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Distributor.

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE."



("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., SEPT. 27, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

A Serious Outlook

THE arrival of the Sagona which came in to port Saturday after the longest and stormiest trip in the history of the Labrador service was anxiously awaited; and the fishery news received by her is of a nature whose seriousness cannot be adequately appreciated by the average reader. To those, however, who are directly interested in the Labrador fishery, and to business people generally, the Sagona's Report is the most discouraging ever received from the coast.

The fishery "up the shore" is below the one hundred thousand quintal mark; and the floaters, with few exceptions are returning from "down the shore" with meagre fares.—Some of the fleet hailing for less than fifty barrels of fish. Some vessels secured loads at Ryan's Bay, Nachvack, and Elipse Harbor; but it is estimated, that fully five hundred vessels have barely enough fish to pay current expenses of the voyage. This spells disaster for thousands of sharmen and skippers, many of whom set out in the spring with every available dollar invested in their outfit.

Notre Dame Bay, Bonavista Bay, and Trinity Bay will be especially affected. Conception Bay will not fare badly, as most Conception Bay crews are located on the upper part of the shore. Many of these have secured saving voyages, with the exception of crews at Long Island, Grady, and Seal Islands.

The fishery is now practically closed, though in some sections between Bateau and Battle Harbor there is a good deal of fish on the grounds. Stormy weather has prevailed for nearly three weeks, so no fish is being caught, and most of the sharmen are abandoning the voyage. Several bankers are fishing on the upper part of the shore; these will likely secure good trips should the weather prove favorable, as most of them have good supplies of squid bait.

Very little fish has been cured—only one shipment so far has gone. Owing to adverse weather conditions, the Labrador catch has been exaggerated; but on whom rests the responsibility of the report we cannot say. We have repeatedly written about the evil effects of these reports in the foreign markets—the necessary consequences being a depreciation in the price of fish.

The price had been "fixed" by the Fish Committee at Four Dollars per quintal. Some fishermen wired President Coaker regarding the price, and his reply caused an advance in price immediately to Four Dollars and Fifty Cents. There is likely to be the usual gamble for fish to load the many carriers which are awaiting cargoes on the coast between Macovick and Battle Harbor. One steamer chartered by Munn and Templeman—the "Fagerton"—had arrived at Flat Islands. She will take 12,000 quintals; but it will take some time to collect her cargo.

We are now face to face with one of the most serious situations ever recorded in connection with the Labrador fishery. What is going to be done for the fishermen is a question whose solution is of immediately pressing importance. We must face it at once, and it is to be hoped that it will be solved satisfactorily.

HOW TO VOTE

To vote for Prohibition, place the X against the "Yes"

Are you in favor of Prohibition the importation and manufacture and sale of spirits, wine, ale, beer, cider, and all other alcoholic liquor for use as beverages? YES X NO

Price of Fish

WE ask all outport fishermen to refuse to sell their dry shore fish after this for less than \$6.25 talqual; \$6.25 is being paid by the Union Trading Co. at all its stores. At every harbor two or three firms here are offering to buy fish. They have discovered that the catch is a very short one prices will advance as the fall advances. It is now the fishermen should secure the best price; it will be too late in November when fish is selling here at a high figure.

At Battle Harbor Baine Johnson has taken fish and marked \$4.00 per qtl. on receipts, so we have been informed. We cannot believe such a statement. That any firm or exporter could be despicable and mean enough to offer \$4.00 for Labrador fish that will be sold by them at \$5.60 net is hard to believe. Soft fish is worth from \$5.00 to \$5.20 here at present and it is likely \$5.00 will be the lowest figure paid here this season.

Why should not buyers in the Labrador pay at least \$4.70. Capt. Geo. Penney has visited a portion of the Labrador buying fish, and forced up fifty cents. Any fisherman selling Labrador soft fish on the Labrador at less than \$4.70 ought to be horse whipped by his fellow fishermen.

