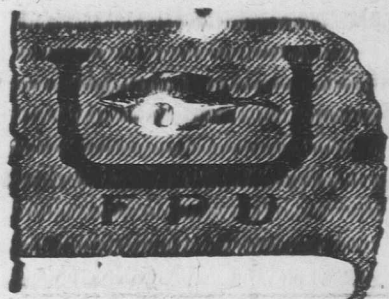


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150 Sax Corn Meal at \$1.85 per sack.

J. J. ROSSITER Real Estate Agent

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



(TO EVERY MAN HIS OWN.)

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., MAY 4th., 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

UNDER FALSE COLORS

It is noticeable that since we wrenched the mask from the big deal, and given it its true title of the new Reid Deal, Mr. Wilson's name is taboo by the Government press.

Maybe Mr. Wilson's modesty forbids that he should be further used as a mask for the scheme, and has begged his friends of the government press to refrain from puffing him any further.

It will be remembered that when first Mr. Wilson was introduced to the public as the prime mover in the undertaking, it was given to us to read, that he was the inventor of calcium carbide, and a whole lot of other things.

We said that we thought the gentleman was being rather over done, that he was being given credit that rightly he had no title to, this was some days ago, and we have heard nothing about it since.

Mr. Wilson has not come forward to explain his false position in the premises. His modesty is not equal to the task, (we understand, Mr. Wilson is in town) it is easier to let the impression, false though it is, prevail, than to come before the footlights with an explanation.

As far as we can find out, Mr. Wilson has not invented anything or was instrumental in discovering the basic principals of the above mentioned exothermic processes.

Cyanamid (Ca. C. N 2) is also made by exothermic action. It is known that if calcium carbide (Ca. C 2) is raised to a temperature of between 1100 degrees and 1200 degrees centigrade, and nitrogen added that cyanamid results. It is only a step further in the exothermic process.

Birkland and Cyde, Swedes have done great work in connection with perfecting the process, and any chemical encyclopedia will show that the processes were studied long ago by scientists as far greater calibre than Mr. Wilson. And as for calcium carbide, there is no invention in connection with that. The reaction which takes place when coke and lime are fused together is purely exothermic, or plainly, induced by heat.

The perfecting of the electric furnace has made the process commercially successful.

What Mr. Wilson did do, is to take the classical discoveries and writings of a French scientist, named Moissan, and from them to derive certain improvements in the furnace, that is all, we believe Mr. Wilson has done.

It is a mistake to think that he invented either the electric furnace or calcium carbide.

The Swedes were the first to have produced the substance on a commercial scale, and are foremost in the use of the electric furnace for metallurgical purposes. The Canadian government thought so much of their electrical reduction of ores, that they sent Mr. Haanah over to make a study of the Swedish methods of smelting iron ores.

Sweden has put her water-powers to practical account, a fact we should take a lesson from, and be very careful of what is known in Canada to-day as white-coal.

Canada is not giving away her water powers, why should we? The fact that Canada is not giving away her water-powers, is what has induced this concern to come here, hoping that as usual Newfoundland has something to give away, in her ignorance.

On the Nottaway River in Ontario is a Fall that is equal in potential power almost to Niagara itself. Why did not Wilson apply to Canada for that?

The answer is plain, he could not get it. Canada knows the value of it, and would exact conditions that evidently do not meet with Mr. Wilson's idea of getting something for nothing. Canada rents her water-powers charging at the rate of \$15,000 a year for the first horse power and one dollar a year for each additional horse power up to 10,000 h.p. for the next 10,000, seventy-five cents and fifty cents for every horse power above that.

THE GOVERNMENT'S SOMERSAULT

YESTERDAY Dr. Lloyd resumed the debate on the New Reid Deal and objected to the claim dealing with Patents, producing arguments that should be considered by the Government. He also showed that Ontario leased its water-powers for 20 years, renewing the same for 20 more on new terms if the government wished to include them in the renewal and the lowest rental paid by the leasee was 50c. per horse power per annum—which rate would give us \$60,000 a year for the power this company proposed to use on the Humber.

The Premier spoke for the Government and intimated that it had been decided to withdraw the clause concerning the East Coast, and provide that the \$5,000,000 expenditure should be expended at Bay of Islands and upon construction work, and cut out the 40 mile radius around the plant at the Humber and make it 10 miles instead.

