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Road Board Election

PROBABLY the most important Act of Parliament passed for twenty years so far as it concerned the improvement and advancement of the outports was that passed in May known as the "Local Affairs Act." On Thursday, the 16th, a general election of Road Boards in outports took place, and the interest manifested was indeed another surprise to those who take an interest in the country and people's advancement. For sixty years Road Boards were appointed by the Government in power and of course each Government appointed only their own friends. Consequently if monies were not properly handled it seldom interested the Head of Departments responsible as to reprove or punish wrong doing meant making enemies of their best political friends. Wrong doing was not noticed. It was eventually under Morris Rule became so brazen and barefaced as to mean giving out public monies directly to friends and families of the party and in hundreds of instances nothing whatever was done in return for such grants and in most cases what was done in return for the grants, was of a purely personal benefit. Family grants, hush grants and special grants prior to the last general election became a demoralizing agency and threatened to destroy the morale of the whole Colony, and replace it by a system of boodle and grab such as no country in the world ever beheld.

The return of Union members to the House of Assembly saved the situation and the nine so impressed the House respecting the demoralizing effect of those givings out, that the Premier had no alternative but to yield and he bravely resolved to enable the F.P.U. to put its Road Board preachings into practice and the Bill which passed the Legislature last spring reflected the ideas and proposals of the F.P.U. upon Road Board matters.

For many years attempts were made by Governments to do something to improve Road Board affairs, but all their efforts proved futile. It must be gratifying to the Premier to find he had made no mistake by listening to the F.P.U. Party as regards the principles and contents of the Road Board Act, for it has already justified its existence and proved probably the most successful piece of legislation ever enacted by our Legislature. The outport people are delighted by the confidence replaced in them by the Act. The day so many of them hoped so long for has really come, and to-day hundreds of elected boards possessing powers far surpassing anything yet given to outport Boards are responsible for public matters in their settlements and towns. The interest taken was indeed a

surprise, for no effort had been made by the Press to create an interest. The only paper taking any notice of the change was **The Mail and Advocate**. The great interest was of course aroused through the agency of the 240 Local Councils of the F.P.U. which form a continuous chain from Kelligrews to Bonne Bay.

The people have now the power to expend their own grants, not one penny of public grants for roads, bridges, wells, wharves, marine works, etc., can be expended in future except through and by those Local Boards. They should no longer be called Road Boards—Local Boards more properly express their duties and responsibilities.

The Bonavista Platform of the F.P.U. (1912) included a plank known as "Electoral Municipal Boards." Union men recognize this Act of Parliament as the fulfillment of that proposal.

We extend the thanks of the F.P.U. to all Magistrates and J.P.'s who presided over those meetings and did their part so nobly. Very few complaints have reached us as regards unfair conduct on the part of the presiding Chairman. The case of Twillingate has been already referred to; that case was indeed a glaring one and in the interest of the Act must be investigated and properly reprimanded. Another complaint is from King's Cove. Musgrave town also seems to have had matters much mixed, but taken on a whole, the result is most gratifying and bespeaks a remarkable success for the measure.

The Boards must now do their duty. Very little money will be available while the war is on for local improvements but they must see that all monies granted to be expended in their locality must be expended under their supervision and control. Special grants cannot now be expended through a Commissioner. Petitions asking for public improvements will of course be necessary as they have been in the past, but whatever amounts are allocated because of such petitions, such allocations must be sent to the Board to be expended.

The Boards recently elected will remain in power for two years or until the next general election are over. Any settlement not possessing a Local Board can secure such by petition signed by a majority of the electors of such a community. Any settlement included in the jurisdiction of a Board, which wish to possess its own Board may secure such by petition to the Department of Public Works; when such petition is found to be in order, authority will be issued by the Department to elect a Board.

If in future there are any complaints of a local character re expenditure of public grants the blame will be solely with the people. The members for the district nor the Government cannot now be blamed for improper expenditure. The members do their part in securing a grant for any purpose, their responsibility then ends, and the Board becomes responsible.

Why Governments were so blind as not to enact such an act and establish it, years ago, is a puzzle to Union members, for in their opinion one half of a representative's troubles find their source in giving public monies to private individual political friends to expend. The cure has been administered, and the outports are rejoicing. We trust this measure is but the forerunner of many such that are necessary to make our country what it should have been many years ago, and which are embodied in the platform of the F.P.U. as proclaimed by the Bonavista Convention.

