"IN FREEDOM'S CAUSE."

Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, - - Proprietor
C. T. JAMES, - - - - - - Editor

SATURDAY, May 18th, 1918.

Return or Resign.

The letter addressed to the Acting Premier by the Returned Soldiers and Rejected Volunteers Association, requesting that the Minister of Militia should return to his post or tender his resignation, has been the subject of much discussion in the city and the concensus of opinion favors the demand. The Minister's visit to England is not at all necessary. No military expediency calls for it and if it did, it is quite possible that the Home authorities would be perfectly capable of dealing with any situation that called for instant attention, without the expert advice of the gentleman who holds the portfolio of Militia in Newfoundland. Much could have been forgiven the Minister, if he had taken with him a draft of men to reinforce the Regiment, which since its withdrawal from the 29th division and the firing line, has not been heard from, that is so far as the public knows. There may have been correspondence on this subject, which for military reasons, could not be published. Be that as it may, nothing has yet been done to send the men, so urgently and imperatively demanded, over a month ago. The Regiment, what is left of it, will have cause to feel keenly, the undignified position in which it has been placed by the incapacity of those in authority, and it will not be surprising if there is a strong note of protest from the lads "over there." Is it the intention to send reinforcements so soon as possible or has the remnant of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment to occupy a noncombatant position from the present time till the end of the war?

This is a question for the Minister of Militia to answer. The giving away of military secrets is not involved. The country wants to know, and the country should know.

Therefore, as no good purpose can be served by the trip to England which this responsible official is now taking, the demand of the Soldiers that he either return or resign, should be backed by an overwhelming public opinion. There is work for the Minister at home. He is absolutely useless in England. The people of Newfoundland entirely disapprove his action in leaving the Dominion at this juncture. The condition of Military affairs imperatively demanded his presence and attention, and the Soldiers Association put the position squarely up to him in these words:—"In the absence of a valid explana-"tion of his going away at such a "critical time, Mr. Bennett should "either return at once, or tender his "resignation, so as to allow of the "appointment of a successor who will "discharge the duties of his position "in a manner which the needs of the "country and the Regiment require."

WHICH WILL HE DO?

On All Fish.

On enquiry at the Custom House, the Deputy Minister informed this paper that the export tax of 20 cents per quintal of 112 pounds weight, applied to all cod fish, fresh, frozen, pickled, salted or dried; also to fresh salmon and halibut, and to all other fishes exported fresh.

MARGINAL NOTES

By Commentator.

THE SESSION.

The House has closed again and its members have departed on their well-earned holiday. Those in the lower chamber, particularly, must be relieved that the anxious strain of long discussion and deliberation is over. I wonder if there is another corner of the globe where the serious work of government has ever degenerated into such a solemn farce as we are yearly compelled to witness. The conscription and extension acts apart, there is hardly a measure on the list of those just enacted that evokes more than a passing interest, or is worth more. That may not be much matter for complaint—a cynic has said that the less a country is governed the better for it—but the same can hardly be said of the manner in which such legislation as is actually presented is handled. Nobody expects a Government member to criticise a Government measure, not to speak of voting against it; everybody knows that nobody expects it; and nobody is ever disappointed. I am seriously persuaded that if (to take Dicey's famous instance) the Government proposed an act ordering the chloroforming of all blue-eyed babies, not a member on the Government side would utter a word of protest, the Upper House would send the bill back with "amendments," and a compromise would finally be come to. A more ridiculous travesty than the pretence of discussion which is given in the commons to any bill whatever it is hard to imagine.

A good sample of the sort of thing that is done is the "amendment" of the Crown Lands Act. Although this paper editorially pointed out the iniquity and barefaced purpose of the section, it went up unchallenged to the Council, where I believe it was amended. The Assembly, desiring to end the session, refused to accept the amendment and the Council concurred, on the "understanding" that the matter will be attended to properly next session! The result is, that for the next twelve months the Executive can refuse, without reason assigned, any application for licences and the rest, and work other injustices with perfect immunity. And still glib idiots love to talk of the glories of our constitution.

The thing has become worse than a farce—it is a national humiliation. One looks in vain for a glimmer of intelligence in the Lower House, an inch of backbone in the Upper; or if he finds either it will be on the Opposition side. With an Assembly full of sheep and a Council full of jelly fish (with apologies to the minority in both), our Parliamentary menagerie is complete. It is as well it is closed for another year.

