THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, MARCH 23, 1915-2.

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Describes Logging Conditions and Makes Recommendations

Mr. Coaker Visits Badger Camps

John's for the purpose of of lumber-mostly pine. This quan- the rivers will once more be dotted visiting the logging camps at Badger, tity is no small pile. The river bank with men who will roll the logs into ing camp possesses two cooking boss. operated by the A, N. D. Co. in order for miles is dotted with enormous the hissing river, and then drive those stoves. There cannot be much im- The men complain of their bunks to ascertain the true conditions pre- piles of logs, arranged so that they will logs to Grand Falls. 250 men will be provement in the newly-erected eat- being uncomfortable and hard. The vailing amongst the loggers in Badger roll into the river with the least hu- employed in May and June to drive ing camps of the A. N. D. Co. usual custom is to build bunks along man effort. I saw some splendid pine the 50,000 cords and the 3,000,000 feet The men do not spend much time the side and end of the sleeping

This winter 500 men were employ- logs, which will produce board two of pine lumber to the Grand Falls in the eating camps. When tea is camps. Those bunks are wide enough ed logging in the Badger section. All feet wide. It would gladden the mills. being employed by the A.N.D. Co. heart of a patriot to visit those log- While in the Millertown section-

Last season H. F. Crowe, Esq., op- ging sections and see what old Terra which reaches 40 miles up Red Inderated a portion of this area south of Nova has produced in the shape of ian Lake-350 drivers will be engagthe Exploits River and employed be- timber. Some of those areas as yet ed drive the 65,000 cords, which 659 tween three and four hundred men. untouched by the loggers' axe are men and 120 horses have cut and Mr. Crowe sold this property to the truly magnificent sights. Straight hauled to the banks of the lakes and A. N. D. Co. last spring and is not pine run 50 to 60 feet, four-fifth of rivers during the past five months, operating anywhere in the Exploits which are branchless. Enormous fir, The Millertown sections have fourteen straight and taut, bend before the more operated camps than Badger the Valley this winter. The number of men employed at log- gale and for 100 years or more have past season and 150 more men have ging in the Exploits valley this year is defied blizzard and gales. Large been employed at Millertown than at 300 men less than last year-about quantities of spruce timber, running adger.