On behalf of the F.P.U. we thank the Premier for the support given the Union Party's endeavors in the House to place upon the Statute Book the Local Boards Act and for bringing its promises into effect. We may go further and as-

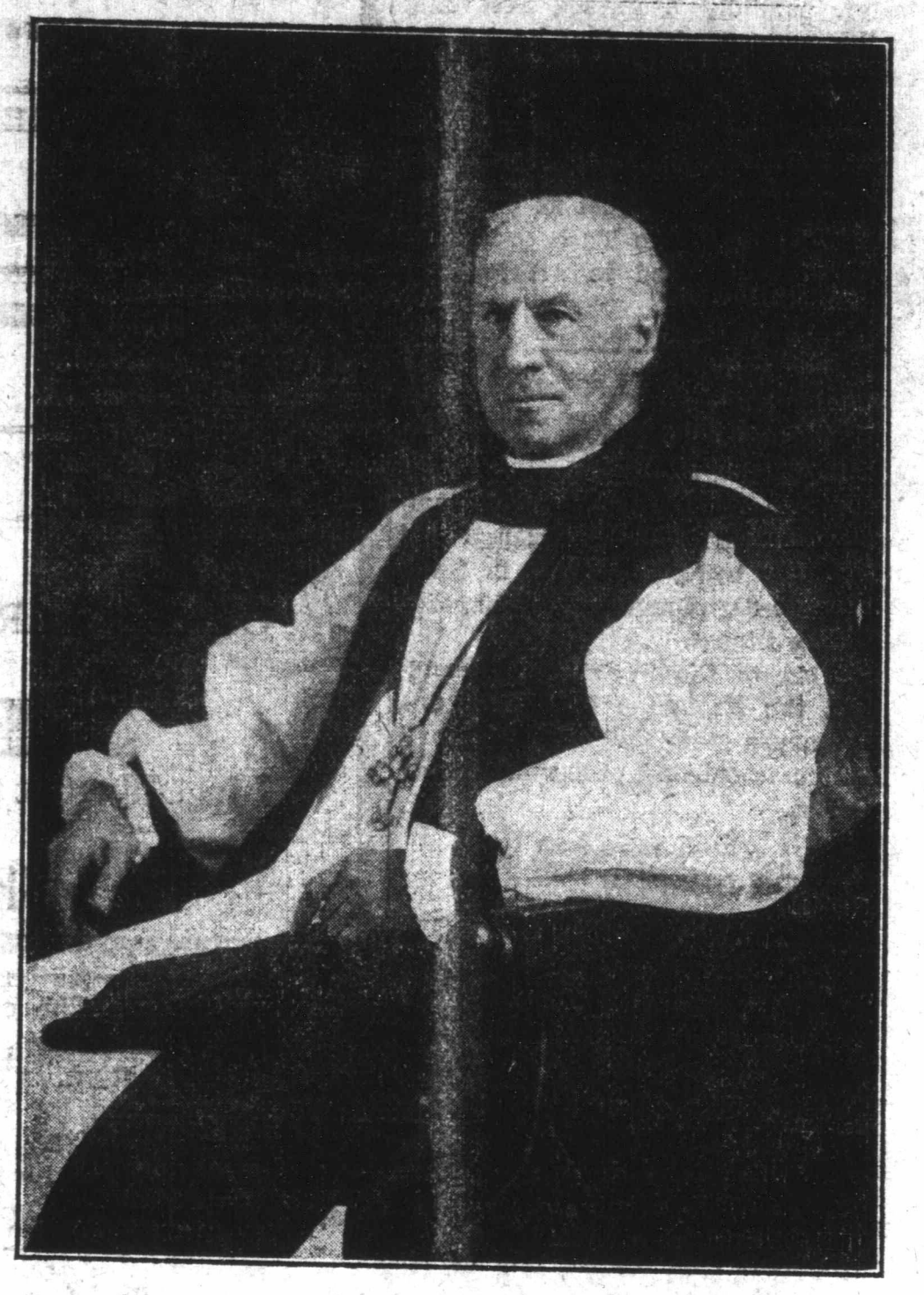
sure him that he will never regret aiding any Union proposal made in the House of Assembly.

