

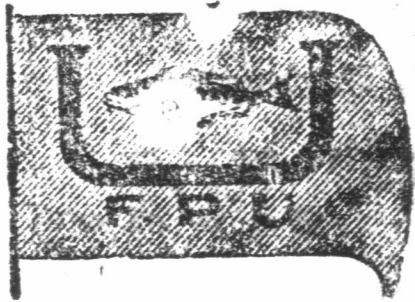
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J. J. ROSSITER
Real Estate Agent

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("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

Issued every day from the office of publication, 167 Water Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, Union Publishing Co. Ltd., Proprietors.

Editor and Business Manager
JOHN J. ST. JOHN

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., DEC. 7TH, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Another Codd

WE copy the following from The News of this morning:

"The Right Hon. the Premier, who takes an active interest in all matters that affect the community, is making full enquiries into the alleged shortage of coal in the city, with the object of applying remedial measures, if the shortage be real. The Premier has issued a circular to all the city coal dealers, asking their opinion in the matter, and requesting an immediate reply. On the latter will depend what action the Government will take. We understand that the total shipments to this port up to the 1st of the present month are 21,000 tons short of last year for the corresponding period."

May we ask why the Premier waited until December 6th to ascertain the coal shortage of St. John's? Every business man knew two months ago that there would be a large coal shortage. The Premier and every public official in the Government offices here knew weeks ago that the imports were 20,000 tons short.

Why did the Premier not wake up two months ago and give the matter close attention? Why did he not get to work and induce the owners of the Bloodhound, Terra Nova, Eagle, Erik and Diana to bring coal along from Sydney?

It is too late now to do anything. Usually the port of Sydney closes about Christmas. Some coal might be got from Louisburg in January; but there are no foreign vessels available to bring coal here.

The Premier should have moved October 1st and not December 6th. The crime has now been committed and the people of St. John's will face a coal famine by the end of March.

Who will be to blame? According to The News the Premier should be held responsible, for if he has power to move now, he had power to move two months ago.

This is another piece of bluff on the part of the Premier, and the people won't forget it either.

St. John's is not the only port in the Colony short of coal: Harbour Grace, Carbonear, Bay-de-Verde, Bonavista, Greenspond, Newtown, Herring Neck, Twillingate and other ports are short of coal, and

such shortage cannot be made up. Orders for loads of coal have been given at Sydney as long ago as July, which have not been filled, because of the shortage in tonnage; but the sealing steamers we have named should have been employed all the fall in an endeavour to make up for this serious shortage in coal carrying tonnage.

It is too late now, Mr. Premier, and your little attempt at bluffing will not succeed this time as did your attempts of yore.

Road Board Elections

ON Thursday week, the 16th, the first General Elections under the new Road Board Act will be held throughout the Colony. Every settlement possessing a Road Board on December 16th will be entitled to elect a Road Board.

It is the duty of Magistrates, J.P.s, Chairmen of Road Boards or members of Road Boards or some prominent resident to give notice of a public meeting to be held on Thursday evening, the 16th, at some particular hall, school, or building. If the Magistrate, J.P. or Chairman of the Road Board neglect to call the meeting the public should meet and call a meeting according to the rules published guiding the election of the Board.

The man elected at such a meeting as Chairman will forward to the Minister of Public Works the names of candidates elected and such men will be Gazetted as the Board.

Any settlement included in a section covered by a Board that represent more than one settlement, may by petition signed by a majority of electors procure power to elect a Board for such settlement when they so desire.

As soon as possible settlements in Burin District served by County Councils, should petition for separate Boards as will be elected in other districts than Burin on the 16th. Burin District is exempt from the election on the 16th owing to having their local affairs administered by County Councils, and as time is necessary to find out exactly what is required in Burin District the new Bill exempted that district to afford time for settlements and towns to formulate their plans and petition accordingly.

We trust every settlement will endeavour to properly elect its Board and therefore be entitled to all the benefits derived through the new act. Any settlement which refuses to elect a new Board in Union Districts will not receive any road grants until such Boards are in operation. Settlements in such districts should therefore carefully attend to the instructions issued by the Public Works Department.

Every Chairman has been sent a copy of the Act and the rules governing the elections. He is therefore responsible for any neglect or failure to do his duty as required by the law.

We trust every voter in every settlement will assemble on the evening of the 16th and elect their new Road Board. We call upon all Union members to rally to the call and see that a public meeting is held on that day if not by those named under the Act, then by some leading resident, who will call the meeting to order and conduct the meeting according to the rules published by this paper early in the fall.

Whatever happens be sure to have the public meeting and elect a Board of about five members, and see that the Chairman of the meeting send on the names of the men elected, as soon as possible to the Public Works Department.

Magistrates and J.P.s who neglect to do their duty under the Act will be held responsible for such negligence when the House opens and the representatives will demand the dismissal of such men as Magistrates and J.P.s if such negligence is proved.

