



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, . . . Proprietor
C. J. JAMES, . . . Editor

Friday, September 10, 1920.

A State Bank— What It Means.

The Advocate is the organ of the Hon. Mr. Coaker, and he is not only the present Acting Premier of this Colony, but in a very real sense the "boss" of the Government. It is only right, therefore, that more than ordinary significance should be given to the editorial utterances of the Advocate on matters of public importance, for they speak the sentiments and intentions of the master of the administration.

On the 7th inst., the Advocate stated, "without fear of contradiction," "that the action of the banks (now doing business here) is the sole cause of the uncertainty and unrest" in the local fish market, and that "the power of the four Canadian banks operating in this country is sufficient to strangle the commercial and political life of the Colony." Upon this basis, the Advocate declares it the "imperative duty of the Government" to establish a State Bank for Newfoundland, and that "the matter is now receiving attention at the hands of the Government."

There is a sense in which the two direct charges may be true; and yet in their obvious and intended sense, both charges are utterly false. Of course if the banks would advance all the money needed by reckless speculators to buy fish locally, the local price of fish would probably rise temporarily. But the local unrest is due in the main to the condition of our fish markets abroad, particularly as affected by Mr. Coaker's Export Regulations, and in an almost equal degree by the bewilderment of fishermen over the cull of fish under the Standardization Rules.

The banks are bound to con-

sider in the first place the security of the money entrusted to them by depositors and shareholders, and the protection of their noteholders, and it is their fame for careful management which justifies the trust placed in them by all except clamorous applicants for money to speculate with. There would be unrest indeed in this Colony if the depositors whose savings are in the banks felt that the funds of the banks would be advanced to the limit demanded by the political schemes of Mr. Coaker.

It may be approximately true, also, that the power of the banks if unitedly exercised for the purpose would be sufficient to strangle the commercial life of the Colony. But who can imagine such a union for such a purpose? What would it profit the banks to destroy the trade by which they strive to reap reasonable profits? Why should the banks do anything to injure a trade which they established here for the sole purpose of participating in?

As to the political independence of the Colony, the banks cannot destroy that; but Mr. Coaker can, and very probably will if he remains to rule and ruin. The banks have never been charged with the slightest interference with political matters. Their managers and staff are painfully scrupulous to avoid taking any part in political affairs. Our political independence can not easily be lost,—can only be lost, perhaps, by Governmental extravagance such as now goes on.

The establishment of a State Bank here would be the surest and quickest way to both commercial and political bankruptcy for the Colony. The capital of such an institution would have to be borrowed abroad on the credit of the Colony, the management would be in the hands of politicians of the Coaker type, and its funds would be loaned by Coaker and colleagues to Coaker and his supporters to trade in fish at the prices made necessary by the pledges of Coaker and his partisans.

How could money for such a purpose be borrowed abroad in face of the opposition of existing banks? What could be expected to be the career of a bank whose directors and managers were not shareholders with their own money at stake, but politicians handling public money for political purposes? What but utter commercial and political damnation could follow to the Colony upon the establishment of such an institution. Would any depositor in this Colony to-day take a dollar from an existing bank to lend to such a freak institution as the proposed State Bank?

The banks now doing business in this Colony have been a boon and a blessing to it. They first came here in a time of great need. They have been liberal and progressive. They are to-day acting with commendable prudence in the face of world conditions. They are being assailed for no other reason than that they refuse to be made use of for the partisan political purposes of Coaker & Co.

Washing From the Knife

Fishermen who had sufficient faith in Mr. Coaker's advice in the Regulations to be sure and wash their shore fish from the knife, are uttering "curses, not loud but deep," as Shakespeare says, on the head of the man who knows it all or professes to know it all—the omniscient William F. Coaker, M. P., Order of the White Nap. The most expert and watchful salter never knows how much salt he is giving when he is treating fish washed from the knife. As soon as the salt is applied the water on the face of the fish melts it, and thinking that he has given it little or none, he puts on more, and the result is twice as much salt as is necessary, and twice as much as he would have given if the fish had not been washed. Result later on: Salt-burnt, scraggy, rough faced fish that never had a chance of being a merchantable fish.