The Union Party has indeed established a splendid political record by its actions in the House the past two years, and the whole country is convinced that many of the Union's proposals are worthy of earnest consideration and are based solely upon principles that ensure most beneficial results to the whole Colony, if enacted into law. Why should the Premier longer delay accepting the proposals of the F.P.U. respecting Compulsory Education, the erection of Bait Depots, the establishment of Night Schools, the cutting out of all fees to Elementary Schools, the combining of public positions in outports, the prohibiting of large steel steamers in the seal fishery, the encouragement of ship-building yards, providing a public emergency tug for the port of St. John's, the formation of advisory Fishery Boards for each section of the country or for the different Bays instead of the one Board now performing the work so unsatisfactory, the encouragement of motor engines for fishing boats and coasters, the enforcement of a standard cull for fish by buyer and exporter, the enactment and strict enforcement of laws protecting the cure of herring and Turbot, protection for lobsters by prohibiting packing for two years, the repeal of laws which enable magistrates as commissioners of the Supreme Court to attach and compel payments of all sorts of claims without an order of the court, the reducing of the period for enforcing payment of certain old debts from six years to three, thus allowing a poor creature unfortunate one year from being loaded with an unbearable burden for six long years, thus assassinating his energy and enthusiasm and placing him amongst the dependables when he might be a successful and independent fisherman or planter.

Oh for four short years of a Union Government for poor Terra Nova, for we are firmly convinced that in spite of a huge public debt and the effects of the world's most colossal death struggle, that a Union Government could so change conditions and affairs as to make Newfoundland the happiest and most prosperous portion of the British Empire. To carry out the above programme would involve no big expenditure of money. Probably half a million of dollars would cover the whole expenditure, while the revenue would gain at least one million and the contentment and progress of the people would be amazing. Oh, Sir Edward, what a chance you lost when Coalition was upon the carpet. How will you ever give the interests and action of those who assassinated your honor and tarnished your record as a Party Leader! One thing feel assured, that is the people intend to return a Union Government in 1917.

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS
 December 27
ST. JOHN'S the Evangelist's day.
 Bishop Mullock consecrated at Rome by Cardinal Franzoni, and Newfoundland became a Bishopric, 1847.
 Governor Bannerman and lady gave a treat to children of St. Thomas's school—cakes, confectionery and books, 1860.
 Str. Bloodhound launched at Glasgow, built by R. Steele & Co., 1862.
 The addition built to St. Thomas's Church consecrated, 1874.
 Brigus Court-house burnt, 1876.
 Commercial Bank directors arrested, 1894.
 Daniel Monroe married Miss Stott, 1882.
 Patrick Prendergast, cooper, Harbor Grace, died, 1894.
 Andrew McCoubrey died, aged 22, 1890.
 John Vinnicombe, pilot, died, 1890.
 New Masonic Temple (present building) opened, 1895.

LORD BISHOP OF NEWFOUNDLAND.
Fiftieth Anniversary of the Ordination to the Priesthood of the Right Reverend Llewellyn Jones, D.D.



THE RIGHT REVEREND LLEWELLYN JONES, D.D., LORD BISHOP OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

This being the Jubilee year of the Bishop of Newfoundland's Ordination to the Priesthood, it was the unanimous wish of the Clergy of the Diocese to embrace the opportunity which such an auspicious event offered of expressing their love and loyalty to their Diocesan who is so rightly and deservedly esteemed by all creeds and classes.

Arrangements were accordingly made for carrying out this wish with the result that on Christmas Eve a deputation of the City Clergy—clergy in the outports being unable to attend—consisting of Rev's. Canon Smith, Canon White, Canon Bolt, C. H. Barton, H. Uphill and Dr. Jones waited upon His Lordship at Bishop's Court and presented him with the following address, together with a handsome silver salver of chaste design, on which is beautifully engraved the Bishop's Arms with the years of Ordination and of the Jubilee (1865-1915), and the following inscription:

Presented to
 The Right Reverend Llewellyn Jones, D.D.,
 Lord Bishop of Newfoundland,
 On the occasion of the Jubilee of his Ordination to the Priesthood
 by his Clergy as a
 token of their affectionate regard.

