

LOCAL ITEMS

For the last few weeks recruiting for the Naval Service has been slow. There are but 60 men now in training on board the Calypso.

Nine of our buyers who have arrived at Halifax from England on the Scandinavian, will leave there by the Stephano for St. John's.

The express due to arrive this afternoon has an English mail for here, and some interesting correspondence may be looked for.

A big shipment of paper came from Grand Falls by last evening's freight, some of it is for our local press and the remainder is to go to England.

At 11 o'clock this morning there was not a ticket for to-night's lecture to be had at the Atlantic Bookstore, showing the very great esteem in which the Rev. lecturer is held.

Fr. Cox S.J. will probably return to Montreal about next Tuesday by express. He is returning about June to be present at the consecration of His Grace-Elect Archbishop Roche.

The local passenger and freight train, via Brigus, arrived into the city at 12.30 p.m., bringing only a few passengers, who will return to their homes again this evening.

His Excellency the Governor has received a message from Capt. O'Brien, from Liverpool saying, the Third Contingent had arrived there at 11 o'clock this forenoon. All well.

Our local fishermen are now preparing for the coming season's voyage, and the last couple of days have been given up to installing motor engines, and making everything "ship shape" to hunt the friendly cod.

To give an idea of the very bad season in trade along Water St., a large wholesale supplier there only received one dollar and fifty cents yesterday for sales made.

Fr. Cox who has pleased us all so well by his sermons and lectures, has a noted career from the fact that he has preached and lectured in London, Eng., in conjunction with the far famed Jesuit, Fr. Bernard Vaughan.

The Ss. Prospero which has just been repaired at a cost of \$20,000, having been in Reid's Dock for nearly two months, replaces the Portia on the Western route, sailing tomorrow at 10 a.m., the latter steamer going on dock for her annual overhauling.

The firemen belonging to the Bruce now on dock have been paid off, as the ship will probably be detained here for a month. In the meantime the interests of the men will be looked after by their energetic delegate, Mr. Frank Woods.

Special Evangelistic services will be held every night this week, except Saturday, in George St. Church, and will commence at 8 o'clock. A special effort is being made to make these services inspiring and helpful. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

Bell Island, which a little while ago was alive and bustling is now like a good many other similar mining towns—going slow. The companies there are giving no great work and preference in employments naturally leans to those who have families depending on them.

During the past week 3 cases of diphtheria were reported to the Health Authorities. Four residences were disinfected and released from quarantine. At present in the hospital there are 15 cases of diphtheria, 3 of typhoid, and one of smallpox, and one sufferer from diphtheria is being treated at home.

It looks as if landmen will make the sealing bills this year, and clear freight rates to St. John's, will own the price product of every seal captured. The men at Cape John and Gull Island, who have up to date taken as many as seven and eight thousand will do particularly well.

In our Police Court report of yesterday, two prisoners were set down as having to pay as fines \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively. These are quite costly typographical errors, as the figures should be of course have read ten dollars and five dollars. Judge Knight is not so severe as our Hino-type man.

The schooner Fiona which lies sunken in the harbor bids soon to become a total loss to her owner, Abraham Stratton of Valleyfield. B.B. if not soon moved from her dangerous position. Last week the booms and gaffs which had broken away were drifting about the harbor. We understand that her sails and other gear on board.

ENLISTED

Yesterday was one of the busy days at the Armoury. In the morning the distribution of kit was made, and the different platoons put through drill. Some of the men were sworn in during the afternoon, and at night some "signal" instructions were given by Mr. Galt. Seven young men joined the ranks, bringing the total up to 1467 names on the roll. Those who enlisted were:— St. John's—John Hemerburg, Ronald H. Hogan, Geo. W. Pardy, John A. Meaney.

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

St. John's Mutual Improvement Association Swimming Club begin the season's operations tonight at the swimming pool in the Seamen's Institute.

Owing to so many of the active members having joined the First Nfld Regiment, all the members left behind are urged to attend regularly in order to ensure a successful season. All who intend becoming members will be heartily welcomed and every assistance given beginners by efficient instructors.