This paper stated in July that Labrador soft fish off the shore would be worth at least \$4.50, and for all to insist on that figure as the lowest price. That any fisherman was base and slayish enough to give fish over even to his supplying merchant at less than \$4.50 is hard to believe.

"Every buyer that takes fish on the Labrador shore at less than \$4.50 will be exposed in those columns and we will undertake to make such a man wish he had paid an honest price for the fish he took from his poor dealers.

Soft Labrador fish will be scarcer than it has been in our experience of 25 years.

Again we ask the fishermen of Placentia, St. Mary's, Burin, Fortuie and Bay-de-Verde not to sell shore fish at less than \$6.25 talqual in outports.

Buyers who tried to secure fish North at \$5.50 when the F.P.U. was paying \$6.00 refused to give our price and sent vessels collecting fish away. Now they are praying to the fishermen who refused \$5.50 and held because of our advice, \$6.00 and \$6.10. They will have to pay more or go without the fish.

Very little fish has arrived at St. John's this season. Very little fish will arrive to be sold by fishermen. It will be found this year that less fish offered for sale here than has been known in the memory of any man now doing business.

Some know-alls like The Trade Review and The Daily News—attempted to make the country and world believe that this season's catch of fish was the greatest for 30 years. Our advice was scoffed at and our figures derided; but today all are compelled to admit once again that the F.P.U. estimate was very accurate and our opinion as to values was extremely correct.

The Colony is face to face with the worst fishery for twenty-five years. Trade at St. John's this fall will be 25 per cent worse than last fall's trade.

The Graball political "die

hards" who grasped at straws in July when they saw gold in galore running into the Treasury coffers this summer and fall, because the revenue for July and August was a little better than last year's returns for the same period, will now be able to view things as they are and not as they hoped they would be.

They will have to face a deficit of \$1,000,000 on this financial year's business, and this means that the Bank of Montreal has now become the arbiter of the destiny of Newfoundland, for if that Bank refuse to advance money to the Treasury the Colony will become bankrupt. Any business not in a position to pay 100 cents to the dollar is considered to be insolvent.

This Colony is now spending on running expenses only \$5 when it is receiving but \$4. On every \$100 being expended by the Government on ordinary current accounts only \$80 is being supplied by revenue from all sources. War expenditure has consumed seven-eighths of the Million Dollar loaned by the Home Government last winter. By the end of October another Million Dollars will have to be secured.

The Colony's war expenditure is costing \$3,300 every day at present, and by the end of the year will reach \$4,000 per day.

The difference between what is spent on ordinary current account and the revenue receipts amount to another \$3,000 per day. Consequently the Colony is falling in debt at the rate of between Six and Seven Thousand Dollars per day; and mark you—not for one month or for two months—but for the whole 365 days of the year.

Last year—which ended June 30th last—the Colony's debt grew at the rate of \$3,500 per day, caused solely by loss of revenue and war expenditure—not taking into consideration any railway or other Government loans, which amounted to another \$1,500,000.

The Tory "die hards" in the Government who have played a deep game all this year, will now realize where their game has placed the Colony and where that game has landed the whole Government Party. "They cast a thorn-back to catch a whale." They now find they have not even another thorn-back to bait a hook.

Postal Telegraphs

FOR weeks the trade has been without the proper duplicate form of telegraph messages issued by the Postal Telegraph. Week after week we have been told that the books would be here next week; our office has been without such telegraph forms for two months.

Now we are told they cabled to England for some and hope soon to have them.

Why should such matter be imported from outside? Any of the job printing offices in town can print them just as good as they can be imported! Is it another instance of the brilliant management of Supt. Stott or is it another omission on the part of the postal officials.

The Telegraph Department is under investigation, but we can assure all concerned that unless the whole Department is reformed and reorganized from top to bottom there will be no let up in our criticisms of this Department. Its methods of conducting business are too crude for 20th century progress.

The above is another instance of the interest taken in their work by some high officials.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS

People are thinking and feeling generously, if not living justly, in our time. It is a day of anxiety to be saved from the curse that is on selfishness, of eager question how others shall be helped, of bold denial that the conditions in which we would ram have rested are sacred or immutable. —William Dean Howells.