THE LIMIT.

A vulgar but expressive phrase, most useful when other words cannot be found for the occasion. I have in mind the departure of the Minister of Militia a few days ago for England—and I challenge Calchas, Ajax and the rest of the scribes to lend me words adequate to describe the effrontery of such a proceeding. Last week a number of gentlemen in the Council, who either did not mean what they said or were as credulous as babes, seriously supported the Extension Bill on the ground that the Government needed to apply all its energies to the enforcement of the Conscription Act. Hardly had they succeeded in giving the present regime a new lease of life when Mr. Coaker's Circular Letter comes to light, revealing the true attitude of the Government towards that Act. That was bad enough, but what have we now? The Prime Minister, for whom there may be some excuse, and the Minister of Militia, for whom there can be none whatever, leaving the country at the very moment when the Act comes into force, at the very time when the greatest difficulties will plainly present themselves! The thing would be incredible if it were not true. So tremendous is the task of carrying out this measure that the Government wanted another eighteen months in which to tackle it unhampered by politics: at the very outset the minister in whose actual department the matter lies absents himself from the country! What does the Hon. John Harvey say to this? What the Hon. John Anderson, who proved conclusively the need of voting against the measure and, having done his duty and, I suppose, cleared his conscience, voted for it? What do they say now of the sincerity of the Government's professions?

I am glad that the Returned Soldiers and Rejected Volunteers have spoken out. There was need that someone should speak. If it had been anyone known to be hostile to the Government his protest would have been mere "politics." It is not politics with these men. It is merely the expression of indignation and disgust that is felt on every side. It is hard to know which fact excites it the more, the shameful dereliction of duty by the minister or the exposed hypocrisy of the Government. Is it not a fine combination—the nominal head of the Government and the most responsible official skip out of the way while the Act is being enforced; the real head issues hints as to how it may be avoided. How much more must we suffer?

To-Day's Messages.

NOON.

LONDON, To-day.

Speaking at the Foreign Press Association luncheon, in London, the Chairman paid a tribute to Lord Curzon as one of the great men who had shaped not only the destinies of India, but of the Empire. Lord Curzon replying said, the peace, for which we are fighting, must satisfy those conditions; it must be just and honorable, and secure the peace of the world, for generations, from the horrors of future wars. He hoped that neither the Allies nor the neutrals would ever subscribe to the doctrines that an unjust peace was preferable to a just war, as the former would be the precursor of new and worse wars, and would be a victory for crime and a justification for renewed crime in the future.

FOR VOLUNTARY ENLISTMENT.

DUBLIN, To-day.

A proclamation issued by the Lord Lieutenant yesterday reads "Whereas it has come to our knowledge that certain subjects of His Majesty the King domiciled in Ireland, have conspired to enter, and have entered, into treasonable communication with the German enemy, and "Whereas such treachery is a menace to the fair name of Ireland, and its glorious military record, a record which is a source of intense pride to a country, whose sons have always distinguished themselves and have fought with such heroic valour in the past, in the same way as thousands of them are now fighting in this war," and "Whereas drastic measures must be taken to put down this German plot, which measures will be solely directed against the plot, now therefore, "we the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Governor General of Ireland, have thought fit to issue this proclamation declaring as follows: that it is the duty of all loyal subjects of His Majesty, to assist in every way His Majesty's Government in Ireland, to suppress this treasonable conspiracy, and to defeat the treacherous attempt of Germany to defame the honour of Irishmen for Germany's own ends. "That we hereby call upon all loyal subjects of His Majesty in Ireland, to aid in crushing such conspiracy and so far as in them lies to assist in securing an effective prosecution of the war for the welfare and safety of the Empire. That as a means to this end, we shall cause still further steps to be taken to facilitate and encourage voluntary enlistment in Ireland, in His Majesty's forces, in the hope that without resort to compulsory measures the contribution of Ireland to these forces may be brought up to the proper strength, and made to correspond to the contribution of other parts of the Empire."

Naval Funeral.