A gala night of "water sports" will be held in the course of a few weeks, should the attendance warrant it, and a series of races will be run off during the season.

A Serious Accident

The two-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Strangell, Pouch Cove, met with a painful accident on Saturday afternoon. Her mother left her with another little one in the kitchen for a short time, while she went out to get some firewood, and was only gone a few minutes when she heard the elder child scream, and hastening in found the little one in flames on the floor. Dr. Richards was summoned from Torbay, and did all possible for the sufferer.

It is supposed that the child opened the stove door and that her pinafore caught fire. She does not seem to suffer much and being a very healthy child, there is a possibility of her recovery. Her father is out at seal-fishing in the Ss. Nascope.

Billiard Tourney

In the B. I. S. Billiard Tourney, Plain is now leading by 273 points. At the last met Mr. T. Halley defeated Mr. Peter O'Mara by 11 points (not such a beating after all, Peter.) About 12 or 15 games have yet to be run off.

GOSLINGS RULE

The Evening Herald, a couple of issues back, published a summary or synopsis of the proposed new Council Constitution, and which a day later was repudiated and termed incorrect and unreliable by Chairman Gosling. This knowing gentleman further stated that the people would be informed after the whole matter had been arranged.

Of the Herald's pre-information, or precipitancy in giving it forth I have nothing to say, but it would seem the nighty Gosling was going to run the city, the people, the press, the constitution, the independence of citizenship, the rights of knowledge, the Magna-Charta, and in a word the whole show.

The Herald may be wrong in being too premature but Gosling is not a bit too right in seeking to conceal from the people, and the public knowledge which belongs to them. I have been informed by one who knows, that the Herald is not so far out in its anticipated programme, and that I do not esteem the Hon. P. T. more than I can help, I get hold, that of the two worthy compatriots, he is a better man than the Gosling—and the Gosling is the limit.

TO RAISE THE DESOLA

And now rumor has it that an American Wrecking Company will undertake to raise the submerged Desola. Talk about the U-2's, the Desola has her beaten all to pieces, though it is an "acid" supremacy.

We wonder if Michael Carrolls' prophesy is coming to be realized. He wrote in his history of the "Seal-fishing of Newfoundland," published in 1873, "that the seal-fishing may soon, and very soon dwindle away to such a character that it will not be worth the risk of money to prosecute it."

An exchange says there is a big market in England now for canned fish goods and lobster particularly is a scarcity. This is owing to the fact that packing industries all along that coast have been closed down by large war enlisting.

SEALING NEWS

From Ss. Neptune, March 29th, 1915—"Monday evening our position as follows, 5 miles S. S. W. Cape Fogor; jammed."

From Ss. Nascope, March 30, 1915, nine Tuesday—"Our position same as last reported also others; light breeze from West; snow squalls; ice tight as far as can be seen; drifting out slowly." (Sgd) JOB.

All the steamers, North and in the Gulf, are reported "stiff, jammed" up to midnight last night. The following messages were received last night by Bowring Bros:—

From Ss. Florizel—"Still jammed; wind N. W."

From Ss. Viking—"Ice tight as far as can be seen; position 20 miles west of St. Paul's; Erik and Diana, North West, jammed."

From Ss. Eagle—"Steamed one and a half miles today; ship jammed; nothing new to report."

SHIPPING

The Stephano is due to leave Halifax for here to-day.

The vessels Attila and Clutha are now due into port from Pernambuco.

S.S. Kyle arrived at Port aux Basques at 6.40 this morning.

S.S. Stephano, up to noon, had not left Halifax.

Tobasco arrived at Halifax at 12.30 p.m. yesterday and leaves there on Saturday for this port.

The S.S. Prospero sails for the westward at 6 p.m. tomorrow.

S.S. Durango is down to leave Liverpool for this port on Saturday, 3rd April.

The schr. "Waterwitch" reached Bahia yesterday after a trip of 40 days across from this port.

Meigs arrived at Placentia at 2.10 p.m. yesterday and sailed for west again this afternoon.

The S.S. Ethie was due to leave Placentia this morning for western ports.