The World's Press

Uncle Sam May Get Mad Yet
POWER mills blow up, shrapnel plants are destroyed, cart-ridge factories have mysterious explosions; all surface indications of underground machinations against the quiet of a country very generous, very good-natured, very heedless, but after all, no fool. William Shakespeare or Kino Solomon or Epictetus or some other of the wise men once charged the world: Beware the anger of a patient man.—Ex.

Defeat Their Own Object

The only thing notable in pro-German utterances is the blindness of their authors to the way they present their own minds. Blatantly non-neutral themselves, childishly credulous as to what they want to believe, and impatient toward-disagreeable facts, they think they are good judges of neutrality. They have filled the air with idle clamor, and disprove their case when attempting to establish it.—N.Y. Globe.

War Prosperity and Exchange

All the "war prosperity" the United States has been having would be destroyed in a month if the Allies were forced by the exchange situation to quit placing large orders for supplies in the United States. The United States would then suffer the economic disadvantages of war in full measure like other nations, instead of having the disadvantages more than neutralized by special war business. For its own economic state the United States must cast its financial lot with the Allies. —Mail and Empire.

Mr. Dumba's Dismissal

The prompt action taken by President Wilson in demanding the recall of the Austrian Ambassador should prove a warning to Germany that the American Government is not bluffing. The unprecedented patience which has been shown with Germany and with the German representatives in the United States, undoubtedly has behind it an unswerving determination to uphold the dignity and rights of the nation. Germany is making another of her colossal mistakes if she interprets that patience as the expression of vacillation or weakness.—Montreal Herald.

A Trade Suggestion

It is quite possible that the close of the war will see the formation of a kind of customs union between the Allies to a greater or less extent. Such a union would be the best possible barrier against a revival by Germany of the abominable conspiracy against the peace of the world, which, it is well to remember, came within measurable distance of success. No consideration should be given to the German position in the matter, nor should the Allies allow any pity for her sufferings make them deviate from the program that suits their own purposes and their safety. German prosperity has been a menace to the world and must never be so again.—Montreal News.

Bulgaria and Macedonia

The claim which Bulgaria is alleged to be making for Macedonia as the price of her intervention in the war is founded on the fact that in far distant times the debatable country formed part of the Bulgarian empire. The Bulgarian Tsar Simeon, who reigned from 893 till 927, conquered almost the whole of Macedonia, and one of his immediate successors made it the center of his empire, fixing his own residence at Prespa. Bulgarian dominion over Macedonia ended in the thirteenth century, but the Bulgarian Bishopric of Ochrida continued to exist until 1767.—Dundee Advertiser.

Limit Of Population

We have a great respect for the organizing power of the Germans, and particularly for that part of their organization which enables them to put an immense proportion of their able-bodied men into the firing line, and to sustain their life by the labor of women and children and elderly people. But the limit of population is inexorable for them as for others, and if the prospect lies ahead of them of seeing great populations armed in the near future, they must either force a peace at the moment of their maximum effort or hold large numbers in reserve. They will not do the first, and we have every confidence that the second will not avail them in the long run.—Westminster Gazette.

Items of Interest

THE war has compelled King Alfonso of Spain to abandon his plan to visit America.

The United States produced 29 of the 66 epoch-making inventions; England, 17; France, 10; Germany, 5; Italy, 2; Brazil, Austria and Sweden, one each.

The Chinese now must doff their hats when meeting friends. The Government has adopted Western ideas in enforcing its new customs.

There are twice as many people in the United States as there were in 1880, and three times as many as at the outbreak of the Civil War.

The last boundary monument between the United States and Canada has been set. The work has been going on for 100 years.

Prisoners in Morocco are compelled to pay the officers for their trouble in arresting and escorting them to the police station. (What about trying it in St. John's?)

It is said that eight per cent of the deaths in Mexico City this summer have been caused by starvation; this figures out 25 a day.