Anyone who wants proof of this, need only go to the centres where this year's fish is to be seen, and they will require no further argument. Planters and fishermen, who for years have been turning out the ideal golden-color fish, the ideal quality for the Spanish market, all know that they never could produce that fish if they had washed it from the knife. Nothing is lost in point of cleanliness retained by the most exacting knife, as the washing out, subsequently, of salt bulk will give ample opportunity to obtain all the cleanliness required by the most exacting and capacious fish curer. Why then did Mr. Coaker commit such an egregious blunder as to recommend something in fish curing that would help to spoil the output and lessen the value of fish? The answer is simply that he did not know any better; but the misfortune is that so many people thought he knew better. We have now to be satisfied by being told that his motives were good, and he meant well. The public are getting sick of this kind of talk, and are not disposed to tolerate it any longer. The whole fish business of the country under this "meant well" policy of the Acting Premier, is demoralized, and all business is at a standstill. People who have fish to sell don't know what to do, and those who are supposed to buy, don't know what to offer for it. Some say there is only one cull, and others say there are two. Meantime the best business time of the year is passing and nothing is done because no one knows what to do, nor what kind of order may be sent out next week different from, and cancelling previous ones. The merchants themselves are mesmerized, holding their hands which nothing is done except to name an hour for the next meeting, or a day to send their views to the Advisory Board. If the exporter was strong enough to succeed in getting a free market in Spain, would have the same treatment applied to his fish? The answer is, "no," at least, the trouble would soon be ended. As far as Labrador and salt bulk fish is concerned, it is quite right to wash from the knife, and Mr. Coaker should have limited it to that; but when it comes to treating hard-cured shore fish in this way, it is a cruel blunder, especially if the fish is a bit soft, as it has been for some time. The use of salt which it is almost impossible to avoid, it turns out the worst kind of product, salt-burnt and falling to pieces. We have always had a best No. 1 fish to the Spanish market. Under the cull there will be about one per cent No. 1, so that if we send 250,000 quintals to Spain, where is it to come from? It must come out of No. 2. The exporter, if he does this, will get the usual Spanish price of a merchantable fish. He will be a fool if he does not; but where does the fishermen come in for No. 1 price?

Through the kindness of Lieut. Commander Penn, the children of the C. of E. Orphanage spent a most enjoyable evening on board H. M. S. Briton yesterday. Great preparations for the amusement of the children had been made, and that they had a great time is best testified by their cheering on the way home. The evening was one round of sport—hitting Aunt Sally, riding a chute the chute, swinging and a spin on a breeches buoy were features, the latter giving a run nearly the length of the ship. At 5 o'clock the children sat down to tea and ate heartily of the good things provided, after being given a ventriloquist exhibition by Mr. Wheeler. A comic exhibition by members of the ship added greatly to the fun. The return home was made at dusk.

The Regulations and the Price of Fish.

The Advocate states that nobody will say that fish would be higher but for Mr. Coaker's Regulations, and adds that their repeal now would be followed by a slump. Well The Telegram has no hesitation whatever in saying that fish would sell very much more rapidly if there were no regulations, and also that if the regulations are persisted in, the price of fish will fall much more ruinously than if they are abandoned. It is possible, perhaps even probable, that the prices quoted for fish after the suspension of the regulations would be less than quotations now are, but that would be due to the fact that fish cannot now be sold for the prices quoted, and because much fish is being held back by the regulations. They have created conditions here and abroad that mean ruin for the fishery. Undoubtedly, fish would have been low priced this autumn in any case, but the point against the regulations is that they have made a bad matter worse. On a rising market, in war times, or in normal times, the regulations might have been tried with prudence, but in face of world conditions the attempt to put them in force now is the maddest thing ever tried in this Colony, and the man responsible for the attempt are the worst enemies the people have ever suffered under. An end should be put to their autocracy!

