

# UNION MEMBERS THROW SEARCHLIGHT OF REASON ON OUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

(Mr. Jennings Continued)  
 This thing was got up in the night and circulated on the public streets of Twillingate. It contains a libel upon Sir R. Bond and Mr. Clift in connection with their dealings with myself, a libel that was unfair to them and it injured the credit of the people of Twillingate.  
 I got hold of it on the evening of the 29th, so that I denied the statement by telegraph and it rebounded onto the heads of those of concocted it.  
 Now I do not say that one of the Government candidates got up that libel. But they were in a position to know that it was got up. There is only one printing office in Twillingate, and we know to-day the man that set the type and who got it printed.  
**Disowned It.**  
 I have a letter from Mr. Temple. I am not going to read it because it is a private letter, but he asks me to believe that he was ignorant of the matter and that it was done without his consent.  
 I wrote and asked him in the interests of fair play and in justice to my two colleagues, to publish the letter in the "Sun." He did not do that for reasons best known to himself.  
 Now I am told that it is against the law to issue any printed matter without the name of the office at which it was printed being attached. If that is so I hope the Government will prosecute the man who got it up.  
 That would be the best way to deal with such a matter and would perhaps prove a lesson in the future.  
**Slick Tricks.**  
 But that is not all. I called at Twillingate to arrange for two friends to act for me on Nomination Day. They promised. Before the time came one of those men was called away. He went to the Magistrate who was acting as Returning Officer and asked him if he could put a man to act in his place.  
 The Magistrate said, "yes," he could

As a matter of fact the old gentleman had acted in the same capacity before. Nomination Day came. Two or three candidates were nominated before me. Then my name came. This old gentleman stood up, but the Magistrate objected. He was on the Road Board. He asked why the Magistrate did not tell him that before.  
 Then the next man had been on the Education Board for twenty years. The other man went out and got a man to act in his place. Now, Mr. Scott made no objection to the other men.  
 However, my man resigned his office and got over the difficulty that way.  
 Why was my man objected to and the Government not? However, it did not keep me out of the House of Assembly.  
**Lighthouse Supply.**  
 I will now pass to the actual debate on the Estimates, and I take the matter of lighthouses. What strikes me is the disparity that exists in the salaries of men doing the same duties, and I will draw attention to a few.  
 The first two that strike me are, Fortune Harbor, Twillingate and Little Bay Islands. There is no difference between the duties, and if \$204 is sufficient pay for Little Bay Islands, then \$204 is enough for Fortune Harbor, but the man at Fortune Harbor gets \$300.  
 Agan Peckford Island gets \$360 while Penguin Island gets \$580. They are both the same kind of light and the same duties attached.  
 There are a few others with which I am not so well acquainted on the West Coast, to which I would like attention to be drawn. Bay Bulls, Ferryland Head and Cape Pine, getting respectively, \$526, \$600 and \$650. There is very little difference in their duties.  
 Hon. Minister Finance and Customs—They have to pay their own assistants.  
 Mr. Jennings—Does the light of one entail more duties than those of the other?

Hon. Minister Finance and Customs—They are open for twelve months of the year.  
**Requires More Attention.**  
 Mr. Jennings—That is so as regards Peckford's Island and other lighthouses. But as far as I understand if it is a reflecting light it requires more attention and an assistant with whom the night is divided into watches.  
 Minister Marine and Fisheries—For the information of the hon. member I may say that a light keeper is not supposed to turn in when he lights the lamp.  
 Mr. Jennings—I am perfectly aware of that. He is supposed to watch the light all night. But why one should be paid \$300 and another \$600 or \$800 is the point I want explained.  
 I think there is great room for the evening up of those salaries. Those that are paid well are not getting more than they deserve.  
**Evening Up Salaries.**  
 I know that certain keepers have a way of evening up their salaries to a certain extent, but there is no reason for this tremendous difference in the salaries of keepers of similar lights.  
 I am not saying this by way of finding fault. I have two lighthouses in my mind the salaries of which were fixed by the Bond Government. The light at Double Island, Battle Harbor, is a fixed light. The lighthouse is closed for four months in the year and the keeper gets \$528.  
 At Indian Tickle the same salary is paid. But at Domino and four other points although the same duties have to be performed and the same kind of light, the salary is only \$360.  
 I should imagine that where the lighthouse is only open eight months that \$360 is enough and \$528 too much. And it would be a saving to the Revenue if these things were evening up.  
 The last one I would mention is the light at St. Michael's Head. I may be misinformed, but I understand it is only a lantern light, lit in the evening, and I notice the keeper gets \$204. That is overpaid.  
**Overpaid**  
 Minister Marine and Fisheries—That was so but we have put a different light there. It is all very well to say that men are overpaid, but when these men are earning their living at this work they must be paid a living wage.  
 Personally I think them underpaid

