

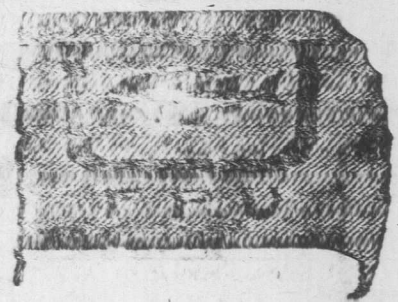
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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., MAY 17th, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Another Outrage

THIS morning's News contains a letter signed by A. A. Parsons, Supt. of the Penitentiary, abusing the Grand Jurors report presented to the Supreme Court on Saturday.

We publish that report to-day in order to show our readers that the Telegram's statements were not exaggerated. We blame no one personally for the conditions revealed.

The Penitentiary affairs are now under investigation by a special committee of the House and in view of that fact the public will not hesitate to severely condemn Mr. Parsons' indiscreet action in attempting to defend conduct that the House of Assembly is now investigating.

The public is well aware of the fact Mr. Parsons has no right to come out in public to defend any conduct of his or anyone else in reference to such a matter as he defended in this morning's News. Mr. Parsons is a subordinate and if he has any defence to make in reply to any public attacks or statements made by a Grand Jury, his duty is to submit the same to his superior, who is the proper official to defend him before the public.

Mr. Parsons who knows what is proper as well as any man in St. John's, has no doubt grown brazen because Jerry Dee was permitted publicly to abuse the Leader of the Union Party in reference to a matter discussed in the House, and as Mr. Piccott permitted Dee to do so with impunity Mr. Parsons considers he may indulge in similar tactics, and do so with impunity.

Mr. Parsons has done the case of the Penitentiary no good by his indiscreet and outrageous conduct in sending to the press, letters concerning a department that is represented at present in Parliament by the Premier, but which was formerly in the keeping of the Minister of Justice, who to please the expediency of the Government, and to maintain in office a Government which the public did not want, was dumped into the Legislative Council because no district in the Colony could be found willing to return him to Parliament.

We protest against the brazen and outrageous conduct of a public servant in writing to the press upon matters pertaining to his official duties that are the subject of investigation by Parliament, and referred to by the Grand Jury, which for generations have been expected to closely scrutinize such matters and inform the public through a report to the Supreme Court.

Mr. Parsons must have received the consent of the Premier for this latest exhibition of official indiscretion, or he would never attempt to insult the House of Assembly, the Grand Jury and the Supreme Court, as he has been guilty of, for each have commented upon affairs at the Penitentiary, and the only proper course now to be taken is for the House of Assembly to demand an immediate apology or the dismissal of an official who has apparently grown too big for his boots, as well as being a subordinate servant of the public.

For our part we do not intend to tolerate such impudence and puppyism even if the sinner happens to be Superintendent of the Penitentiary.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S NATURAL HERITAGE WORTH \$150,000,000

TO be Bartered Away by a Corrupt Government For Which We Get Nothing in Return

An Attempt to 'Make Newfoundlanders Aliens in Their Native Land--With No Rights, But to Be Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water For Ever.

THE country is now about realizing what the latest attempt of the Reids to grab all of value in the Colony that remains of the heritage of the people means. They have seen how Morris attempted to hoodwink the people by introducing into the House an agreement that gave the Reids control over every valuable water power in the Colony, over every invested interest in the Colony from the Bay of Islands to White Bay on to Green Bay and Gander Bay, thence across the country to Red Indian Lake and on to Fortune Bay, leaving nothing but what was either owned, given away to, or placed under the control of the Reids. He finding the people would not allow such a robbery of their heritage, cut down the concessions, cutting out the East Coast or Notre Dame Bay.

Then finding that the A.N.D. Co. was still in the hands of the Octopus, he decreased the area over which the Octopus was to reign from a radius of 40 miles from their operations to 25 miles, and fixed the centre of the area at the Humber mouth instead of allowing the centre to be fixed from any place the Octopus erected a dam. Then finding that the people kicked against allowing the Octopus to expropriate private lands within a radius of 40 miles from the operations which might have meant holding up any private interests at Red Indian Lake, he reduced the radius to 10 miles and fixed its centre at the Bay of Islands mills.

At present the agreement allows the Octopus to expropriate Crown lands within 50 miles. The original agreement permitted the Octopus to roam anywhere within 50 miles of Grand Lake, and take over any private interests it choose and pay for the same at its own price, as the arbitration clause gave the Octopus the appointment of one arbitrator, the Minister of Agriculture and Mines another and the owner of the expropriated property another, which meant victory every time for the Octopus. That has been amended by giving the Supreme Court the selection of the second arbitrator instead of the Minister of Agriculture, but this concession is far from acceptable to the Opposition.