Potato Prices.

According to advices received by local dealers the P. E. I. potato crop is exceptionally large this year, and the price of new shipment here, should be \$5.00 per barrel, retail. The local crop, though exceptionally good, is still selling at \$7.00 per barrel.

Losing Our Markets.

Opportunities for our competitors, the Norwegians, can be safely assumed, know what is going on in Newfoundland in regard to the fish export situation. At the present time there are 60,000 quintals of their fish in Oporto, which arrived there in two large steamers and a sailing vessel the past few days. Anyone who looks back over the record of Norwegian fish arrivals to Portugal have past fifty years, will find that this is an unprecedented state of affairs, and the situation has been reversed. It used to be Newfoundland with the 90,000 quintals, and Norway with the 15,000. It is quite evident that the Norwegians are taking every advantage of the opportunity that has been given them, and are determined to deprive Newfoundland of her old fish markets in Portugal, if possible. There will be another black mark against the fish trade and consigned cargoes being allowed. Every exporter we assume, will sell where and to whom he can in the Spanish markets and get the best price he can. We commend the Advisory Board for having decided on this course, and can only add that the pity of it is that they did not apply the same procedure to all the markets. It is a glaring discrimination however, against Italy and Greece, and human nature being the same all over the world, it is only reasonable to believe that the buyers of our fish in these countries will resent the discrimination and act accordingly.

The Brazil Market: Newfoundland will also lose ground in the Brazil market, and the fact that there are 60,000 quintals of fish, which owners hoped to sell in this market and at a rising price, will not have a sacrifice, is one of the principal crimes—the word is not too strong—that should be laid at the door of the fish regulations. This fish would have been sold at a price quite satisfactory to the owners many months ago, only for the legal restrictions as regards minimum price of 102½. Too late, the limit has been dropped to 90½ by the export board. Brazil says we don't want it now even at 90½; we have plenty of fish from Nova Scotia and Norway, and we have no use for yours. There is no pistol held at our heads. The Nova Scotia fish exporters have made themselves solid with Bahia, Pernambuco, and are determined to let Newfoundland see that they cannot be forced to buy. It is questionable now if 60½ will be got for those six cargoes of last year's fish. The one of the coming of the new fish, the man, reputed to be one, who will stand up in defense of Mr. Coaker's fish regulations in the face of these facts, is sailing under false colors. The applying of the regulations to Brazil will give Nova Scotia a big slice of our former trade, and they will drive our ships out of the same way as we have been driven out of the West Indies. It is only a question of their getting fish enough, and if they can get it on their own coast they will buy it on ours.

Sinking Am. Steamer Rescued by S.S. Portia

The S.S. Portia, Capt. T. Connors, soon after leaving Trepanier at 8 p.m. Wednesday, came up with the S.S. Bassan whose captain reported the steamer in a sinking condition and asked for assistance. The captain said all fires were out, the stokehold filled with water and the ship unmanageable. Captain Connors moved the Portia alongside and lashed her stern to the side of the sinking steamer and shaped his course for the head of St. Mary's Bay. Weather conditions were not ideal, but at 6:30 yesterday morning the Bassan was beached at high water at Riverhead, St. Mary's Bay, where she is now resting safely.

C. of E. Orphans Entertained.

Through the kindness of Lieut. Commander Penn, the children of the C. of E. Orphanage spent a most enjoyable evening on board H. M. S. Briton yesterday. Great preparations for the amusement of the children had been made, and that they had a great time is best testified by their cheering on the way home. The evening was one round of sport—hitting Aunt Sally, riding a chute the chute, swinging and a spin on a breeches buoy were features, the latter giving a run nearly the length of the ship. At 5 o'clock the children sat down to tea and ate heartily of the good things provided, after being given a ventriloquist exhibition by Mr. Wheeler. A comic exhibition by members of the ship added greatly to the fun. The return home was made at dusk.

