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(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., AUGUST 14, 1914

OUR POINT OF VIEW

EXHAUST COLONY'S RESOURCES

ONCE more the so-called Premier has uttered a sentence that will become famous as another of the unwise and better-left unsaid utterances of Sir Edward Morris. Only two years ago he astonished the country by a statement delivered publicly in England wherein he declared Newfoundland fishermen could man ten Dreadnoughts and those fishermen he further spoke of as "His People." Four years ago he stated five branch railways would be completed for \$4,000,000 while time has shown that he was only \$6,000,000 out.

On Wednesday night he went so far as to state that he would exhaust the resources of the Colony before he would permit England to be beaten by Germany. Every man present passed sentence immediately upon the speaker and that sentence was: Why fool and codd us longer; have you not exhausted the Colony's resources completely, in fact so completely as to cause all to realize that only great men devoted sincerely to the country's best interests can alone save us from national bankruptcy?

The Premier wanted to intimate in a veiled way that the country was bankrupt and her resources exhausted and yesterday the universal opinion was that Morris, whether intentionally or otherwise had made a serious slip which compelled even his close friends to admit, that more harmful words could not have been uttered at such a time.

Another feeling universally prevalent since Wednesday night's meeting is, that the meeting was a political trick, solely engineered in order to bolster up the rotten position Sir Edward now finds himself in. Sir Edward openly stated that the object of the meeting was to endorse what the Government had done. The Governor made the same statement. The public were invited to attend a meeting called by the Governor for the purpose of taking action respecting the formation of a corps of citizens to aid in the war if need be.

The true object was to bolster up a rotten minority government that has shown particularly during the last two weeks that it is incapable of protecting the public interest in a time that demands sound judgment and

HYMN BEFORE ACTION

(Rudyard Kipling)
The earth is full of anger,
The seas are dark with wrath;
The Nations in their harness
Go up against our path!
Ere yet we loose the legions—
Ere yet we draw the blade,
Jehovah of the Thunders
Lord God of Battles, aid!

High lust and froward bearing,
Proud heart, rebellious brow—
Deaf ear and soul uncaring,
We seek Thy mercy now:
The sinner that forswore Thee,
The fool that passed Thee by,
Our times are known before
Thee—
Lord, grant us strength to die!

For those who kneel beside us
At altars not Thine own,
Who lack the lights that guide us,
Lord, let their faith atone;
If wrong we did to call them,
By honor bound they came;
Let not Thy wrath befall them,
But deal to us the blame.

From panic, pride, and terror,
Revenge that knows no rein—
Light haste and lawless error,
Protest us yet again,
Cloak Thou our undeserving,
Make from the shuddering breath,
In silence and unswerving
To taste Thy lesser death!

E'en now their vanguard
gather,
E'en now we face the fray—
As Thou didst help our fathers,
Help Thou our host to-day!
Fulfilled of signs and wonder,
In life, in death made clear,
Jehovah of the Thunders,
Lord God of Battles, hear!

constructive ability at the hands of the rulers of the Colony.

Another highly indiscreet action was that of using the Governor as a tool in order to codd and fool the people. The Governor acted as a partizan of the strongest hue when he consented to preside over a meeting called by a Grabbal Party to cover up the scandalous lack of ability in a Grabbal Government demonstrated so completely since the war opened.

The Governor refused to allow the scalars to parade through the grounds at Government House three years ago when two thousand of admirers of St. John's, asked to pass through in order to sing the National Anthem. The Governor refused permission because the toilers belonged to a Union and his action may be construed as favoring a political institution—but now he brazenly invites the public to attend a public meeting which he knew was nothing more or less than a political meeting attempted in order to whitewash his Ministers blunder in taking no action since the war to safeguard and protect the commercial interest of the people and to save the poor from being fleeced by a few get-rich-quick provision dealers.

Such an indiscreet action is nothing short of an outrage upon the constitution and in entire sympathy with his action last March in appointing two abjectly defeated candidates to positions as Ministers of the Crown and Members of the Executive Government—positions robbed from the people by Morris with the contrivance of a Governor Davidson.

There is a rod in pickle for Governor Davidson and it won't be long before he will be taught that even poor foolish Newfoundland fishermen have courage and independence enough to take to task a Governor that places party advantage before his duty to the people and constitution.

During our visit North we were amazed to behold such indignation expressed against the Governor for placing Blandford and Squires into the offices so ignominiously stolen from the electorate and the people's determination was to see it through before many months.

The recent action of the Governor in presiding at a meeting called expressly to endorse arrangements already concluded by the Government, but which the people believed was a patriotic effort to show that public sentiment was with Great Britain in her struggle against Germany, will but bring the people's feeling to boiling point against any longer continuance of the service of Governor Davidson in this Colony.

That Premier Morris did not realize the serious position he was placing the Governor, both at the meeting on Wednesday and by asking the



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Governor to appoint two badly defeated discredited politicians to high positions of emolument in the face of the direct and emphatic refusal of the electorate expressed only three months previous, is but in keeping with many of his other public actions which teach with proof that the man is unfit to occupy the high position a minority vote of the electorate permit him to hold under the old-fashioned constitution that guides the Colony.