The amended agreement gives the Company all the water powers of the Humber free, which are worth at least \$50,000,000. It gives the Octopus the Hamilton River power worth \$100,000,000. It gives them the right to take any private land, anywhere within 10 miles of the mill at the Humber for ever. It gives them the right at any time for ever, to take lands belonging to the Crown within 50 miles of the Humber mills. It gives them exemption from Customs duties on all machinery and material for mills for ever. It gives them exemption from Customs duty on all raw material required for their manufactures for ever. It gives them exemption from Municipal taxation for ever. It gives them coal duty free on the Labrador for ever. It gives them the right to interfere with any company on the Humber who want to use the Humber waters for driving logs.

It contains no protection against employing Daggoes or Italians or Blacks in competition with our people as common working men. It fixes no rate of wages for common labor. It provides for no proper compensation for the invested interests of other timber or pulp concerns who have invested \$3,000,000 in gold in timber areas on the Humber. It gives the Octopus full control over the drainage area of the Humber which extends to White Bay, east, just inside of Hall's Bay, and on to Grand Lake. Fully 10,000 square miles of area will be tied up by this agreement and handed over to the tender mercies of the Greatest Octopus existing in North America.

The Colony gets absolutely nothing in return, not one copper. The agreement provides that the Octopus shall expend \$5,000,000 in five years on construction at the Bay of Islands. They need not start for two years, they can then spend One Thousand Dollars and hold it three years longer, and if \$5,000,000 is not expended for construction, material and labor by the end of five years the agreement becomes void—but whatever they spend will still be their own.

The whole thing is a pure steal, a plot to take from the people all that remained that was not grabbed by the Reid Deal of 1898. Nothing approaching its infamy was ever submitted to a free legislature since the world was made.

To cover up their base designs they drop in a man named Wilson, who they attempt to surround with all sorts of wonderful tales as to his great abilities and wealth. Nowhere in any document known to the House does Mr. Wilson's name appear. While we do not wish to say anything about Mr. Wilson's standing or reputation, yet we want to know why the Reids, the Premier and the Government papers are using Mr. Wilson's name in connection with this Deal. Every document so far tabled in the House bears only the signatures of the Reids and their Solicitor. It would appear as though Mr. Wilson's name was used as a blind to cover up the real designs of the Octopus.

We would like to know whether Mr. Wilson intends to put any money into the venture. The public wishes to know whether Mr. Wilson is a rich man, and if not, why is his name so mixed up with this concern. Is Mr. Wilson a wealthy man desirous of investing in the concern, or is he only a professional promoter of such corporations and trusts.

Why don't someone tell us where Mr. Wilson comes in as regards this Octopus? Why have the Reids, the Premier and the Grabball papers tried to make the people believe that this is a Wilson venture, while no name is appearing in any official document but that of the Reid brothers and Mr. Parlous? Will someone tell the people whether there is any boodle in this concern for any of the politicians? Is there any rakeoffs? Is anyone to get big slices of shares in this Octopus, who don't intend to invest any money in it? Is there any brib-

ing going on? Has anyone been paid a price? The people are asking a number of questions but there seems to be no replies.

What on earth is impelling the trustees of the people's heritage to give away concessions worth \$150,000,000 belonging to the people in return for nothing? How comes it they are ready to bind for ever all future legislatures in this Colony—not for 50 years as the former Reid Deal provided—but for ever, free from municipal taxation, free from taxation on raw material, free from taxation on machinery for ever. Why this bartering away of the rights of free Government for ever for the first time in the history of the Colony?

Will someone explain how the Reids can get such infamous concessions so easily from a legislature supposed to represent the people to protect the people's rights? Is it Morris's payment to Reid for the money Reid gave towards securing the return of Morris to power in 1908-1909 and 1913?

How can the people think otherwise but badly about this infamous deal. Who can blame them for being suspicious about this agreement, seeing it is fathered by Morris, who used Reids' contributions of gold to secure his return to power in the last two elections.

Does Morris imagine that it is possible for him to longer deceive the people? Does he imagine the people can't see through this monstrous plot to grab everything of value in the Colony and hand it over to the men who spent \$100,000 or more to secure his return to power since 1908? The indecency of Morris in attempting to give away to Reid all that is of value in the Colony, has no parallel in its infamy and iniquity in any age or clime of the world.

It is nothing more or less than deliberate act of treason, and every man who votes in favor of this infamous Deal must be regarded in future as the blackest of Traitors.

No honest man will again respect any man who votes in favor of giving away those concessions to the Reids and abolishing the power of future legislatures to control this mighty monster of hell and infamy which Morris and his supporters in the House are trying to inflict upon this unhappy and illused Colony.