Another Proof

ELSEWHERE in this issue we publish a letter received by Miss Helah Ralph of Flat Islands, B.B., from a "Tommie" in France, thanking her for a pair of socks. The publication of this letter ought to be sufficient to show our people where some thousands of dollars worth of warm clothing made up by the women of Newfoundland for our soldier boys has gone to.

The soldier's letter is dated Oct. 14th, which goes to prove that even as late as that date goods were forwarded to France for the soldiers there whilst our own comrad soldiers there whilst our own brave lads were crying out for warm clothing and other sundry comforts.

Many persons (Mrs. Browning included) were not inclined to believe the correctness of the letter from which we published extracts last week, but the letter from Frank Lind has set all doubts at rest on the matter and the public demand a full explanation from those responsible for the deplorable condition under which the Newfoundland Regiment is now labouring on Gallipoli Peninsula.

We demand an explanation as how articles from Newfoundland sent for our own lads came to be delivered in France.

Pit Props

ALL over Bonavista and Notre Dame Bays an intense feeling of indignation has been aroused over the action of the Government in permitting pit prop contractors—who are not only bleeding the workmen but also interests of vital importance to the fisheries—to destroy the few spots of green timber that remain in those two Bays. Everywhere men have been engaged by those contracting blood-suckers, cutting green timber. Even islands in Green Bay have not escaped.

Dozens of protests have been sent up which have been forwarded to the Government. Those protests were again endorsed by every delegate assembled here last week to attend the Union Convention and their protest has been also forwarded to the Government.

We are pleased to learn that the Department of Agriculture has sent instructions to enforce the laws and prohibit cutting of green timber on the 3 mile reserve. The law passed last spring expressly provided against the further cutting of green timber on the 3 mile limit in Newfoundland.

We recommend all fishermen interested in preserving the green timber areas of Green Bay and Bonavista Bay to apply to the nearest magistrate and ask for a summons to be issued against any one cutting green timber.

The F.P.U. Party will strongly oppose the exporting of any green timber that has been cut as such cutting of green timber is an open and deliberate violation of the Act passed last spring by the Legislature and every effort will be made to prevent the Government from altering this law when the House assembles. To attempt such is but a deliberate insult to the Opposition Party who contended always that no more timber should be cut from the 3 miles limit for export as pit props.

Instead of the Government protecting the vital interests of the fishermen and the fisheries they most outrageously condone the efforts of timber speculators from England who are here strangling the best interests of the Colony by taking away material that is absolutely necessary for the successful carrying on of the codfishery. There is not a member of the House supporting the Government that care two straws about the interests of the Northern fishermen.

Squires and Blandford are in the Executive to represent the Northern people and it is apparent they do represent the North judging from the outrageous actions committed against the Northern

What "The Canadian Fisherman" Says of Mr. Coaker

In Its December Issue

WE give to our readers in this issue a few facts regarding one of the great personalities of Newfoundland at the moment—one whose name is mentioned more frequently than any other public individual, whose efforts in the recent campaign for prohibition did more for the cause than all other elements together, whose articles were more widely read than any other during this big campaign—we mean Mr. W. F. Coaker, President of the Fishermen's Protective Union, Director of the many subsidiary organisations of this large institution, and, though it seem a paradox, the most highly revered and the most supremely detested man in the Ancient Colony.

Mr. Coaker is revered by the fishermen, but he is spurned by certain interested parties owing to his influence in endeavoring to bring about an amelioration in the conditions of the fishermen throughout the Colony, which in former days were somewhat peculiar.

W. F. Coaker was born in St. John's in 1871 and before he was ten years old, he was earning his living by selling newspapers and working as a fish handler on the wharves. Working in the summer months enabled him to go to school during the winter, and in this way he educated himself. At thirteen years of age, he became a clerk in the employ of McDougall and Templeton with whom he remained for some years. As he enjoyed the confidence of his employers he was selected by them as their representative in Notre Dame Bay.

Before his twentieth year, Mr. Coaker started in business on his own account; but the famous Bank Crash which brought such disastrous results to so many outport and city merchants sent W. F. Coaker to the wall. His resourcefulness however kept him going. He engaged in farming at Coakerville and in order to obtain the requisite knowledge in this line he came to Canada and took a course at the Agricultural College in Geuph.

Returning to Newfoundland, he

then studied telegraphy and became a Government Postal operator at Port Blandford. Whilst engaged in this occupation he established the Telegraphers' Union and published a little newspaper known as "The Telegrapher." Having been identified with the Liberal Party, Mr. Coaker, when the opposite party came into power, got his chafe, and he then returned to his farm and fishing.

Whilst thus engaged he conceived the idea (in 1908) of organizing the immense Union of which he is now the President, viz.—the Fishermen's Protective Union.