By those concessions to the Opposition Party's criticism many of the serious objections to the Deal has been removed but several objections still remain which will be opposed by the Opposition. Those objections are—

- (1) Exemption from municipal taxation for ever. (2) Exemption from import duties on raw material for ever. (3) Exemption of duty on machinery for ever. (4) Right to interfere with others who may use the Humber for logging. (5) Absence of any clause to protect the price of ordinary labor. (6) Absence of a clause to establish the works of the company on the Labrador on the Newfoundland Labrador. (7) Exemption of profits and shares from taxation for ever.

Mr. Coaker's speech last night covered these objections and he pointed out that the agreement permitted the Company to use the water-powers of the Hamilton for the operation of an industry not on Newfoundland Labrador but on the Canadian portion of it. He asked that a clause be inserted removing this apprehension and ensuring that such an industry should be operated on Newfoundland Labrador.

Mr. Coaker said he would not vote to exempt any corporation or any person no matter who or how great from municipal taxation or any taxation for ever. He would not vote for a measure that exempted the dividends of such corporations from taxation. He showed that while we might be liberal as regards exempting raw material from paying duty we should possess the right to tax profits, as some similar concern is that now proposed under the agreement before the House had been paying 50 per cent. dividends on the original capital invested. If those concerns became profitable the country was entitled to a portion of such profits. He asked that the price of labor be fixed at \$2 per day of 10 working hours for the common labor. He asked that care be exercised by the Government in giving grants for land where the industry was to be established, in order to allow workmen to secure land and erect their own homes independent of the Company. He wished the Company to be given only what land they required for the construction of their plant, and not to give grants of miles of land surrounding the plant as has

been done elsewhere with so much apparent dissatisfaction to the employees.

He asked the country to consider what the giving away of even the Humber water-powers meant. If said Mr. Coaker someone discovered yesterday a coal deposit at Corner Brook that contained enough coal to permit turning out 1000 tons daily for 1000 years, the country would be excited from end to end and if any company wanted such a deposit of coal it would have to pay a big price for it. The water-powers of the Humber will produce power equal to that secured by the use of 1000 tons of coal daily, not for 1000 years but for ever. Yet the country is giving this valuable asset worth \$50,000,000 away without receiving one cent for it and with it giving rights over every acre of area for miles around the Humber and making it possible for this new company to force every owner of timber or water rights in that section to sell out to the company at the company's price or abandon their rights.

As for labor, Mr. Coaker asked that \$2 per day be the smallest wage paid, other contracts had provided labor clauses and there was nothing wrong in doing so now. There was not much gained in taking 1000 or 2000 fishermen from the fishery and turning them into laborers. As fishermen they would be better off, as fishermen they would always own their homes and be their own masters; as laborers even their souls sometimes became the property of the lords who employed them. He considered logging a great aid to the fishermen as it was labor given at a season when fishing was impossible and the logging industry greatly aided the fishermen, but if we took 2000 fishermen from the fishery and turned them into laborers it meant a loss of \$750,000 to the Colony, for 2000 fishermen would earn that amount which would be taken from the ocean. He thought that if the labor demands were good enough to entice Newfoundlanders who now worked in the Nova Scotia mines to return, so would it entice Italians, Dagoes and other undesirable to come to Newfoundland, which may not in the end be very profitable to our country.

The Government has altered the Bill owing to the strong feeling aroused against it through the speeches of the Opposition members and the backdown is another indication of what they would attempt if they had the power to accomplish it.

Mr. Coaker stated last night that thousands in Newfoundland would as a result of this great attempt to rob the people's heritage, have less confidence in the Premier and with investors abroad more injury will have been done than can possibly be undone for many years owing to the Government entering into such an agreement as that tabled by the Premier last Wednesday.

The electors of the country would be proud of the Opposition's victory over greed and grab in relation to this new deal and the Government ought to feel ashamed of the attempt made to give away every valuable water-power in the Colony for a mess of pottage.

Mr. Morine's illness last night was greatly regretted, as he would have replied to the Premier's remarks, but it is hoped Mr. Morine will be about again in a day or two and be able to take part in the debate that will be resumed when the revised and amended agreement is presented to the House.