1600 being the total this year, made 50 feet without a limb, abound on Last season a larger number of up thus 1150 by the A. W. D. Co. and every side. men were employed at Millertown, and 450 by the Albert Reid Co., of Bishop An enormous quantity of birch the cut in that section was 94,000 cover the whole area. The birch tree cords. The company carried over At Badger the A. W. D. Co.'s log- is not cut. There is as yet no pro- 60,000 cords from last year and, thereging operations, are under the sole fitable market for birch timber. The fore, curtailed the cut for 1915. The supervision of Mr. Hugh Cole, who is supply of birch is unlimited. All the Grand Falls mills consume 120,000 one of their trusted employees, and country is not burnt. Large sections cords annually, therefore, a large surpossess that rare qualification of be- of green timber still abound and the plus of wood will still remain on hand ing a faithful employee, while yet trusted employees of the A. N. D. Co. after 1915, as about 115,000 cords will anxious to give the men a square deal. assure me that the supply for Grand be added to the supply as the result He is popular with the loggers and Falls mills will be equal to the de- of this season's logging operations. they all believe him to be their mand for ages, if not destroyed by At Millertown the men's wages are friend, as he is continually improv-fire. slightly higher than at Badger. The ing logging conditions and makes him- Some of our sleepy public men operations are older and results largself cognizant of every particular in might do worse than pay a visit to er, while expenses, would not be as connection with camp accommodation, our logging areas and realize what heavy as at the newer sections. Some food, wages, etc. The A. N. D. Co. is timber wealth the colony still posess- loggers are receiving \$28 per month fortunate in securing such a man as es. I chatted freely with all the men at Red Indian Lake, while most of the Mr. Cole for the Badger position and I came in contact with and the uni- men will receive one dollar per day. if Mr. Cole remains there, the loggers' versal opinion was that the Gander The food is equally as good as supplied troubles will soon completely disap- areas far surpass the Exploits areas, the Badger camps and in some cases The loggers claim that the Gander the men are allowed a "mug up" be Mr. Andrew Porter-a native of River and Lake areas contain denser fore retiring and they boil the kettle in Change Islands, and a life-long friend forests and even larger trees than the woods in the evening about 4.30 of mine-is the company's business does the Exploits Valley. I enquired which enables the men to give their agent at Badger. Mr. Porter has spent very fully from the responsible men at best and the bosses are quite positive nost of his life in the lumber business Grand Falls about the Gander Valley that better results flow from such and knows it from A to Z. The busi- and they admitted what the loggers treatment ness system in operation is very com-asserted as to the vastness of the sup- The A. N. D. Co.'s camps were supprehensive and elaborate and every ply, but thought the water power was plied with fresh beef during most item of interest in connection with much below what was available on the season. The camps averaged the cost of each camp, the food used the Exploits. I learned that Mr. consumption of about 1200 lbs. each by each, the quantity of each article Crowe had almost finalized a deal Household and Victory flour is sup of diet, etc., is available in a few sec- with a company equally as rich as plied and the bread is often extreme onds. Mr. Porter gave me all the in- the A. N. D. Co. at the time he in- ly good. The salt beef is a fairly formation I wanted and allowed me duced the Albert Reid Co. to invest in good quality, beans, evaporated apto ascertain all the information I the Bishop Falls property, and would ples, turnips, potatoes, peas and cod equired from their books, nothing be- have succeeded but for the stupid in- fish make up the great bulk of the ng withheld. He is a capable man, terference of one man, who held a food. Molasses this year was used and must be a valuable employee. large slice of the Gander areas, who as sweeting tea, last year sugar was Badger is a fast-growing settlement, is well-known in Newfoundland, who used. Sugar should be used as much and entirely depends upon logging. I wanted an enormous personal grab, as possible, and milk might be added. was surprised to find the staff-house and who possessed great personal dis- Apple jam is supplied in some camps fitted with up-to-date sanitary ar- like to Mr. Crowe. Had the Gander whenever required, while at others it rangements, hot and cold water, proposition materialized, the Gander is placed on the table two or three baths, etc. A telephone, owned by would to-day, posses an industrial times a week. The jam is sweetened the A. N. D. Co. passes through Bad- concern, equalling, if not surpassing, with molasses, and is, therefore, not ger and connects the settlement with Grand Falls. over acceptable to the men. Sugar the logging camps in Badger section The country ought to compell those might profitably be used to sweeten with Millertown, Grand Falls, Bot- blood-suckers to operate their pro- the apple jam, as there is a considerwood and the logging camps in Miller- perties or forfeit them to the Colony. able wastage of this article . when own section, to which I' will refer If the colony possessed those Gauder sweetened with molasses. Cheese areas to-day it is quite possible they might, too, be supplied, at least, twice I received the public message over may be transferred to parties willing a week, and on Sundays for tea. Where the 'phone from Badger office when 13 to establish pulp and paper mills that the men are enabled to take dinner in miles from Badger up the Exploits would employ 2,500 men and secure camps, tea is no so relishable, and a \$1,000,000 in the bargain for the little cheese would prove a good in-River. The doctor for Badger section is areas. vestment for men and comployees. stationed . at Badger and is always The Gander area should be surveyed When the men cannot reach the camp eady to respond to calls from the and the water power ascertained and for dinner at noon, they lunch in the amps. This arrangement is an ex- the results announced to the world, woods and they are served a dinner cellent one and gives entire satisfac- for if the property is as valuable as I for tea which, of course, is more sattion and ensures immediate aid in case am told it is, it is a crime against the isfying, but after a nard evening's of accidents. Dr. Smith, formerly of colony's best interests to have it ly- work when dinner was served at noon Wesleyville, is the Badger doctor. A ing dormant and exposed to the risk or 1 p.m. the ordinary meal at 6.30 or horse and sleigh is always available of destruction by fire. One of the 7 p.m. tea bread and beans become greatest crimes committed against monotonous and unpalatable after a for the doctor. This season twenty-one camps are the public interest of this colony was month or two constant bill of fare. n operation in the Badger section, that of allowing penniless timber- Jam sweetened with sugar might be mploying, as I have stated, 500 men grabbers and speculators to secure added, say four nights out of a week, possession of our valuable timber while cheece might be supplied the and 100 horses. The wages paid average \$24 per areas. If those areas were held by other three nights. Canned milk nonth. The old loggers who remain the colony and properly surveyed, might be supplied for tea on Sundays for the season's cut are paid a bonus hundreds of wealthy concerns would to start with. Some complain of which brings their wages up to \$26 become interested and would operate, being tired of beans for breakfast per month. The cooks are paid from The speculators who illegally possess every morning and suggest fish and \$40 to \$45 per month. The contract- the timber wealth of our country are potatoes two mornings out of seven. ors or camp bosses are charged with the men who debar development, as This would be an improvement and everything going to their camps and their only desire is to secure as much might be tried. The A. N. D. Co. credited with all the cut at about \$2 blood-money as possible, and with the managers will likely carry out this per cord, and if the camp's account aid of the Government they are allow- suggestions next season. The food leaves any credit margin after it is ed to continue their hold over our supplied by the A. N. D. Co. to all the balanced, the camp's boss claims it as national assets and thus debar normal camps is of good quality and there is his wages if it exceeds \$50 per month, development. plenty of it. If there is any fault it if less than \$50 the company make Will Mr. H. J. Crowe, who has done is with the cooks or bosses. Some good the difference. The camp bosses more to attract capital to this colony cooks are not as good as others and therefore, are assured a wage of \$50 than any other man-past or present don't treat the men as well as they per month. They are all experienced -tell the people the story of the Gan- might. The bosses should endeavour men and selected because of their fit- der transaction and let the people to keep the cooks up to the scratch e ness as loggers. They are continually know how much truth there is in the when any slackness is apparent. The under the supervision of the wood's statements passing around amongst company is desirous of securing the manager, and he selects them. A great responsible men concerned in the very best cooks and are willing to pay deal depends upon those camp bosses development of our timber areas? them good wages, for some now, re-If they are strictly sober and reliable Come, Mr. Crowe, the people will ceive \$45 per month. A high salaried men they reflect those virtues in the not be satisfied until you either deny competent cook is a cheap man in a management of their men and condi- or verify those reports so current. logging camp. I saw no waste of food tion of their camps. Some camps are You are the only man that can give during my tour of the camps. more tidy and comfortable than others, the facts to the public, therefore, let Some of the eating camps were which at once convinces the visitor of the people know. cleaner than others, but all were passthe sort of boss in charge. I have wandered somewhat from able. The eating camps are large and From 30 to 35 men make up a camp the subject. Let us get back to Bad- wholesome, fitted with tables covered when in full operation. Such a crew ger. This season's logging is now al- with white oil cloth. Some of the would give five bosses all they could most ended, and in a few days all the walls of those camps were papered, do to take the logs to the river bank. activity in the camps will cease, and which showed the cooks were tidy and The output for this season in the the quietness which for ages has en- interested. All the camps erected dur-

