



Evening Telegram

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

Wednesday, September 29, 1920

The Tragedy of the West Coast.

In referring yesterday to the brighter and more promising aspect that has made its appearance, we were speaking of St. John's alone, and we would that the same thing could be made apply to the West Coast. There—and deplorable it is to be compelled to make the statement—there is no brightening up, neither is there any early prospect of such a condition visible. True, cargoes of fish have been allowed to sail from ports there, but these should have been away weeks if not months, ago. Yet after all these cargoes are but made up of the fall and spring catches of fish. Very little summer fish are in them because the regulations, which prevented the cargoes from being marketed at the time when the West Coast ships its voyage, were enforced against their export, an enactment tying up the industry of the whole coast, for when shippers could not get their collections to market it was obvious that they would not enter extensively into further purchases and have them tied up also. Thus there was no encouragement to fishermen to continue their avocation and the result was that they reeled up their lines, dried out their trawls and stared a gloomy future in the face.

In proof of this there is no need to go further than submit the gist of the correspondence between the people of Burnt Islands, district of Burgeo and LaPoile and Hon. W. F. Coaker, Acting Premier and Minister of Marine and Fisheries. Burnt Islands is essentially a fishing settlement. All its interests are devoted to the fishery, and its people were prosperous, industrious, and especially energetic in wrestling their livelihood from the depths of the sea. Men owned the skiffs in which they fished and were independent in the sense that they could go whither they pleased for supplies. They were not bound to any merchant by debt or other obligations. They fished from January to December and the fruits of their toil made them comfortable and free from fear of the future. Many of them perchance had a little capital laid by in the event of an emergency and progress was the motto of the population. Let us see how the Fish Regulations have changed a thriving settlement into a place of despondency and gloom. Conditions became so acute at Burnt Islands because of trade stagnation consequent upon the enforcement of the regulations that the people called a mass meeting, and at that meeting memorialised Mr. Coaker to the effect that incalculable harm was being done by his enactments. This memorial contained the following: "The acute situation now prevailing has been hastened and aggravated by ill-thought out rules and badly applied regulations, and we now find ourselves—ALONG WITH PRACTICAL—

LY THE WHOLE DISTRICT—cut off from the means of existence. We have not AS A CLASS, sufficient means to enable us to fit out for fishing or to provide coal and other absolute necessities to carry on our work. Further, AS A CLASS, we are unable to pay our passages away to obtain employment elsewhere or to keep our families while we are away.

"This statement is not in the nature of a whim. IT IS A PLAIN STATEMENT OF FACTS AS THEY EXIST. We are not sleeping and do not want charity. We realise that regulations, which never should have been put into force before proper notice was given, have completely crippled our industry everywhere and thrown us on our backs."

Such is the opening chapter of the tragedy within a tragedy, that of Burnt Islands. In the next article other phases of the memorial and Mr. Coaker's reply thereto will be considered.

How It Affects Fishermen.

Whatever the effect of shutting out New York buyers of fish in this country may be to the merchants, there is no doubt at all that it is a bad thing for the fishermen. It was the men buying for New York firms in St. John's and outports the past ten years or more that always kept rising the price here for the fishermen. They always offered 10 and 20 cents per quintal more than the merchants, and as a result the latter had to follow and give the same price if not more, in order to get the fish from independent fishermen. This is too obvious to need any discussion. The fishermen know it and will again know it to their grief this fall, if the New York buyers are driven out of the fish buying business. It was the New York buyers competition that made the fish advance by ten and twenty cent steps every fall. In cutting them out therefore is a direct blow at the fishermen. It should make no difference to the fishermen who buys his fish as long as he gets the highest possible price in the local market.

Emigration Exodus Continues.

The S.S. Kyle on her outward trip Monday night was crowded with second class passengers, bound to the U.S.A. and Canada to seek a living.

Schr. Harriet at Fogo.

Messrs. T. H. Carter & Co. received a message yesterday saying that the Danish schooner Harriet had arrived at Fogo, all well. The wreckage reported as picked up last week off Fogo was supposed to have come from this vessel.

LeMarchant Road.

LeMarchant Road has lately been put in first class condition. A coat of tar has been applied to the surface making it as smooth as an asphalt pavement. It is advisable that all heavy traffic be diverted from the thoroughfare for the time being.

Fish Plentiful.

Fishermen on the local grounds are doing well and yesterday evening the coves were well stocked. At Portugal Cove fishermen are also doing well and during last week boats returned from the grounds with 4 and 5 qtls. of codfish each.

A meeting of the members of Spencer Club will be held in Spencer College Hall on Thursday, the 30th inst., at 4.15 p.m. J. TAYLOR, Hon. Secretary.

Steamer Trawler Sebastopol

Work is being rushed on the steam trawler Sebastopol, now at the dock pier, to fit her for service on the Humbermouth-Battle Hr. route, and it is expected that she will get away about Friday, other work to be completed later. This little boat in conjunction with the S. S. Diana is being put on a service for which they are wholly unsuitable. The cost of having two ships run where one suitable one would do seems not to give the Government any concern. The trawlers were bought at a cost of thousands of dollars and their price has been doubled fitting them up. The Sebastopol has accommodation for about five cars of freight, is fitted with 10 bunks in the cabin and 16 in the steerage, which is forward on deck; quarters for the crew being below.