The Governor is no child and he will have to thank himself for walking into the trap that now holds him in its grip.

Yesterday the town citizens were furious when they considered what had taken place and how the Governor had been used to fool them at such a time of national peril.

If the Governor wished the meeting to represent all political views and opinions and present a solid front, how is it he was supported on the platform solely and only by Government supporters and not one man of the Opposition Party which represented a majority of the electorate? Why was Mr. Kent not asked to be present? Does he not represent as much as Mr. Gosling or A. S. Squires? Why was not the representative of the 40,000 fishermen invited?

That gentleman has been invited to Government House and to meet the Governor General of Canada when he visited St. John's but declined, but that is no reason why he should decline to be present at a meeting of patriots who wished to back up Mother England in her hour of need.

A serious blunder has been made by Governor Davidson and an unpardonable crime against the Commonwealth has been committed by Premier Morris and the electorate will be furious when the facts are in their possession.

Seven-eighths of the intelligent men of St. John's endorse the position taken by us in reference to the calling together of the Legislature in order to enact legislation to protect the public welfare and never was the Government more unpopular than it is to-day.

It is Morris's own seeking. He has played with fire in order to see whether the Coaker and the Trading Co. could not be wiped out, and in return he must take the consequences of his ill-advised action. The public wish is that he should "get out" and who knows how soon that wish will be realized. Unless Governor Davidson secured a pledge from the Premier when he was asked to appoint Squires and Blandford to the vacant Departmental positions, which pledge provided for an appeal by those two men to some districts before the end of the year, then Governor Davidson's days of usefulness are gone, for as sure as the sun shines petitions asking for his recall will be signed before February and forwarded to the Home Government.

Newfoundland will not tolerate any action by political tricksters that tend to weaken the public control over public men, and everyone now admits that unless some pledge was secured from Morris by the Governor, that no greater crime could have been committed against the people's liberties and the constitution than that which happened last March when two men badly defeated at the polls were permitted to rob two Departmental positions in spite of the wishes of the electorate.

Never before has a Governor so forget his duty to the people, and his action in convening and presiding over a Morris political meeting on Wednesday will never be forgotten by the people. Morris and the Governor openly and brazenly stated that the meeting was intended to endorse what the Government had done, it being so, the whole affair was nothing but poor bluff, and an outrageous insult to the whole country, for how could a meeting of St. John's citizens bind the public of Newfoundland? The only power competent to do so is the House of Assembly and

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representatives of hte people. We would not be surprised to find Governor Davidson permitting Morris to ignore the laws of the land and refuse to call the House together for two years, if it suited Morris's political ends. What has been done is just as ridiculous, yet it has been done apparently with impunity.

Governor Davidson better leave Newfoundland before the House meets again, for in case he don't he will be subject to a continued discussion while the House is in session on the part of the representatives of the fishermen.

The men who turned down Squires and Blandford last October with such large majorities will demand action at the hands of their representatives of the strongest character in reference to those appointments when the House meets, and Governor Davidson with his increased salary and his blue ribbon title will not escape their censure.

There is little hope of the people's wishes prevailing while such a man represent the King in this Colony. Things are going from bad to worse and a big upheaval will be the outcome, for the people everywhere realize that whatever can be done through bluff, falsehood and trickery to maintain in power the present gang of spendthrifts and constitution smashers will be utilized, for very few now have confidence in seeing much done by the Governor to keep the gang in their proper place.

When a Governor goes so far as to pray his Government to raise his pay some \$4000 and his prayer is granted, that man's power for good becomes a thing of the past. An increase in the pay of a Governor should never have been asked by a Governor for himself. The increase should have been granted only to an incoming Governor. When a man asks for \$4000 and gets it, he is sure to be as considerate as possible to his benefactors. It was an outrageous position for any Governor to place himself in and consequently the public are now realizing the consequences.

As for assistance to the Empire, the F.P.U. will die to a man to uphold British supremacy and crush Germany. If the need come 20,000 fishermen will be found ready and willing to die to uphold what their fathers fought for in days of yore. There will be no need of public meetings, backed with bluff and deception in order to secure the aid of the Union Party or fishermen if the hour of trial presents itself. All will willingly die to uphold the flag so dear to them and so lovingly cherished by their fathers.

Let England's hour of necessity come, and she will find in Newfoundland 20,000 of the primest warriors ever born, ready to do or die. That day is yet far off and the Colony's chief duty now is to put her house in order and arrange things so that in event of the hour of necessity arising Terra Nova's sons will be strong and healthy and prepared to meet the foe.

Half starved men will be useless as fighters. Thousands through the failure of the fishery will have to fight starvation, an enemy fifty times more to be dreaded than the Ger-

mans on the field of battle or the seas. Let us endeavor to prevent this greater monster—starvation—from attacking our brave army of fishermen, and if we do, there will be no coaxing required if England's necessities later call for their services.