The only speakers on the Government side so far has been the Premier and Mr. Bennett—neither of them delivered a speech that would be considered as any other but political and partisan, while all the Opposition speeches have been to the point, exceeding logical and non-partisan, extremely fair and reasonable and not tinged with personal animosities or trailing red herring over the track as have the Government speakers.

MR. MORINE RECOVERED

YESTERDAY while sitting in the House Mr. Morine complained to Mr. Coaker of feeling very unwell. When the House arose for tea, he found himself very weak and had to be assisted to his hotel by Mr. Crosbie. Mr. Morine was then ordered to bed and was in a weak condition. Shortly after vomiting set in and afterwards he felt very much better, and this morning was able to get down to his office, apparently none the worse of the attack yesterday. The trouble was of the nature of acute indigestion.

The public will be glad to learn of Mr. Morine's recovery, for

Proceedings at the House of Assembly

Calm, Logical and Judicious Overhauling of the New Reid Deal, Marks Last Evening's Session--The Deal Greatly Amended, But Not Acceptable to the Opposition

MONDAY, May 3rd.

The House met at 3.20 p.m.

MR. MORINE presented a petition from the Central Forest Co. bearing on the Products Corporation contract.

MR. MOULTON presented a petition from Burgess and La Poile District on Total Prohibition.

MINISTER OF FISHERIES MCCOTT and COLONIAL SECRETARY BENNETT tabled replies to previous questions and the Notice of Questions on Order Paper was gone through when came the Order of the Day.

The question of Supply was deferred and the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Products Corporation Resolution. Mr. Parsons, Chairman.

DR. LLOYD resumed his arguments against the proposed contract by saying that we ought to do all that was fair and necessary for the carrying out of any industry, but we must have the assurance that money will be spent on construction work and that assurance we did not have in the contract we were asked to confirm. Referring to the eastern area concessions, Dr. Lloyd contended that these were altogether outside of the requirements for the Bay of Islands project and should be cut out of the agreement altogether, and that the interests adversely affected by the concessions given in the Humber section should be clearly expressed.

The Member for Trinity dwelt at length on the expending of five million dollars within five years in Newfoundland and pressed after reading the Premier's speech that it was the intention of the Government that this five million dollars was to be spent at the Bay of Islands in connection with the development of power and construction of fertilizer works on the Humber. He contended that this was not at all clearly specified, there being nothing of a definite nature in the contract about the spending of this five million dollars at the Bay of Islands and when the Government took up this matter he understood it was their intention of so doing, in they put in Clause 1 provision for this expenditure at the Bay of Islands, the same as in Clause 2 referring to the Labrador, viz., that it becomes void and everything reverts back to the Government if this expenditure is not made within five years—then he could understand it.

Dr. Lloyd had been struck with the remarks made in connection with the proposed works. "Take the plant for instance. The sum of \$4,000,000 was required for the development of 113,000 horse power, or something like \$40.00 per horse power, and in this connection Dr. Lloyd quoted from some Ontario statistics as to the cost of development there and where they have it reduced to a system of leasing water powers on a rental basis, and no lease is granted for a period of more than 20 years, subject, however, to the lease having the right of two renewals of 10 years each, making a term of 40 years altogether. Well, could not we have some such rental basis. Our immense water powers are the same to us as the British coal fields, and we ought to conserve them. Don't let us throw them away, or get all events, if we do grant them, don't let us give a perpetual lease like the contract before us.

Dr. Lloyd referred to the preamble and said that nothing was clearly defined therein as to what was to be done. Why do the promoters ask for confirmation of patents already granted. This is a matter that wants explanation. One reason may be that the patents will run out in two years. If that was so, why not state it. Another reason may be that we are asked to confirm patents that are already invalid and at all events we are left to conjecture. We are asked to give patents that we don't know just what they consist of, or how existing, and if there is to be an overriding of rights

many were alarmed over the incident last night, thinking it was serious. He will be able to resume the debate on the New Reid Deal as vigorously as ever tomorrow when it will be further discussed in Committee of the Whole House.

already existing, an adequate reason must be given, and the members on the Opposition side of the House only asked for substantial reasons for giving such tremendous concessions brought forward by the Government.