older camps are floored with flattened up the floors and sweep them out, and longers, which are hard 'o keep clean wash the dishes. He often has to proand collect all sorts of dirt. The floors vide wood for four stoves and he must of the new camps were clean and cut the firewood in the forest and smooth. Each camp has a fore-peak place it convenient for the teamsters. where the boss sleeps and the supply who take the load to the camps when of food for the men is kept. The cook passing for his meals. The cookee's also sleeps in the fore-peak and a spare bunk is usually provided for wages is the same as the loggers.

occasional callers. The scalers and I would suggest that the cookee he walking bosses or wood's manager given a bonus if he keeps the sleeping often use the spare bunk and some- camps sufficiently clean and tidy to times a doctor or parson. Each eat- pass the inspection of the walking

finished they usually retire to their for two persons. Usually there is sleeping camps, which in all the A. N. an upper row and a lower row. The D. Co.'s camps are separate and not lower row is about one foot from the connected with the eating camps ex- floor. The men sleeping in the under cept by a passage between the two row complain of dust and bough offal which in some cases serve as a store falling from the upper bunks. The bunks are rough affairs. The bottoms for provisions. The cookee cares for the men's are constructed of longers or pickets sleeping quarters, he sweeps it out A covering of boughs is then placed on every day and sometimes washes it up. the longers and some use oats sacks

The cookee's work is to provide wood to cover the boughs, some use a sack for all the stoves, carry water, wash filled with hay or shredded birch rind. (To be continued)

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Advertise in The Mail and Advocate Badger area is computed at 50,000 veloped those areas will once more ing the past year were floored with cords of pulp wood and 3,000,000 feet be ushered in. In May, the banks of umber and covered with lumber. The Badger area is computed at 50,000 veloped those areas will once more ing the past year were floored with cords of pulp wood and 3,000,000 feet be ushered in. In May, the banks of lumber and covered with lumber. The

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