The beginnings of this organization were distinctly modest. The original membership was Nineteen, whilst at the present time—after some seven years of existence—it numbers 22,500.

The Fishermen's Protective Union is the largest Fishermen's organisation in the world. Its influence is really marvellous. It is not simply an organisation as a medium of mutual benefit. It is a wonderful political power in the Colony. It has a strong and formidable party in the local Assembly, and through Mr. Coaker's influence largely, a great deal of legislation beneficial to the fishermen has been introduced.

Mr. Coaker is the author of the Sealing Bill which was one of the most radical legislative changes ever made in Newfoundland; he has likewise had important regulations made in the matter of logging for the large lumber companies and various other useful measures come from him. But he is known best as the President of the Fishermen's Protective Union and the Manager of two organs which represent the fishing interests. THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE and the weekly paper THE FISHERMEN'S ADVOCATE. These papers go into a large section of the fishing communities and are regarded as the vade mecum of the fishermen.—Canadian Fisherman, December 1915.

With the above article appeared a splendid photo of President Coaker.

people by the Government.

All that can be done must be done to conserve material required for the operations of the fisheries in the near and distant future, but according to the rule of the Morris Party, the only consideration they are capable of protecting is that of the present—Grab, Grab, Grab. All, all, All, NOW,—not caring two straws for the future.

Those pit prop contractors who are bleeding the people as represented by two British firms of buyers stand to make \$5 per cord on every cord of green pit props exported. They made huge profits from their exports the past season. They got for \$5.50 and \$6 what they should have paid \$8.50 for. They secured on the other side abnormal prices of from \$2 to \$3 per cord over and above the usual prices. They have bled our Country because some half fools, rushed last fall to offer pit props at \$3 less than they (the exporters) expected to pay for the same.

One of the sharpest sharks that ever set foot on our soil is here looking after the interests of the British pit prop ring.

Instead of an export tax of \$1, the Government in view of the small prices paid to local bedlams who call themselves pit prop contractors, should make the tax \$2.

The resolution passed at the recent Convention read as follows:

The following resolutions were proposed by W. B. Jennings, seconded by M. Phillips and unanimously resolved.

WHEREAS: It is understood that great pressure is being brought to bear upon the Government by parties interested in the cutting of pit props to have the law amended, which prohibited the cutting of green pit props from the three-mile limit.

AND WHEREAS such a procedure in our opinion would be most disastrous to the future welfare of the country as a whole and the fishing interests in particular.

RESOLVED that the Supreme Council of the Fishermen's Protective Union in Convention assembled do strongly protest against the cutting of green wood for Pit Props on the three-mile limit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Government be requested to strictly enforce the law passed last session of the Legislature re the cutting of Pit Props for Export.

SAYS WAR WILL LAST A HUNDRED YEARS

Berlin, Germany, Nov. 27.—Houston Stewart Chamberlain, who although the son of an English Admiral, has become a German, has contributed to one of the Hamburg newspapers a statement of his views on the present and future relations between England and Germany.

He is convinced that the war between the two countries will last for at least a hundred years.

He does not mean, he explains, that the present fighting will continue for so long a time, but rather than an international struggle has commenced of which the world war is but a phase.

Stylish and Comfortable Fur-Like Mole-Skin Set.

HUNDREDS of young Women know the great difficulty of procuring a suitable Collar and Muff.

Here is a splendid set, made of a fabric woven to represent the genuine Moleskin, that will suit any young Woman.

The Mole is a little animal about five or six inches long, that inhabits America, Canada, and Labrador, and is very difficult to capture; hence the genuine Mole-Fur Muff and Throwover is rarely offered in this market, and the few we occasionally see are exorbitant in price.

You'll like this faithful copy of the Mole—the wonderful way in which the manufacture has contrived to give this set the appearance of being made of small skins, although woven in one piece is really marvellous.

It is difficult to convey to you an impression of the coloring, the best we can say is, "It is Mole." Sets exactly as illustrated are lined with Black Satin, artistically trimmed with Black, Coney Seal, and finished with wide, silk-thread knotted fringe.

Price for Muff and Throwover, \$6.30.

Also the same trimmed Persian Paw, also sets at higher prices.

Anderson's Water Street, St. John's



GOOD COTTON BLANKETS, CHEAP.

We have purchased a clearing lot of COTTON BLANKETS, which includes odd lines, and some with slight defects. We are selling them by THE POUND at prices which will bring the cost to you down to about two-thirds of the usual price.

You will save by buying now.
ROBERT TEMPLETON,
333 Water Street.

NOTICE!

A Special Meeting of The Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd., will be held at St. John's, on Dec. 15th, 1915, for the purpose of confirming Resolutions passed at the General Meetings of the said Company, on Nov. 16, 1914, and Nov. 25, 1915, authorizing the increasing of the capital of said Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Ltd. from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

W. W. HALFYARD, Secretary.
St. John's Dec. 1st. 1915.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE