no practical part. Political necessity called him to St. John's last spring, a general election being in the normal course of things, imminent. Knowing that he could no longer command a majority in the House, he succeeded in negotiating the coalition of parties which has been self-dubbed a National Government, and in postponing the election. How far the aims and achievements of this conglomeration have been national in effect and character, the nation itself has sufficiently seen. Thereafter the Premier's resignation became a matter of time only. He has tendered it now because, to express it colloquially, the game of politics has ceased to be a winning one for him. That his action is the part of wisdom, in a personal regard, none will deny, but we could wish that the country had been spared the humiliation of the manner in which he has performed it. There is no need for us to conjecture the popular verdict upon one who, invested with the highest responsibility and trust, evades the duties which it involves by the simple process of running away from them, and finally lays it down without having the courage, in so doing, even to face those who resented it in him.

Whether or not Dr. Lloyd will wish or find it possible to form a ministry we do not know. Having regard to the material at his disposal, we are naturally doubtful. The question is only of temporary importance, since any government that may be formed now can have but a short existence. It is becoming increasingly plain that a national housecleaning is an imperative necessity which cannot be indefinitely postponed. We can say confidently that when the country knows, as it soon will know, what has been going on behind Government doors within the past twelve months, it will refuse to see returned to office a single one of the men who have been a party to it or in any way associated with it. These are general observations which apply to the future and concern matters which will be dealt with at the proper time and in the proper place. There are others more particular which concern the present. It is disclosing no secret to say that open, if not public, accusations of a most serious nature have lately been made against certain ministers of the Crown. Evidence which would seem to constitute a prima facie justification of the charges is the property of many. To date nothing of importance has been done in the matter. It is time something was. It is the clear duty of the Government to see that these ministers are either exonerated or summarily dismissed and otherwise dealt with as the case demands. It is a matter for the fullest public and judicial investigation. There has been enough whispering, hinting and hole-and-corner procedure. In the present connection, we insist that inclusion of any of these ministers in the cabinet or in any other department of the Government that must now be formed will be highly improper and an outrage which the country will not tolerate, unless and until the accusations in question are proved to be unfounded.

There never was a more critical period in the history of this country than the present. We may quote Archbishop Roche's words, as we quoted them once before, "Newfoundland now requires the best administrative ability the Colony possesses." If Newfoundland is to obtain that ability, it must first become awake to the need. At present it is sound asleep. The very first thing it must realise is that it must look for a leader, and the man for him to have behind him, altogether outside the hot-bed of political corruption, selfishness and incompetence that passes for its present Government.

The Matter of Menus

The criticism that has already been excited by the W.P.A. menu published to-day is a good illustration of the manner in which people can go out of their way to misunderstand things. In the first place, direct or indirect reflections upon the ladies who have gone to so much trouble to prepare them are an impertinence in both senses of the word. If the critics would endeavour to assist for once, instead of decrying every attempt to tackle a very difficult problem, there might be more accomplished. In the second place, we think those responsible made a mistake in giving a "New Year" menu to start with. It may not be plain to

many at first sight that it is an exceptional one, and not intended for an everyday precedent. Even so, it is not obligatory, and if any cannot afford to follow it in its entirety they need not do so. But the essence of the misunderstanding which would like to remove is that contained in Mr. Dempster's letter, which we publish. We quite agree with him that the "rich" ought to cut out their "dinner parties and afternoon teas," but by suggesting that the first duty falls upon those whom he has in mind we think he misses the whole vital point of the situation. Economy in general is always advisable, but it is not the object of this particular movement. The real object is the conservation of certain specific foodstuffs, involving, secondarily, substitution of others. Those foodstuffs are, to take the two most important, flour and meat. Now, taking the country as a whole, it seems plain to us that, if we reduce the consumption of these two foods to a minimum, we shall have to replace them by others which are on the whole more expensive, so that no economy in price will be achieved but the reverse. But this increased price the country as a whole ought to be able to afford. It is not in any way a question of rich and poor, but if it is made so, we are compelled to say that far the greater duty lies on the poor, and not the rich. For to thousands of our poorer people these very foods constitute almost the sole dietary. How much of the total flour and meat supply of this country is consumed in the "dinner parties and afternoon teas" of the rich? An infinitesimal portion. Let them be cut out by all means, but very little will be gained by it. The essence of the whole matter is this. We have not got to save money, but to save flour and meat. If we do not do so, the whole country will go short, desperately short, by next spring. Consequently, those persons who should pay most heed to the warning are those who use the greatest proportions of these commodities, and they are not the "idle rich." The most unintelligent criticism of to-day's menu is that which calls it a selfish one designed for the well-to-do alone. If that be so, and if only the well-to-do can follow it, it is plain that, in doing so, they are saving the vital meat and flour for their less fortunate brethren, since the menu contains none.

AT HOME!

His Grace the Archbishop will be "At Home" on New Year's Day from 12 to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m.

J. J. McDERMOTT, V.G.,
Palace, Administrator.
dec 29, 21

Here and There.

ZYLEX will cure those sprayed hands. At McMurdo's, 50c.

PERSONAL — Mrs. (Rev.) W. H. Pike leaves by the express to-morrow for her home in Alberta, having spent the past three months visiting her father William White, Esq., of the Southside.

Bishop Spencer College will reopen on Monday, Jan. 7th, at 9.15.—dec 29, jan 5

FROST WELCOMED.—The present spurt of frost is being welcomed by the lumbermen as it will freeze over the marshes and lakes, thus making it convenient to get up the country to the timber belts.

A Great Comedy, "The Sudden Arrival," Canon Wood Hall, New Year's Night. Secure your tickets at once at Gray & Goodland's.—dec 29, 11

SNOW SCARCE.—We learn from passengers who arrived from Bell Island this morning that there is practically no snow on the island. The same conditions prevail at Portugal Cove while there is a splendid sleigh path leading to the city. Cabmen from the Cove find it more convenient to use wheels.

Forget the Eight Ounces, it's only throwing your money away. But don't forget to have your suit or overcoat cleaned and pressed for the holiday season, as it is going to be very DRY weather, and you need good clothes. Phone 574 or send to SPURRELL the Tailor, 365 Water St.—dec 19, eod, tf

Under the auspices of the Cochrane Mission Circle a Variety Entertainment will be given in the Lecture Room of Cochrane Street Church on Thursday next, January the 3rd. The programme will include old-time melodies and the latest Patriotic Songs, also a Dialogue, entitled "Aunt Matilda's Birthday Party." Part proceeds are in aid of the Red Cross Fund. Tickets 20 cents.—dec 29, 21

IN AID OF HALIFAX DISASTER FUND!
STAR THEATRE!
TO-MORROW, SUNDAY, AFTERNOON at 2.15. TO-MORROW NIGHT, at 7.15.
Grand Sacred Picture Show, 6000 feet of Films.
"From the Manger to the Cross."
A grand sacred subject depicting the life of our Saviour during His life on earth. A grand Sacred Musical Programme will be given during the show by some of our most talented artists under the direction of Mr. F. J. King. Admission—Afternoon, 30c.; Night, 50c.

Would not you be interested to know there is a LAXATIVE FOOD "LES FRUITS" perfect in its results, and composed only of Arabian FRUITS AND LEAVES, DEVOID of all DRUGS and NOSTRUMS?
It is most attractive to the taste; really a confection; guaranteed under SERIAL No. 59062 OF THE PURE FOOD LAWS, and endorsed by prominent physicians and laymen.
Equally EFFICACIOUS and HARMLESS to child or adult. NATURE'S ANSWER to the complex question of CONSTIPATION and SLUGGISHNESS OF THE INTESTINAL TRACT.
"Its Consumer Is Its Reference."
Seventy Cents the Half Pound.
ELLIS & CO., Ltd., 203 Water Street, St. John's.
DISTRIBUTORS.

Police Court.