THE PREMIER started the debate on behalf of the Government by stating that all the speeches delivered on the Opposition side of the House were fair and what might be expected from an Opposition standpoint. "The deductions drawn, however, from his (the Premier's) standpoint were that there was, after all, very little objection to the contract. He added to Mr. Morine in his statement about the Solicitor of the House having drawn up the contract and said that while it was quite true that the Solicitor had made the first draft, it had been re-drafted again and again, the Attorney-General being called in. At the same time the Premier refrained from insisting the fact that the Solicitor of the House was also Solicitor for the promoters, or that any outside legal authority had been consulted on the matter.

With regard to the Resolutions the Premier stated that they were drawn up by the Government and finally passed after a consultation with Attorney-General and the Colonial Secretary.

Regarding the water-sheds of the Humber, and which the Hon Member for Bonavista (Mr. Morine) had claimed there were some existing rights that were being interfered with, the Premier said that the only claims that were there, referred to some mining rights which he would table for the information of the members of the House.

THE PRIME MINISTER then spoke of all sorts and conditions of rights that might be put in, rights that if they existed would be protected and so forth. He didn't, however, make it clear, as to how they would be protected. In speaking of the taxation exemption as spoken of by Mr. Morine he (the Premier) intimated some 22 amendments that the member for Bonavista had introduced in 1905, in they put in Clause 1 provision for this expenditure at the Bay of Islands, the same as in Clause 2 referring to the Labrador, viz., that it becomes void and everything reverts back to the Government if this expenditure is not made within five years—then he could understand it.

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The Hon. Member for Bonavista (Mr. Morine) had stated that exemption from taxation mentioned in the contract, gave the company exemption on all kinds of manufactures they might undertake in any part of the country. This was not so, and whilst

the Premier contended it only applied to the class of business the company were prospecting, he stated that in order to make it clear, he would have a clause inserted in the contract before they went out of committee bearing on the matter, clearly specifying the taxation and how it was to apply. Speaking of the Eastern Section, the Premier said that the promoters did not ask for these concessions originally, still, not an ounce of water power, nor a log was given away; nothing was being taken from anyone; not yet, he (the Premier) had no objections to taking out of the contract to that section. The Premier also tried to explain that the contract as it stood, conveyed the assurance of the expenditure of five million dollars in connection with the works at Humbermouth within five years, the only explanation, however, forthcoming was that it would be amended in committee to that effect.

In speaking of the labour to be employed, Sir Edward pointed a glowing picture of the good times in store for the fisherman, when the fisheries failed and they would all get employment at big wages. He didn't, however, allude to any clause that made provision for the rate of wages to be paid and the class of labor that would be employed. No need whatever to specify a rate of wages because of what the Harmsworth's and Bell Island people had done, and what if these works go on at the Bay of Islands they shall have to pay our people good wages.

So the Premier argued and he dilated on the labour question generally by stating that the policy of to-day is to make the working men co-partners in the concern as instanced in the case of Lever Brothers at Port Sunlight and other concerns of a like nature. He didn't, however, mention anything that was of a binding nature with regard to this product corporation in that respect beyond the expressed hope that if they came here they would make lots of money and make it unnecessary for us to go to Canada, and postpone the day for discussing confederation. At this point recess was taken till 8 o'clock.

The House resumed its sitting at 8 p.m. The Premier, who had spoken up to recess, continued his speech. Sir Edward, in detail, spoke of the Government as being trustees of the public and in a speech of some ten minutes fruitlessly attempted to show how the present administration were seeking to safeguard the interests of the public, a complete summation as a matter of fact when the actions of Sir Edward and his party are considered in connection with the actual welfare of the people.

The Premier referred to the amendments of the Wilson deal and which had practically made of it a new measure, and one that would be welcome to the views of the people. For those amendments and concessions he had to thank the Opposition, who had dealt with the Bill in its original form, corrected its errors, re-constructed it and finally given it to the Government a new and different measure.