The funeral of Royal Naval Reservist Tilley, of Smith Sound, T.B., whose death occurred from penumonia at the General Hospital yesterday morning, took place from that institution to the railway station at 11 o'clock this morning and was attended with full naval honors. The remains were tenderly placed in a beautiful casket by Undertaker Carnell and were conveyed to the station on a gun carriage hauled by a squad of reservists. A firing party preceded the procession while officers, ship's company and reservists acted as mourners. The remains were placed on board the outgoing express for conveyance to Smith Sound where interment takes place to-morrow.

Another Milk Case

The case of the Department of Public Health vs. a milk vendor of the Goulds, St. John's West, who supplied milk to the Poor House, occupied the attention of His Honor Judge Morris for a considerable while this morning. The evidence of several witnesses was taken, including Inspector O'Brien, Government Analyst Davies, and Mrs. F. Ross, Acting Matron of the Poor Asylum.

The Inspector testified as to seizing the milk after delivery on April 3rd.; Mr. Davies as to the results of his analysis in which he found 1.67 per cent. fat, 5.33 per cent. solids other than fat, and the balance 93 per ceut. most of which would be the natural water.

The natural water found in all good milk is 88.5.

The Act calls for 3 p.c. of fat, to all milk offered for sale, which is considered a low standard of milk.

Mr. Leo Carter, who appeared for the Health authorities, pressed hard for a conviction on the ground that the milk was adulterated.

Mr. J. J. McGrath, on behalf of the defendant, claimed for non-suit on the grounds that there was no direct proof that the milk in question was that supplied by the defendant, and furthermore the Act as passed by the Legislature concerning the handling and sale of milk did not affect his client, even if he was responsible for adding water, as by the addition of water it did not make the milk unfit for human consumption. "Unfit for human consumption" is expressly stated in the Act.

A perusal of the Act has convinced us that it is so full of loop holes that to use a well known term, "you could drive a milk cart through it."

It is an other example of our hurried and non-interesting pieces of legislation that has been shied through the official records of the House and made law without anycne bothering their heads about it. The case is not yet concluded.

Here and There.

WEATHER.— The weather across country is calm and dull; temperature 3 t2o 44 above.

ZYLEX SOAP is one of the best toilet and medicinal Soaps, 25c. cake, at McMURDO'S.—1i

THE TRAINS.—Thursday's outgoing express arrived at Port aux Basques at 11 p.m. yesterday.

Turquoise blue jersey with accents of black satin makes an enchanting frock.

ETHIE STILL ON THE ROCKS.—Up to press hour there was no further news from the scene of the wrecked steamer Ethie, but as weather conditions are favorable it is possible something might be done to raise the ship.

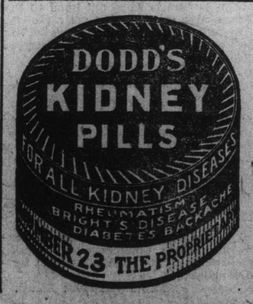
REIDS' BOATS.—The Argyle left Placentia this morning on Red Island route; the Dundee leaving Port Blandford Monday; the Home leaving St. John's this evening; the Fogota left St. Jacques at 6.30 a.m. yesterday, coming east.

MAGISTRATE'S COURT.—A drunk and disorderly person and a loose and disorderly person appeared before Judge Morris this morning in the magistrate's court, and were given free discharge.

"RED LIONS" KEEN.—The Red Lion baseball team will have their first practice on Monday evening at Stancombe's Field ,Freshwater Road. The club has some excellent material to choose from, and with some hard practice the Lions are confident of carrying off the "big silver" this year.

They are after you? Who? The members of the T. A. Band to attend their Grand Annual Dance in the New C. C. C. Hall, eve of General Holiday, May 23rd. Tickets—Double, $1.00; Ladies' Single, 50c. Teas included. Best music, latest waltzes and two-steps. M. G. HARTERY, Pres.; R. J. GROUCHY, Secretary.—may18,1i

NOTE OF THANKS.—Mrs. Thomas Vavasour and family wish to thank Messrs. Alick, Gerald and Reginald Harvey, also the employees of A. Harvey and Co's. bakery, S. U. F. Society and the employees of the Semi-Ready Clothing Co. for wreaths to adorn the casket of their late husband and father; also the kind friends who sympathized with them in their sorrow.—advt,1i



Hit the Trail of the Caribou, And make your people proud of you!