(Before Judge Morris.)
The captain of a Spanish vessel in port was charged with (1) importing and (2) selling intoxicating liquor in St. John's. A number of witnesses, members of the crew of the vessel and all Spaniards, were examined up to 1 p.m. when an adjournment was taken until this afternoon.
An incorrigible boy, who was taken off the street by the police last night for safekeeping appeared before the bar. It appears that he threatened to shoot his mother with a pistol he pointed at her and ran away when she screamed. He will be dealt with this afternoon.

McMurdo's Store News

SATURDAY, Dec. 29, 1917.
We have just opened a new consignment of the famous D.D.D. Prescriptions which has given such remarkable results in eczema, psoriasis, barbers itch, and skin diseases of the kind. Some cases of long standing have been cured by its use, while in practically every case it gives relief more or less complete. Price \$1.30 a bottle.
Enquirers of Orchard White while we were out of stock of this well known lotion, will now find us fully stocked with the same.

Casualty List.

(Received Dec. 29, 1917.)
Admitted Wounds:
1438—C.S.M. Thomas J. Dunphy, D.C.M., 31 Cochrane Street. Gunshot wounds left shoulder and chest. (Previously reported gunshot wound upper extremities, Ronen, Nov. 23rd.)
3285—L. Corp. Arthur N. Burgess, St. John's. Disability.
R. A. SQUIRES,
Colonial Secretary.

Reid's Boats.

The Argyle arrived at Placentia at 6.30 p.m. yesterday.
The Clyde left Herring Neck early yesterday morning, outward.
The Dundee left Bonavista at 12.30 a.m. to-day.
The Edie left Curling at 6 p.m. yesterday, outward.
The Glencoe left Hermitage Cove at 7 a.m. to-day.
The Home left Nippers Harbor early this morning, outward.
The Wren left Heart's Content at 5.30 p.m. yesterday, outward.

Train Notes.

Thursday's outgoing express arrived at Port aux Basques at 7.15 p.m. yesterday.
The incoming express is due at 3.30 p.m. to-day.

Here and There.

WEATHER REPORT.—The weather across country is calm and fine, temperature zero to 22 above.

When you want Sausages, why—get ELLIS'; they're the best.

PERSONAL.—Miss Mollie Redmond left on this morning's train for Heart's Content on a visit to her aunt Mrs. R. T. Tobin.

SMALLPOX.—Another new case of smallpox was reported last evening to the Health authorities from a house in Holdsworth Street. The patient, a 12-year-old girl, has been removed to hospital.

GRAND CONCERT, under the patronage of His Grace the Archbishop, in aid of the Presentation Convent Association, will be held in the Aula Maxima, St. Bonaventure's College, on Thursday next, January 3rd. Particulars later.—dec 29, 11

C.M.B.C.—The Class will meet to-morrow afternoon in the Synod Building at 3 o'clock. The address will be given by the Chairman and the subject is: "Jerusalem." As to-morrow is the day set apart for dealing with the food question as it affects us, reference will also be made to this important subject in order that the greatest possible help may be given by those at home to the men who are fighting for us at the front.

DIED.


On the 28th inst., after a short illness, William Kenney (cooper), aged 76 years, leaving a wife, two sons and one adopted daughter to mourn their loss; funeral on Sunday, at 2.30 p.m., from his late residence, 39 Hamilton Street.
This afternoon, at her residence, 54 Victoria Street, Sarah, relict of the late Edward Keough, aged 73 years, leaving one son, one daughter and one sister residing in Boston. Funeral notice later.

Now Landing

Anthracite Coal,
All Sizes.
M. MOREY & CO.

FOR YOUR XMAS CAKES & PUDDINGS.
FRESH EGGS—Newly packed. The favourite Lion Brand.
VEGETABLES—Parsnips, Beets, Turnips, Potatoes, Onions,
FRUITS IN SYRUP—Cherries, Pears, Peaches, Apricots, etc.
RAISINS, PRUNES, CREAM CHEESE.
Lowest Prices.
EDWIN MURRAY.