The address, printed on parchment, which was read by Canon Smith, Episcopal Commissary, was as follows:—

TO THE REVEREND LLEWELLYN JONES, D.D., LORD BISHOP OF NEWFOUNDLAND:

On the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of your Lordship's Ordination as a Priest in the Church of God, we, the undersigned clergy, who have served or are now serving in your Diocese, desire to offer to your Lordship our hearty congratulations on the completion of a Ministry of half a century, the greater part of which has been spent in this Colony.

Of your Lordship's happily extended Episcopate, the longest but one in the whole of our Empire, during which you have given many proofs of your care for the welfare of the Church, and of your devotion to duty, especially in remaining at your post when you might have accepted less onerous work, it is not necessary for us to dwell. Your work and labours of love are known and read of all men.

While always rendering to your Lordship our filial affection as our Diocesan, we desire at this time to acknowledge the many acts of kindness which your clergy have from time to time received at your hands. It is as one, not only "given to hospitality" at all times, but also as the friend and brother of your clergy in times of stress, that we desire to approach your Lordship on the present occasion; and we humbly ask your acceptance of the accompanying Salver, with the hope that it may long remain in your family as a slight token of our affectionate regard.

G. S. CHAMBERLAIN,
 JOHN M. NOEL,
 JNO GOODACRE CRAGG,
 T. G. NETTEN,
 WALTER R. SMITH,
 CHARLES JEFFERY,
 JOHN HEWITT,
 H. C. H. JOHNSON,
 C. ERNEST SMITH,
 C. W. HOLLANDS,
 F. W. COLLEY,
 C. WOOD,
 ARTHUR PITTMAN,
 G. H. FIELD,
 J. H. BULL,
 FRANK SMART,
 W. CHARLES WHITE,
 GEO. H. BOLT,
 HENRY ELLINGTON,
 E. K. H. CALDWELL,
 JAMES J. WHITE,
 A. G. BAILY,
 LL. GODDEN,
 H. J. READ,
 ARTHUR SHORTER,
 HENRY PETLEY,
 S. A. DAWSON,
 HENRY GILBERT,
 S. M. STEWART,
 EDWIN J. R. NICHOLS,
 H. I. LEGGO,
 E. A. BUTLER,
 T. W. UPWARD,
 H. V. WHITEHOUSE,
 EVELYN C. CLENCH,
 A. B. S. STIRLING,
 FRANK SEVERN,
 C. H. BARTON,

A. G. C. STAMP,
 C. CARPENTER,
 E. E. RUSTED,
 ARTHUR E. TULK,
 J. T. RICHARDS,
 J. BRINTON,
 R. F. MERCER,
 CHAS. M. STICKINGS,
 HENRY UPHILL,
 EDGAR JONES,
 M. K. GARDNER,
 J. O. BRITNELL,
 A. T. TULK,
 J. S. ADAMS,
 H. F. G. D. KIRBY,
 W. K. PITCHER,
 J. PRESCOTT,
 EDGAR H. FLETCHER,
 HUGH W. PACEY,
 G. S. TEMPLETON,
 W. R. COURAGE,
 HENRY GORDON,
 J. STEAD,
 G. HALL,
 G. H. MAIDMENT,
 H. LESLIE PIKE,
 T. E. LODER,
 N. G. VIVIAN,
 A. CLAYTON,
 EDWARD ANDREW,
 W. A. BUTLER,
 GORDON ELLIOTT,
 A. E. E. LEGGE,
 M. H. W. SEELEY,
 H. MACKAY,
 W. E. R. CRACKNELL,
 E. H. HUMPHRIES,
 J. P. ADAMS.

The Bishop who expressed himself as taken by surprise, gracefully replied and referred feelingly to the happy relationship which have always existed between him and his clergy during his long tenure of office.

FURS!

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nov25,11

FERRO ENGINES

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3 H.P.	\$ 95.00
4 " "	125.00
5 1-2 " "	145.00
7 1-2 " "	180.00

We can offer large sizes of any model. We have these engines in stock and also have a full stock of repair parts. We deal direct and can therefore give lower prices. Also GRAY, FULTON and MEITZ & WEISS Engines.

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 St. John's.