and would like to be able to pay them more. These men live at their posts and when they are worn out they get pensioned at two-thirds of their salary.  
**Too Much Difference**  
 Mr. Jennings—I quite admit that. But my main argument is that there is too much discrepancy between two salaries of \$360 and \$528 for men doing the same duties.  
 Minister Marine and Fisheries—You have already admitted that the present Government did not fix those salaries. I might say that two of my friends keep those lights. Does the hon. member think that I am to begin reduction on my friends first?  
 Mr. Jennings—If you want to get down to rock bottom you have to deal with friends and foes alike.  
 However, I pass on. There is one other matter in connection with lighthouses which I think very important. Probably members of this House will remember the unfortunate affair of Penguin Island when two men drifted past the island and there was no boat there, and the keeper was unable to go to the rescue of those two men.  
 Minister Marine and Fisheries—I might clear up that matter, Mr. Chairman. That report, whoever started it, was wrong.  
**Plenty of Boats**  
 There were two boats on the island belonging to the Department. One belonged to the Government and the other to the keeper. There were seven trap skiffs there also.  
 Those boats were on the other side of the island and they or the trap skiffs could have come round and attempted to save the men.  
 I do not think that any blame attached to the light keeper, who was an old man. My own opinion is that no new light keeper should be employed over the age of 40 years.  
 Mr. Coaker—And how long would you keep him there?  
 Minister Marine and Fisheries—I do not think any man should hold such an important position after 60 years of age. It takes a strong man to go over and round the rocks.  
 I believe in the men keeping boats and knowing a little about life saving. Men after sixty years of age have not the same nerve to do that work as younger men.

But in that accident I do not blame Mr. White. I believe he did his best at the time. But as I say, had he been a younger man, the accident might not have happened.  
 Mr. Jennings—I am very pleased to hear that it was not due to any carelessness on the part of the Department or the light keeper, and possibly the report was incorrect. I was only speaking of what I had heard.  
 I am quite willing to admit that in time of need a younger man would probably be more active, but this matter of boats is one needing consideration.  
 And where there are boats the keepers should see that they are in repair. A boat may get dried up with lying up for the season, and it is necessary that certain rules should be observed in regard to these boats.  
**Lifesaving Appliances**  
 Another thing I notice is that there is no provision of material for preserving life. I do not lay any particular blame to the doors of the present Government on this account. I have seen lighthouses that have been open for thirty years with not a life buoy of any kind. I have seen some rope sent out by the Department for this purpose, but it was too large.  
 There should be a quantity of light

### De Reszke Cigarettes

are now smoked by all the Cigarette connoisseurs in St. John's, in addition to being the BEST CIGARETTE made they do not affect the throat.

—IN STOCK—  
**DE RESZKE**  
 'Tenor'—Turkish.  
 'American'—Virginian.  
 'Soprano'—Ladies.