WE are still showing a splendid selection of : : :
TWEEDS and SERGES.
No scarcity at **Maunder's.**
However, we beg to remind our customers these goods are selling rapidly, and cannot be replaced at the same price.
John Maunder,
Tailor and Clothier St. John's, N.F.



We have on hand a large assortment of
Ladies' & Misses' Coats
including Seallettes, Plushes and Cloths, all latest styles, which we are offering
At Greatly Reduced Prices.
We are also offering a special inducement in a lot of Ladies' Coats which we have just received by express from New York. These Coats are regular \$18.50 value. We now offer them for \$11.75.
The OUTLET SUPPLY HOUSE,
192 DUCKWORTH STREET.
(opp. T. & M. Winter's.)
BODY ARRIVES.—The remains of the late John Costello, of Conception Hr., who died at Philadelphia, U.S.A., recently, reached the city by boat yesterday and were sent to his late home by to-day's train. Deceased who was only 21 years of age left here two years ago for the U.S. and has since been employed as a construction iron worker, and while at work caught a severe cold which quickly developed into pneumonia, and after five days' illness passed away. He was a son of Mr. James Costello, of Conception Hr. The remains were accompanied by a co-worker, a young man named John Keating, of the same place.

We are showing for Xmas Trade a nice assortment of
Silverware & Carvers.



Marmalade Dishes
Cream & Sugar Dishes
Cake Baskets
Sugar Spoons
Pepper and Salts
Napkin Rings
Epernes.
Jam Spoons
Pie Servers
Breakfast Cruets, Etc.

Sugar Basins
Teapots
Coffee Pots
Pickle Forks
Salvers
Butter Dishes
Pickle Jars
Butter Knives
Fruit Knives
Biscuit Jars

On the above goods we are giving a Discount of 10 per cent. for Xmas week only

Briar Pipes
Tobacco Pouches
Cigar Holders
Cigarette Holders

Shaving Sets
Razors
Bill Cases
Needle Cases, Etc.

BOWRING BROTHERS, Limited,
Hardware Department.
dec 14, f.m.v

To-Day's
M...
10.00 A...
THE NEW...
ES...
RO...
The Dutch...
dam, with a...
relief, passed...
noon to-day...
of the New...
of the most...
Crowds came...
country and...
beaten hoarse...
beaten liner...
scars of the...
sailed from...
with the same...
conduct as...
relief ships...
for a time...
ernment desired...
guarantees...
ment that she...
proceed to...
CONVEYING EN...
SION...
At the conclus...
Mr. Henderson...
to the Internat...
at Stockholm...
be communicated...
the Workers'...
in Petrograd...
that the strong...
ence against a...
known to Russia...
2.00...
MEREL...
That the Aust...
posals to Russia...
ing gun in an...
paign by the...
belief here. It...
step by German...
informed London...
direct proposal...
through the...
ers. The Russia...
course of the...
to endeavour...
fer officially...
ties, but as a...
involve recogni...
Government, it...
any Entente...
ply.
CONFERENCE...
BREST...
Discussion by...
and Russian...
tions continued...
conference. The...
far have progress...
a brief interrup...
is expected in...
gates to commu...
ernments.
AN ORIGIN...
AMET...
The Rheinisch...
ung, the organ...
clares that Ent...
gret the princ...
Litovsk, and...
abandonment...
must be condition...
evacuation of...
vert to Turkey...
desire of its...
AERIAL...
The following...
issued last...
operations...
Snow storms...
it impossible...
hostile scout...
inside our...
ed. During...
dropped 250...
airdrogues...
hostile billets...
trains also...
it was obtain...
None of our...
Police Al...
We understand...
day the police...
seizures of...
ties and at...
The first "find...
was through...
unearthed a...
from the lug...
had just come...
the harbor...
was on board...
posse of detect...
cers boarded...
a searching...
possession...
which they...
days. It look...
be "something...
trate's Court...
A lump of...
will remedy...
tomatoes.