Why has Morris attempted to do this great wrong at a time when the Empire is fighting for its very life? Why has he so brazenly introduced this infamous Deal at a time when 50,000 persons—men, women and children—are in a state verging on starvation? Why has he dared to introduce this great Octopus in our midst seeking whom it may devour at a time when every member of the Legislature is disgusted with their legislative duties and are praying daily to escape from their legislative duties in order to attend to their own pressing private business?

Why was this Deal sprung upon the Legislature, here in the middle of May with the fishery about to open, and when the people were in their busiest season? Was it to pass this infamous Deal without giving the members of the House and the people of the Country an opportunity to fully discuss, dissect and debate this most notorious and iniquitous agreement?

Why don't Morris adjourn the adoption of this agreement for another session and permit the Deal to be considered maturely by the people and legislators? He is rushing it through as speedily as he can. The members hesitate to freely debate the Deal as it would keep the legislature open until August if such was attempted and then it would probably pass even in spite of the Opposition's protest as apparently all supporters of the Government are resolved to vote for it in any shape.

We warn the people against accepting it. It contains elements that will in future spell ruin to the Country's best interests. It is a pure give away of the people's heritage. It means enriching an Octopus that now owns 4,000,000 acres of the people's heritage, which the Octopus has never attempted to develop or open up. It means binding the legislature for ever. It means the creation of an Octopus that will be greater and more powerful than the Legislature or the Courts.

Even Reids to-day are too big a concern for the Colony to control. What will happen when they secure the concessions Morris is striving to give them under this New Deal? Have they done their duty to the Colony in the past? Have they not secured arbitration awards of nearly \$5,000,000? For what? Have they not pocketed \$5,000,000 as profits on the construction of railways in this Colony for the Government? Have they not operated the system, the Colony pays them subsidies amounting to \$250,000 annually, just as they wish irrespective of the public wishes or their public obligations? Have they not gripped the industries and trade of St. John's by the throat, through their electric monopoly and who can prevent them lashing the trade and city as they think fit in the future?

How dare they as public contractors with heavy public obligations interfere with the political institutions of the Colony and be permitted to spend One Hundred Thousand Dollars in order to return to power a man that has for 17 years been regarded as their willing tool in political matters. They see now that Morris will never again control the Government of the Colony and they are now demanding their pound of flesh before power passes from him to their opponents who would sooner die than bring into existence another Octopus to devour the people's substance and rob the people's heritage in order to hand it over to men who have proved a curse and a blight to our land ever since they set foot on our shores.

Awaken, fellow countrymen! Bestir yourselves and do not allow the Reid shackles to be more firmly rivetted around your necks by this latest trick of Morris and the other Reid henchmen in the Legislature.

The F.P.U. has no axe to grind and no interests to serve but that of Country and People. Coaker who has always resisted every effort to bribe or silence him, and who lives only to serve his Country and her noble army of workmen warns you now to bestir yourselves and consider the great evil Reid and Morris are endeavouring to bring upon the Country. Coaker asks every man—no matter what party he supported in 1913—to immediately bestir himself over this issue and wake up before the fatal thing is copper-fastened and your children's rights are robbed.

This New Reid Deal is one hundred times worse for the Country than the first Deal of 1898—which has choked all developments in this Country and cost the Colony nearly Five Million Dollars. This latest agreement is a many headed Octopus and if it is allowed to live will cause us to rue the day it ever passed, and will have more control over the People and Country than the Legislature or the Supreme Courts.

The people will be no better off than serfs if this Octopus lives. They will be powerless to control the monster. They will not be able to place what Government they wish in power. They will tie themselves hand and foot and be compelled to exist in their own country in a state that the serfs of Russia never had to endure.

Ireland was bound for centuries by just such a monster as this Octopus would prove to be. Ireland's best sons have labored for a century to free the people and their country from the devouring fangs of such an Octopus. In recent years their efforts to free themselves have borne fruit and to-day the sons of Ireland are beginning to get a footing in their native land and their taskmasters are being ousted.

Will the people of Terra Nova willingly submit to a fate that impoverished Ireland's sons for one hundred years, and allow an Octopus that as a public servant trampled the people's rights and their public obligations under foot, to enslave us and take from us liberties our fathers secured for us and handed down to us unimpaired?

Will Newfoundlanders willingly permit Morris to rivet a slaves' chain about our wrists and ankles and make us the serfs and playthings of the Reids, without making a single effort to defend ourselves or protect our rights and liberties?

Are we all become Reids' serfs at the behest of Ned Morris and his purchased supporters without even saving we are not willing?

Remember Morris attempted to force this monster upon you in a far worse form than it now appears—but had it not been for the Opposition Party that infamous deal would now be law.