Uncle Sam is commencing to get a much-needed eye-opener as to the sort of Johnnies he is up against in the case of Germany and Austria.

A bride in Korea must not speak the first day after her wedding. But on the day following the silent day, she may give free rein to her tongue.

Marriages gained 33 per cent last year in Ireland over the year before; this with the falling off in emigration leads England to believe the Emerald Isle is "coming back."

The Huns continue to profess great grief over the loss of innocent lives in connection with their submarine warfare on passenger vessels, but propose to do it some more as often as they feel like it.

Canopus, the largest star known, with a luminosity 47,000 times that of the sun, is visible from the Northern Hemisphere. An English astronomer believes it to be the centre of the universe.

Japan has communicated officially to Russia her decision to assist the Czar's domain by supplying munitions of war. Japan told Russia that she is preparing to mobilize her entire industrial resources for this purpose.

In the soldiers' hospital in the South of France much of the work is being done by voluntary workers, who pay their own expenses. Among the number are several Canadians and there is an appeal for more. The labor being done in these hospitals is genuinely unselfish, the only reward being a consciousness of an honorable duty well performed.

The Zeppelins have now a war shade of grey, which is of a shade which makes it difficult in the extreme to see them even when they are flying below the clouds. The latest Zeppelin model, which has recently been having trial flights over Lake Constance, is stated to resemble a large fish. Both ends taper, so that the aircraft has lost to some extent the familiar cigar shape.

The most solid book in the world, now in the Field Museum in Chicago, has only 10 pages, which consist of exquisitely engraved slabs of the finest jade. The book was made by the order of the Chinese Emperor Kanghsi (1662-1722), and the text is Chinese and Manchu, with elaborate ornamentation. It is believed that the book was sold because of the limited income of the deposed imperial family.

The French line at a height of new method of blocking the German air scouts. Ten French machines patrol a given section of the French line at a height of 2000 meters and ten more at a height of 3,000 meters, the latter flying in the opposite direction from the former. If a German scout tries to get through he is attacked simultaneously by the nearest two Frenchmen, one above and the second below. If the two are insufficient to stop him others join in the fight.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Established, 1908.

President—W. F. COAKER, M.H.A.
Vice-President—ANDREW BROADERS.
Sec.-Treasurer—W. W. HALFYARD, M.H.A.

District Chairmen

Port-de-Grave, Geo. Grimes, M.H.A.

Harbor Grace, A. Morgan, M.H.A.

Conception Bay, W.F. Coaker, M.H.A.

Bay-de-Verde, A.G. Hudson, M.H.A.

Trinity, J. G. Stone, M.H.A.

Bonavista, R. G. Winsor, M.H.A.

Fogo, W.W. Halfyard M.H.A.

Twillingate, W. B. Jennings, M.H.A.

Number of Local Councils—240.
Membership—20,000.
Disaster Fund—\$6,000.
Reserve Funds—\$11,000.

Fishermen's Union Trading Co., Ltd.

Cash Capital Subscribed and Reserve—\$125,000

Managing Director—W. F. COAKER, M.H.A.

Secretary—W. W. HALFYARD, M.H.A.

Inspector of Outport Stores—J. G. STONE, M.H.A.

Head Offices, Warerooms, and Water Front.
Premises, 167 Water St. ST. JOHN'S.

BRANCH STORES IN OPERATION:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| PORT-DE-GRAVE | CLARK'S BEACH |
| BAY ROBERTS | BAY-DE-VERDE |
| WINTERTON | PORT, REXTON |
| CATALINA | BONAVISTA |
| KEELS | GREENSPOND |
| NEWTOWN | CAT HR. |
| DOTING COVE | SELDOM |
| TILTING | JOE BATT'S ARM |
| MAIN TICKLE | NORTH END |
| (Change Islds.) | (Change Islds.) |
| HERRING NECK | BOTWOOD |
| LEWISPORTE | TWILLINGATE |
| EXPLOITS | NIPPER'S HR. |