The Kyle express, with passengers and mail, is due to arrive at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Schooner Arthur H. Wright with cargo of coal, 6 days from Louisburg, arrived last night to the firm of C. Campbell.

The Sagona arrived at Port aux Basques from Louisburg at 3 o'clock this morning. No mail matter was brought across.

Schr. Arthur H. Wright with a cargo of coals to Colin Campbell, from Louisburg, reached port yesterday afternoon.

The S.S. Kyle from Louisburg arrived at Port aux Basques at 6.40 this morning with the following first class passengers:—

Ss. Tabasco arrived at Halifax at 12.30 p.m. yesterday, and is scheduled to leave again for here on Saturday next.

The schr. Nellie M. Taylor, has arrived at Barbados from Pernambuco after a trip of 14 days. She will take a cargo of molasses at the latter port for here.

The Ss. Meigs arrived at Placentia at 2.10 p.m. yesterday with the following passengers:—Mrs. B. Larner, Mrs. Pike, Miss R. Bradley, J. Moore, J. M. Connors, M. Peary, and several in stowage.

Bowring's coastal steamer Portia, Capt. J. Keon, arrived at 6 a.m., bringing a fair cargo and the following passengers:—Miss H. McDonald, Messrs. P. E. Lake, G. M. Goddard, J. Nolan and P. Power in the saloon; also 16 second class.

Weather Conditions

Messages received today by the Marine and Fisheries Department: Seal Cove—Wind S.S.W.; weather stormy, bay still jammed with ice; no seals.

Last Night's Lecture

The lecture of Fr. Cox in the Star Hall last evening was delightful from start to finish. Introduced by Chairman Lacey, the lecturer for nearly two hours depicted the history of the young man first enters the ranks of young students to the finish when he goes out into the world as a preacher and teacher and writer.

A Jesuit Priest must put in 15 or 16 years in the making—years of hard study, deep reading, and prayerful instruction. This, too, is a life of poverty, the order does not permit its Priesthood to own any personal property, neither in money or goods. All that they may call their own is their book of rules, their cross and the manuscripts which they produce.

The story as told by Fr. Cox, was a most interesting one, and throughout his recital was interseeded by humorous and witty remarks and stories which we enjoyed immensely by the big audience. Hundreds of people who could not get admittance, will be pleased to hear that Fr. Cox will repeat the lecture tonight, a most kindly consideration on the part of the Rev. Gentleman.

At the finish of the lecture a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. J. T. Martin and seconded by Mr. W. J. Higgins, M.H.A., was cordially paid as tribute to Fr. Cox by chairman J. J. Lacey.

PERSONAL

Manager Kiley, of the Nickel, is on the express due to-morrow.

Mr. Ed. Parsons, M.H.A., of Hr. Grace, is in the city.

Mr. Frank Coady, of the G.P.O., is to-day seriously ill, and hopes of his recovery have been given up.

Messrs. P. E. Lake, of Fortune, and Geo. M. Goddard, of Burin, came as passengers by the Portia, which arrived this morning.

Mr. P. Power, of the West Coast, came to the city by this morning's coastal boat, and will return by the next steamer west.

J. H. Kiley, W. R. Gooble, J. and Mrs. Dawson, Miss S. Pike and J. and Mrs. Davis.

The Hon. J. R. and Mrs. Bennett are passengers by the Stephano, due to arrive on Thursday next.

Dr. L. S. Pritchard, formerly of the city has gone to Bay Roberts, and will in future practice at that place.

Magistrate's Court

A youthful laborer of the West End charged with the larceny of 6 pcks. tea valued at 75 cents on the 28th inst. was convicted and sentenced to 30 days imprisonment.

A 22-year-old laborer, of Barter's Hill—drunk and disorderly—had to pay \$2 or to below for 7 days.

In an assault case on Saturday list, the defendant was fined \$10 and had to sign bonds to keep the peace in future.

General Von Kluck Slightly Wounded

Berlin, Mar. 29.—A report of the progress of the fighting issued from headquarters to-day, relates among other things that General Von Kluck has been slightly wounded by shrapnel fire while inspecting advance positions of his army. His condition is described as satisfactory.