**P. E. Outerbridge**  
 137 WATER STREET,  
 TELEPHONE 60.

how to light it. At the station where I was it cost the Government £10 for burners alone. The new man knew nothing about it and the consequence was that new and expensive burners had to be bought.  
**Was Untrained**  
 Some thought that I was the cause of it, but when I had charge I only had one burner, and it lasted for four years, and it was just as good when I left as when I first went there. But the new man did not understand his business.  
 I am not making a bid for myself. I am never going back to a light station unless I am forced to, but I think those things should be taken into consideration. If a man doesn't see anybody for four or five months in a year he cannot do very much in an election campaign.  
 I will now pass on to the matter of couriers, and I would like to mention two couriers who do not. I think, receive fair remuneration for their services.  
 Those are the men from Herring Neck to Comfort Cove, and from Moreton's Harbor to Comfort Cove. They are now receiving \$75 and \$68 respectively. I think those men should receive at least \$100 each.  
 They have quite a number of hardships, to contend with, in fact they sometimes have to risk their lives in the performance of their duties, and they should receive consideration. I believe that the couriers of Twillingate are very well paid as a rule, but these two men are not.  
 There is another department in the service that, I think, has the same trouble with regard to salaries as the lighthouse department, probably a little more. I refer now to telegraph operators, especially in the outposts.  
 Now, I have no particular axe to grind in mentioning any particular stations, and I mention those I am about to refer to simply because it seems to me that the differences in salaries are not justified.  
**Dismissals Expensive**  
 Another matter that I wish to bring before the House is the expense entailed very frequently by dismissals. A keeper gets word that his services are no longer required. Before he has a chance to get out the new keeper comes and expects the dismissed man to teach him how to run the light.  
 Now, the rule which the dismissed man enforces, is that no one is allowed in the lamp room except the keeper, so he will not allow the new man in until his time is up, so that the new man cannot learn the light. And it often costs the Government dear.  
 I know at Cabot Island it cost the Government \$100 before he learnt

### You Can Make Big Money Selling Our Fountain Pens

Standard make, self fillers, 25c. Standard make, plain, dropper fillers, 40c. Standard make, fancy carved, dropper fillers, 45c. Standard make, German Silver Cap, unbreakable, 49c. Standard make, Pearl mounted, dropper fillers, 70c.

Our White Stone Rings, made to resemble the real Diamond, are beauties. (A handsome Tie Pin free with every ring). Ladies', 1, 2 and 3 stones, 50c. each. Gent's, 1 stone, 50c. each.

Knife Sharpeners, 15c.; Potato Peelers, 15c.; 5 yards Stickem, 5c.; Glass Pens, in case, 5c.; Combination Field, Opera and Reading Glasses, 50c. each; the world renowned Hone (Asco Brand) (free razor with hone), price \$1.00, and other Novelties too numerous to mention.

**Over-seas Novelty Co.,**  
 Wholesale and Retail.  
 UNCLE DUDLEY,  
 Manager.  
 mar11.4m

**DR. LEHR,**  
 DENTIST, 203  
 WATER ST.  
 BEST QUALITY  
 TEETH AT  
 \$12.00 PER SET. TEETH EXTRACTED—PAINLESSLY—25c.

ADVERTISE JUDICIOUSLY  
 IN THE DAILY MAIL

## The Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Limited.

**Union Fishermen** We are well-stocked with the following **Fishery Supplies** which will be sold at our **Usual Low Prices**

COUNCILS will do well to order at once and state how goods are to be shipped. If by schooner, give Name and Captain, informing the Captain where to call.

Oakum, Cutch, Pitch, Resin, Tar, Turpentine, Lubricating Oils, Boiled and Raw Linseed Oil, Copper and Deck Paints, Manilla and Bass Ropes, Hemp and Cotton Lines, Hemp and Cotton Twines.

### Best Quality FISHING BOOTS in the following makes :

	<p><b>Three-Quarters, Factory —AND— Hand-made.</b></p>		<p><b>Napoleon's, Factory —AND— Hand-made.</b></p>
			<p><b>Extra - Good Quality —IN— Long Rubbers</b></p>

<p><b>F. P. U. Tobacco</b> In Small and Large Sticks.</p>	<p><b>Splendid Quality Teas</b> In 20 lb. and 60 lb. Chests.</p>	<p><b>Creamy BUTTER and other Grades</b> In 10 lb. and 20 lb. Tubs.</p>	<p><b>High Grade Flour</b> At Rock-Bottom Prices.</p>
---	--	---	---

The famous GOODYEAR OIL CLOTHING in Black and Yellow,  
 Long Oil Coats, Cape Anns, Guernseys, Heavy Brown and Grey Blankets. F. P. U. Flags, 4 x 6, 6 x 9.

## The Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Limited.