A LIFETIME FRIEND.

THE NEW DUNHILL SHELL BRIAR PIPE.

They are noticeably light in weight and there is a charm in the feel and appearance of a Shell Briar Pipe which grows on one as its novelty ceases to be its most striking quality. We have just received a shipment of those famous Pipes in assorted shapes.

CASH'S TOBACCO STORE,
sept10,eod,t Water Street.

Personal.

The many friends of Mr. George A. Buffett, of Grand Bank, will learn with sorrow of the great loss which he and his family have sustained through the passing away of his wife on Wednesday last, after a brief illness. It was a pleasure a few days ago to meet Head Constable O'Brien, for several years the Health Inspector, who has returned to the old scenes after a brief stay in the neighbouring Dominion.

Supreme Court.

IN CHAMBERS.
Before Chief Justice Horwood.
H. J. Taylor Plaintiff vs. John H. Cooper Defendant.
Mr. McNelly for plaintiff states facts of plaintiff's claim, these facts are admitted by Mr. H. A. Winter for defendant.

Mr. H. A. Winter states defendants case and calls Arthur Williams, who is sworn, examined, and cross examined. Copy of agreement put in evidence. The further hearing is adjourned till Wednesday 15th inst.

Climbing Down.

The local brokers who make fish sales to Greece and Italy through New York will after a long hold up, get their licenses to ship. Up to yesterday the latter had been withheld, but at a meeting of the Advisory Board last night the subject was discussed, and we understand the debate turned in favor of granting the licenses.

Sugar Declining.

A local sugar dealer has received a letter from a New York firm doing a big business with Newfoundland offering sugar at 14½ cents a pound, less 2 per cent. This would sell here at about 13 cents.

Express Passengers.

The following passengers landed from S. S. Kyle at Port aux Basques this morning and boarded the incoming express: H. H. Evans, W. Burckess, Rev. M. N. Tompkins, J. L. Tompkins, G. and Mrs. Wall, Miss M. Perkins, M. and Mrs. Long, Mrs. G. Stanhope, J. Dupre, A. Leger, J. and Mrs. James, O. C. Pippy, C. C. Davis, F. Collier, L. Bennett, Mrs. M. Barron, T. McIntyre, F. C. Harris, J. J. O'Flynn, Miss Chalk, Miss M. Stick, R. Hunt, Miss W. Ryan, C. Seivour, M. Foote.

Digby's Passengers.

S. S. Digby, Capt. Chambers, arrived in port from Halifax at 11 a.m. today. The following passengers arrived by her: J. W. Allan, Mr. Blair, Miss S. M. Bonnell, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dickie and child, W. R. Fanning, J. J. O'Flynn, Miss Chalk, Miss M. Stick, R. Hunt, Miss W. Ryan, C. Seivour, M. Foote.

Coastal Boats.

FRED H. ELLIS & CO.
S. S. Susu arrived at Joe Batt's Arm at 3 o'clock and left again at 4:20 p.m. yesterday.
GOVERNMENT.
S. S. Prospero left Exploits at 5:25 p.m. yesterday, going north.
S. S. Portia left St. Joseph's at 1:45 p.m. yesterday, going west.
Argyle arrived at Placentia at 3 p.m. yesterday.
Clyde is leaving Port Union to-day for LaSalle.
Glencoe left Placentia yesterday.
Home left Springdale at 10:10 p.m. yesterday, outward.
Kyle left Port aux Basques at 2:50 a.m. yesterday.
Meigle arrived at Humbermouth at 6 p.m. yesterday.
Petrel is leaving Clarendville to-day. Sagona—No report since St. Anthony on the 5th.
Seneb leaving Lewisporte to-day for south side Notre Dame Bay.
Watchful leaving Lewisporte to-day.

The Sugar Control Case.