Saw Steamer Delmira Torpedoed

London, Mar. 28.—The captain of the steamship Lizzie, which arrived at Llanelly, Wales, on Saturday afternoon, stated that he was close by when the British steamer Delmira was torpedoed on Thursday by a submarine in the English Channel. He said the submarine proved to be the U-37. It was some distance ahead of the Lizzie, which ran over it at full speed. The German then disappeared, and from oil seen on the surface of the water, the Captain concluded that the underwater boat was either seriously damaged or sunk.

Steamer Lizzie Runs Over Submarine U-27

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WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon) Fresh W. to N. W. winds, few local snow flurries, but mostly fair today and on Wednesday.

Roper's (noon) Bar. 29; Ther. 48.

LATEST

London, Mar. 30.—The effectiveness of steel submarine traps which have been put down to guard British rivers and harbors has been shown by the fact that two German submarines have been caught in the Firth of Forth, in addition a third has been sunk off the coast of Haddingtonshire, and a fourth was rammed last Wednesday, disabled, captured and towed into Leith, where the crew were taken prisoners.

The first of these submarines, of a very large type, was caught in a net in the Firth of Forth, which held it at the bottom, until it was found by inspectors, engineers and divers, with dredges, which succeeded in lifting the machine and towing it to a dock when hatches were opened investigation showed twenty-five dead German sailors and their officers. In addition there were four Scotch fishermen, today, names of those men stand very high in their native land. It was apparent that submarine bound on a voyage destruction came upon men fishing. She took them prisoners and ordered them steer their craft safely up the point where they could accomplish their mission. It has been asked, did fishermen knowing of traps deliberately steer submarine into one of them.

New York, March 30th.—C. F. Bertell wires an American from Paris that the Allies after numerous conferences have decided to give Constantinople to Belgium as compensation for wholesale ruin of her country.

Fighting Germany, Austria and Drink

London, Mar. 29.—"We are fighting Germany, Austria and Drink, and so far as I can see, the greatest of these three deadly foes is Drink," said David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to-day to a deputation from the Shipbuilding Employers Federation.

The members were unanimous in urging that an order to meet the national requirements of the present time, should be the total prohibition during the period of the war, of the sale of intoxicating liquors. This should apply not only to public houses, but also to private clubs, so as to operate equally with all classes of the community.

It was stated that despite the fact that work was being carried on night and day, including Sundays, the total working time averages in nearly all British shipyards was actually less than before the war. The average productivity had decreased. There were many men doing splendid, strenuous work, probably as good as men in the trenches, but many did not even approximate their full time, this disastrously reducing the average.

Notwithstanding the curtailment of the hours they are allowed to keep open, the receipts of the public houses in the neighbourhood of the shipyards had greatly increased, in some cases forty per cent.

As an instance, one of many similar cases, that of a battleship coming for immediate repairs, was cited. She was delayed a whole day through the absence of riveters, who were drinking and carousing. In one yard, riveters had been working on an average only forty hours a week, and in another yard only thirty-six hours.

In conclusion the deputation, which included representatives of the leading shipbuilders in the country, drew attention to the example set by France and Russia and urged upon the Chancellor the need of drastic and immediate action. The Chancellor, in the course of his reply, said, there were reasons why the government had not heretofore taken more drastic action on the liquor question because it was not good to adverse to public sentiment, otherwise more harm would be done than good. The government must feel that it had every class of the community behind it when taking action which interfered severely with individual liberties, but now he was sure the country was beginning to realize the gravity of the situation.

"I have a growing conviction, based on accumulating evidence" continued the Chancellor, that nothing but root and branch methods would be of slightest avail dealing with the evil. I believe it is the general feeling if we are to settle German militarism we must, first of all settle with drink."

Lloyd George intimated that Lord Kitchener, Secretary for War and Field Marshal French, in command of the British expeditionary forces in the continent, were of the same opinion. He promised to lay statements of the deputation before the Cabinet.

He said in conclusion, "I had the privilege of an audience with His Majesty this morning. I am permitted by him to say he is deeply concerned on this question, very deeply concerned, and a concern which is felt by him. I am certain it is shared by all his subjects in this country."

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