THE GERMAN MENACE

OUR mother country, England, and the republic of France, the two foremost nations of Europe, have been forced to take part in what may be the greatest war of history, and out of which they both may come dismantled, perhaps totally unfit to continue in the proud position of leaders of humanity and civilization. A position threatened is as bad as the actual experience. In fact we would prefer being degraded in the scale of nations to resting under the daily menace of it—as we have been for years.

And whence comes this menace? It comes from Germany, most of all from the German navy, modelled on our own. We are living in the twentieth century, under free government, supposed to be living at a time when enlightened public opinion must govern the destinies of Europe. Instead of that England and France have alongside of them a great and growing nation, highly civilized, highly organized, and yet under a feudal system of one-man government with a fighting machine that is the last word that science and all the knowledge and experience of the past can devise. That man is absolutely irresponsible—claims that he holds divine right, and therefore that he is entitled to control the destinies of his own people and by consequence those of his neighbors.

This is an intolerable condition and must come to an end, or British supremacy must come to an end. And therefore, if not gladly, the British people will of necessity be forced to seek by any and every means to end it. It is intolerable that a fourteenth century feudalism should, with the most highly organized and strongest fighting machine, rule the civilization of the twentieth century. That is the issue.

No matter how sensible the war lord may be, the risk is too great. The Kaiser has grown into a homicidal egotist, and such a man in responsible position is highly dangerous. He is developing a son and successor on the same lines!

We not only, therefore, arraign the system and the man before the bar of the public opinion of the world, but we would also like to see our own people, our own country, our own Government join with over-seas Dominions of the British Empire in helping the Mother Country end this insistent menace.

We also arraign the people of Germany, before the public opinion of the world, for continuing this system and this menace. We concede to them the leadership in science, in criticism, in art, in industrial organization, and we recognize in them a strong sentiment for the uplift of humanity; but the English nations owe it to themselves to say to the German people that they must put modern responsible government in place of feudal military rule, and until it is done, and as long as we are menaced by it, we will not lay down the sword once it is unsheathed. And we believe what is a menace to us is equally a menace to the United States. They have a taste of the same kind of tyranny in another form in Mexico.

A mere postponement of the stupendous issue will not do. The menace will still be there. We have suffered because it was not settled earlier. It has helped to disrupt our home politics and the home politics of England; thousands and thousands of Canadians, of Englishmen, of Americans, are to-day financially ruined because of the present disturbance; many more are likely to be.

We pledge to these people, every assistance in wiping out a military system that tyrannizes over them and aspires to world-wide domination. There must be room for Germany in the sun and we would offer only good wishes to any German democracy established in South America.

MONSTROUS VANITY CAUSED THIS WAR

H. G. WELLS, the noted author and scientist, in a remarkable analysis of the European conflict, says: "At last the intolerable tension is over and Europe is at war. The monstrous vanity that was begotten by the easy victories of 1870-71 has challenged the world. Germany prepares to reap the harvest Count Bismarck sowed—that trampling, drilling foolery in the heart of Europe that arrested civilization and darkened the hopes of mankind for forty years."

"German imperialism, German militarism has struck its inevitable blow. A victory for Germany will mean the permanent enthronement of the war god over all human affairs; the defeat of Germany may open the way to disarmament and peace throughout the earth. To those who love peace there can be no other hope in the present conflict than the defeat and utter discrediting of the German legions, ending for good and all the blood-and-iron superstition of the Krupp flag-wagging, Teutonic Kiplingism, and all that criminal and sham efficiency that centers in Berlin.

"Never was war so righteous as the war against Germany now; never any state in the world so clamored for punishment. But be it remembered Europe's quarrel will be with Germany as a state, not the German people; with the system, not with the race. Older tradition in Germany is pacific and the civilizing tradition and temperament of the mass of the Ger-

man people is kindly, sane and amiable.

"A disaster to the German army, if it is not accompanied by such a memorable wrong as dismemberment or intolerable indignity, will mean restoration for the greatest people in Europe to fellowship among the western nations. The role of England in this huge struggle is as plain as daylight; we have to fight if only on account of the Luxemburg outrage; we have to fight, for if we do not fight England will cease to be a country to be proud of. It will be a dirt bath to escape from. But it is inconceivable that we should not fight, and having fought, then in the hour of victory it will be for us to save the liberated Germans from vindictive treatment, to secure for this great people their right to a place in the sun as one united German-speaking state. First, we have to save ourselves and Europe, and then we have to stand between the German on the one hand and Cossack revenge on the other."

Colonel Unsworth of London, England, will give his lecture entitled "The Salvation Army in the Mother Parliament" on Sunday, August 16th, at 3 p.m., in the T. A. Hall. The chair will be taken by the Hon. Donald Morison. All are welcome.—aug13,14,15

Victors Were Lions And The Shamrocks

In the Double Header Baseball Game Played Off Wednesday

There was a double header at St. George's field Wednesday afternoon, when the Red Lions defeated the B.I.S. 12 to 1.

The second game started immediately after.

The score was Cubs 11, Shamrocks 16.

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