Remember, men, that you have your responsibilities, you must live up to those responsibilities; you cannot be silent and inactive in the face of such a calamity as this now attempted by Morris and Reid. You must do your duty. We want you all to bestir yourselves now—at once—to compel Morris to leave this infamous deal over to be considered at another session of the Legislature when what is good in it might be accepted and what is evil and wrong and infamous and enslaving can be obliterated. Your duty is to call a Mass Meeting at once and save your Country from this impending calamity.

Will you allow Morris to bind the future legislatures of this Colony for ever and make this Octopus greater than the Government of your Country. Where are the business men? Where are the working-men's leaders? Where are the Unions? Have all forsaken their Country and fled, leaving Reid and Morris supreme?

Come Mr. Kent, come Mr. Morine, come Dr. Lloyd, call a Mass Meeting and urge the people to do something to save their Country from the lordship and slavery which this deal entails. The people expect you to guide them at such a time as this. There is no time to lose—what can be done must be done at once. Let all unite to compel Morris to withhold this infamous Deal for the consideration of another session of the Legislature to be called next January.

The Reid Deal

FOLLOWING on the heels of Messrs. Kent and Morine's able exposure of the nefarious attempt on the part of certain individuals to forever rob this country of the right to legislate over a very large area of our common heritage, and to take from us our most invaluable asset—our water powers—comes the crowning protest of a number of corporations against the enactment of the "most iniquitous measure." These companies saw with alarm an effort on the part of a wire-pulling and influential company to drive them by legislative power from their lawful possessions, and claims on which they had spent many thousands of dollars.

This big soulless corporation made a bid to collar the greater portion of Newfoundland's remaining assets, and incidentally to freeze out those who have already obtained rights on the West Coast and Labrador. At the same time they had the consummate insolence to ask us to give them freedom from taxation forever. Where is the Newfoundlanders who does not boil with indignation at the thought of having a Government so utterly sunk to all sense of decency, as to foster such an outrageous design. The most barefaced swindle ever attempted in Newfoundland. If Sir Edward Morris and his Cabinet failed to see how gross the attempt on our natural rights, then it is a pity that he has ever been permitted to occupy a position where dunce-steers may make use of him to rob this poor land of ours.

Mr. Wm. Howley's masterly representation of his clients' case before the bar of the House a couple of days ago, merits the appreciation in which the public hold it. It is regarded as one of the ablest presentations of a case ever heard in the country. He showed up in a logical and convincing way that what Newfoundland was asked to do in those scandalous resolutions was nothing more nor less than a high-handed piece of robbery. The country was being called upon to repudiate her own sacred obligations and contracts.

Could insolence go further than that? Could the manhood of the country receive a more ignominious slap in the face?

We are called upon to dishonor ourselves before the world for the sake of a mere airy promise of having an industry established in our midst, that should it ever come to pass might prove a burden and a

curse instead of a surcease and a blessing.

There is not a man in the country outside the few who are making such a unlovely bid for such concessions, who knows what the real or potential value of those concessions is.

Why should we be in haste to barter away our rights, and tie our own as well as the hands of future generations? Let us keep our water powers, until we find out what they are worth, and then let us make the best possible use of our knowledge. Why are we so silly as to fall victims to the wiles of every gold-brick man who happens to our shores. Wilson, the man who has consented to act the role of the gold-brick man in this case, has been pushed forward by the real agents. He has been guild ed over and invested with the halo of a great scientist and discoverer in order to make us believe that this is a huncor name.

Mr. Wilson did not invent calcium-carbide, neither did he invent the electric furnace, and all who say he did are either knaves or fools.

M. Moissan by his classical investigations laid the ground work and superstructure on which Wilson based his discoveries, and we challenge Mr. Wilson to prove that this is not so.

The Volunteers

Yesterday morning's Church Parade was well attended by the boys. Capt. Montgomerie being in command. In the afternoon the whole company under Lieut. Nunn went for a seven-mile route march.

Two names were added to the list on Saturday night: Mcl. Woodford of the city, and H. Jackson of Durham, England. This makes the total number on the roll 1,775.

Magistrate's Court

Before Mr. H. E. Knight, J.P.

A 65 year old seaman, for refusing to do his duty on board S. S. Mountray, was committed for 14 days, or until the steamer sails.

A Scotch fireman, drunk and disorderly, fined \$2.00 or 7 days.

A Southside Laborer, for tearing up a rug in his cell had to contribute \$5.00 to the funds or go down for 14 days.

A Monkstown Rd. Laborer, drunk and disorderly in his own house and for using threatening language towards his wife, was fined \$5.00 or 14 days.

Three other drunk and disorderly cases were fined \$5.00 or 14 days.