MR. KENT, in a speech of some twenty minutes, reviewed the Bill from several points that would not be exactly visible to a casual observer. For instance it should be made provisional in granting terms to the proposed new plant that the Company be required to spend five million dollars on actual building and erection work. In case, too, of failure on the part of the Company that they cease to operate, every section and grant would then become void. Mr. Kent would draw a distinction between an actual right and an actual holding of grant. He thought that the contract should be discussed on its own merits, and not as it was now conjoined with the 1898 contract. Finally Mr. Kent was of the opinion that we want industries that should give some direct returns to create a revenue from our water powers. The profits of the earnings of the plant should be taxed. The speaker, in his further remarks, dealt with the rights of individuals, which the proposed plant might infringe, pointing out that such persons should be compensated for any dam-

ages done, or any property or interests injured. He would, in conclusion, discuss this whole Bill fully later, when the amendments are properly drafted, printed, and in order for more definite discussion.

MR. CLIFT was in favour of the deal, had seen Mr. Wilson, heard details re the new concern, and believed that the plan should receive support, which he would individually give. At the same time, though recognising the benefits of the concern, he was of the opinion that some tax should be placed on the profits of the business, and also that a time limit of 20 or 30 years should be made in the contract.

Mr. Clift, who spoke for about 15 minutes, suggested one or two other necessary amendments to the Bill as it now stands.

MR. COAKER, who was the next speaker, thought that the Government had acted wisely in coming to a decision re the Bill, but should have considered the matter more fully before coming into the House. We were apt in the consideration that our vast waters running free and unharvested were going to waste, to forget the fact that they were a big asset to us, and should not be foolishly given away without consideration on our part as to their real value. We should not forget what an asset and capital the waters of Petty Hr. had proven to the Reid Co. It was, he (Mr. Coaker) would say, a tremendous value. What about the industries of the future, what about the pulp industry, all which are in connection in their development with our waters. He was pleased to see an industry about to be started on the Humber, but no matter who that company might be, or how strong or large their interests, or any of those on the Opposition who fully realized the interests at stake, would never vote for a measure which gave everything and got nothing in return.

Ten million dollars it had been said was to be spent on the industry at the Bay of Islands, ten millions more was to be spent on the Hamilton Inlet concern. So far this was "promisary" or in other words worthy of the Government. Let the Government look to it that the industry and the earnings of the industry be on the Newfoundland Labrador and not on the Canadian border of the Labrador. If that advantage were to be taken by the promoters of the promised concern, the government would find themselves in a position wherein they could do nothing by way of any actual control of the plant. Now was the time to watch this matter. Mr. Coaker went on to say that the Grand Falls, and the Bishop's Falls companies had not yet paid a dividend, why?

They had every advantage given them in possessing good workmen, excellent mills and factories, splendid timber, and no big taxes to pay. Why then do these concerns not realize paying dividends. He (Mr. Coaker) would ask the government to enquire and find out why this was the case?

At this point Mr. Coaker criticised some puny remarks which the Premier had made in his speech at the afternoon session. Sir Edward who attempted to explain the tenor of his unfortunate declarations away, got into a deeper "mix-up" and was laughing at him by the House, Mr. Coaker finishing him off by magnanimously assuring him that he (the Premier) could not have meant what he had said at the afternoon sitting, an explanation which Sir Edward certainly accepted, though he was much confused.

In bringing his clear and logical speech to a close, Mr. Coaker spoke of the "rosy pictures" which the Premier ever paints for the long suffering public, and referred to the 4,000 men who are to be employed at the Labrador concern. It looked like it very much, but he (Mr. Coaker) hoped the project would not become like Sir Edward's old scheme—"whitening the South Side cliffs with sheep, and causing two blades of grass to grow where one was growing."

Mr. Coaker forcibly pointed out that by taking, say, 2,000 men from the fisheries and placing them in the employ of such a concern as is being offered, does an injury to the country. They are eventually, not as well off, should the concern fail, or unforeseen accidents occur, the men on returning to their old avocation, find themselves useless. Besides this, their stock is in bad order, their boats and gear wrecked and gone, and as a case in point. There is many a fisherman working at Botwood, Bishop's Falls, and Grand Falls, to-day, sorry for ever having given up his own freedom, and the bigger chances of always doing better at the fishery.

Attention was here called to the wage question, Mr. Coaker very loyally standing by the working man. The working man—the honest laborer who does an honest day's labor—is worth \$2.00 per day. Let this be understood, men must get enough to live on, to support and educate their families. The day is gone when a man will toil for ten long hours, for a dollar and fifty cents a day. The working man must live as well as

(Continued on page 5)