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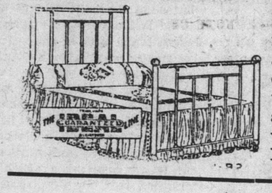
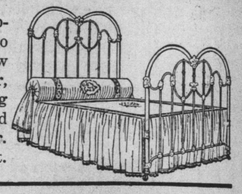
Beds, Springs and Mattresses!



We have a large shipment of Bedsteads to arrive in the next few days, bought last year, which we are offering at Special Prices and will book orders for. It will pay you to wait.



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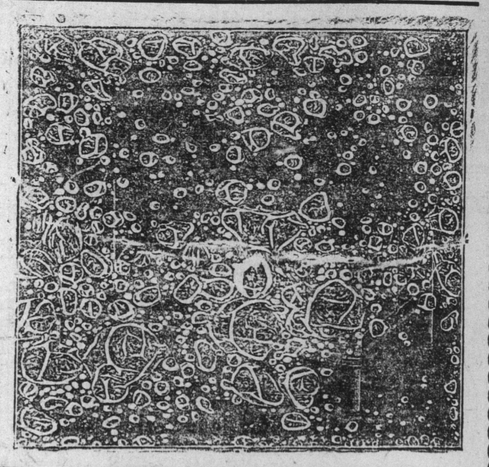
Our Oxford Coppered Spring is made of the best coppered wire, made by factory in building by secret process and guaranteed to give every satisfaction. We also have the Woven Wire Springs.



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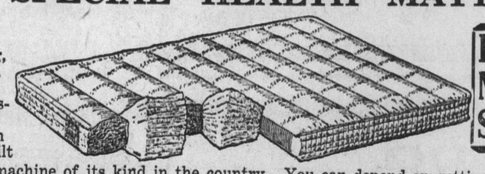

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Photo Play for April, 25c. for 20c.

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Current History for April, 30c. for 25c.
Saturday Evening Post for May 4th and back numbers, 10c. for 5c.
Argosy from May 4th, and back numbers, 13c. for 10c.
All other Magazines up to April number selling at cost price.

Garland's Bookstore,
Leading Magazine Stand,
177-9 Water Street.

BREAD RATION REDUCED.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, To-day.—Considerable dissatisfaction prevails in the enemy ranks at a further reduction of bread rations. The daily allowance has been cut down to a half loaf of 700 grammes, instead of 750 grammes as heretofore.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES GARGET IN COWS.

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The Druggist,
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may18,eod,tf

Large patterned foulards are fashionable in black and white.

A hat of solid color can be faced effectively with a plaid material.

The French are combining velvet and plush with satin on parasols.

St. George's Day—Ypres, 1915.

To fill the gap to bear the brunt
With bayonet and with spade,
Four hundred to a four-mile front
Unbacked and undismayed—
What men are these, of what great race,
From what old shire or town,
That run with such good will to face
Death on a Flemish down?

Let be! They bind a broken line:
As men die, so die they.
And of the free! their life was thine,
It is St. George's Day!

Yet say whose ardour bids them stand
At bay by yonder bank,
Where a boy's voice and a boy's hand
Close up the quivering rank.
Who under those all-shattering skies
Plays out his captains' part
With the last darkness in his eyes
And Domum in his heart?

Let be, let be! In yonder line
All names are burned away.
And of his love: the fame be thine,
It is St. George's Day!

HENRY NEWBOLT.

Heroism in Sunken Submarine.

OFFICER'S SELF-SACRIFICE.

Admiralty, April 22.—The King has been pleased to approve of the posthumous award of the Albert Medal in Gold for gallantry in saving life at sea to Commander Francis Herbert Heaveningham Goodhart, D.S.O., R.N. The account of the services in respect of which the medal has been conferred is as follows:—

Owing to an accident one of his Majesty's submarines sank and became fast on the bottom in 38ft. of water, parts of the vessel became flooded. After several hours the only prospect of saving those remaining on board appeared to be for someone to escape from the submarine in order to concert measures with the rescuers, who were by this time present on the surface. Commander Goodhart, after consultation with the commanding officer, volunteered to make the attempt. Accordingly, after placing in his belt a small tin cylinder with instructions for the rescuers, Commander Goodhart, went into the conning tower with the commanding officer.

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