We understand that on yesterday a member of the firm of A. E. Hickman & Co., Ltd., presented the regular set of entries to Hon. H. C. Brownrigg, Collector of Customs for the port of St. John's, together with the regular duty on the shipment of 200 bbls. of sugar by the last Rosalind. Mr. Brownrigg did not accept the entries and refused to issue a permit for the unloading of the sugar. What action Messrs. Morine & Bradley, solicitors for Hickman, will take has not yet been definitely decided upon.

U-PUT ON RUBBER HEELS

in Black, Brown and White, at 60c. pair. PARKER & MONROE, LTD.—sep2,t

ON THE SPOT

200 Bags

Best Quality

White

OATS.

PRICES RIGHT.

Ryan and

Mokeler,

Heldsworth and
sept10,31 Pleasant Streets.

MINARD'S LINIMENT RELIEVES
NEURALGIA.

Knowling's GROCERY STORES.

SUGAR

Best Barbados Brown,

23c 1b.

Real Cane Sugar, splendid for berries.

TEA

Very good quality,

40c 1b.

At our WEST END, DUCKWORTH STREET

and CENTRAL STORES.

G. KNOWLING, Limited.

s6,21,m,f

SNAPS IN CARS!

We have ready for immediate delivery the following used Cars:

ONE OVERLAND SEDAN, Model 4; slightly used.

ONE OVERLAND TOURING, Model 85, Big Four—The famous Brown Car.

ONE ARROL-JOHNSON ENGLISH CAR — Fine running, well built Car.

We also have the following New Cars in stock:

OVERLAND MODEL 4 TOURINGS,

COUPES, SEDANS.

Get our prices and let us give you a trial run.

T.A. Macnab & Co.

Cole, Willy's Knights and Overland Distributors

for Newfoundland,

CITY CLUB BUILDING.

s9,31



Just Received:

60 cases PURE GOLD JELLY—Raspberry.
60 cases PURE GOLD JELLY—Strawberry.
20 cases PURE GOLD JELLY—Lemon.
60 cases PURE GOLD JELLY—Assorted.
(Assorted cases contain Raspberry, Strawberry, Lemon, Vanilla and Pineapple.)
100 cases PURE GOLD ICING—White.
10 cases PURE GOLD ICING—Chocolate.
90 cases PURE GOLD ICING—Assorted.
(Assorted cases contain White, Chocolate and Pink.)
We do not sell less than Five gross of Jellies or Icings. If you require less, please order through your Jobber.

PURE GOLD EXTRACTS.

Fresh shipments of the principal flavors just received by the principal St. John's Grocers. Sold by them for Home delivery only. The lady of the house has known Pure Gold Flavoring as the best for years and may still obtain it from her grocer without violating any law or Police regulation.

ALSO IN STOCK:

200 cases WELCH'S GRAPE JUICE—Nips, Half Pints, Pints, Quarts and Half Gallons.

LAST SHIPMENT OF THE ABOVE GOODS THIS SEASON.

BOOK NOW FOR THE FALL AND CHRISTMAS TRADE.

P. E. OUTERBRIDGE,

Sole Agent, King's Road.

TELEPHONE 60.

SKUFFER BOOTS—For boys and girls, lace and button styles; two shades of Tan Leather with stitch down soles and medium heels; sizes 11 to 2, at \$3.60 to \$4.00. PARKER & MONROE, LTD.—sep2,t

Chiffon velvet handbags with elaborate beaded motifs and frame carved gold, silver or bronze. Wool hosiery will be worn for light and medium weights for more than the heavy weights. Short, belted jackets have full backs and double-breasted closures.

Your Physical Condition is reflected in your face.

Ruddy cheeks and a clear eye are generally indicative of health.

On the other hand, a sallow complexion may indicate that coffee is causing the indigestion, sleeplessness and upset nerves which are responsible for your condition.

INSTANT POSTUM

instead of coffee will prove

"There's a Reason"

Made by
Canadian Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Windsor, Ont.