Norwegian Fish Consumption Increasing

By reference to the Oporto Stocks, as received by the Board of Trade and published elsewhere, it will be seen that the consumption of our fish for the past week has increased by little more than 100 qtls., whilst the consumption of Norwegian has increased nearly 1000 with practically the same stocks. There is now about 49,000 qtls. of our fish in Portugal and on the way.

Schr. "Portia" Lost.

CREW SAFE.

The Collector of Customs is in receipt of a message saying that the schooner Portia, coming from the Straits, has gone ashore near Raleigh, District of St. Barbe, and is a total loss. Capt. Belbin and crew landed safely. The vessel belonged to Hant's Harbor, Short Bros. being the owners.

Miss Katherine Hughes Coming.

Citizens of St. John's will shortly have an unprecedented opportunity of hearing the real facts and getting to the bottom of the Irish question. We learn that Miss Katherine Hughes of Montreal, the noted Canadian writer and lecturer, is expected in the city this week. Miss Hughes has recently visited Ireland for herself and embodied her impressions in a little book "Ireland," which is a model of concise statement, vivid presentment and restrained but forcible appeal. She is also the author of other writings on Irish and Canadian affairs. Miss Hughes has, since August, been making a coast to coast tour of Canada, lecturing at the principal points, and has everywhere made a deep and favourable impression by her well-nigh irresistible eloquence and irrefutable logic. If we may judge by her writings and by the accounts of her speeches, Miss Hughes knows her subject as few know it and can expound it better than most. All seekers for the truth and all who wish food for thought will look forward with pleasure to Miss Hughes' arrival.—Com.

Oporto Stocks.

	This week	Last week
Newfoundland ..	19,215	22,115
Consumption ..	6,058	6,183
Norwegian ..	19,228	27,315
Consumption ..	9,143	8,227

Fish Cargoes at Oporto.

Entered—Clintona and Donald T. Outside—Edith Cavell, Ronald Moulton, and Ena Moulton.

The Newfoundland Highlanders' Ladies' Association intend having an Afternoon Tea and Concert in the Presbyterian Hall, on Wednesday afternoon, October 6th, at 3.30. A good attendance is expected, particularly of members. E. V. LEDINGHAM, Secy.-Treasurer.

G. W. V. A. Meeting.

LT.-COL. BERNARD RESIGNS.

A meeting of the Great War Veterans' Association was held in the T. A. Armoury last night. Colonel Bernard presided and considerable business came up for discussion. Comrade J. G. Higgins read the report of the Special Committee with regard to the 20% increase in Pensions which have been granted and paid to all widows, orphans, totally disabled men and dependents, this being retro-active to January 1st. The matter of the 20% increase for all other Pensioners is receiving the earnest attention of the Special Committee and they informed the Meeting that the Government intended that they were awaiting the report of Major Parsons of the Pensions Department, who went far into the matter of the granting of Pensions while in Ottawa. We understand this report is now being laid before the Government and it is hoped to have their decision in short.

Comrade Mitchell spoke for some length regarding the responsibilities himself and the late Secretary had taken with regard to the Building Funds. He pointed out that this Association was not incorporated. It would be most desirable to have this done as soon as possible.

The Financial Statement was read by the Secretary and copies of same distributed to the members. The President, in his remarks, said in part that the Association was on a fairly sound financial basis but that the earnings of the Club-Rooms, unfortunately, fell short of all anticipations, it being only \$245.90 since being opened. It was pointed out that the expenditure required to run the Club Rooms in the same period was in the vicinity of \$3,000.00 and it was felt that it was up to the members of the Association to discuss this and say how they thought the receipts of the Club Rooms could be increased.

The President informed the meeting that having the Financial Statement in view he desired to place a proposition before the members. This being an offer of \$1500.00 which had been received for the ground flat including the Secretary's Office and basement. The present tenant, Comrade Matthews' rent being much below this figure, and as he had the matter of accepting the offer of \$1500 up for discussion, the members were asked to express a sound view. Much discussion followed and on a motion from Comrade Higgins who felt that as the matter was of an urgent nature that it be held over till the next meeting. An amendment being put to this the motion was sustained and it was ordered that a Special meeting be called for Tuesday, October 5th, when it is hoped that the members will have a chance of thinking it over and giving expression to their views.

The President said he had much pleasure in taking advantage of the opportunity to express his sincere thanks to the late Secretary, Mr. P. A. Brien, who has at all times been conscientious and faithful in the discharge of his duties. He also paid tribute to the members of the Executive who had unstintingly given him assistance and help at all times and he wished to place on record his appreciation of their valuable services. He informed the meeting that it would probably be the last occasion when he would preside, as he was leaving the Country very shortly and asked the Vice-President to assume the duties of President until the Annual Meeting which takes place next month. In placing his resignation before the Association he desired to assure them that their welfare would always be his first consideration and he wished them well. He asked the members to stand together as they did when Overseas and he would then feel sure that all was well.

The Vice-President was sorry to hear that the President was taking his departure from amongst us but felt that he had the good wishes of everybody and thanked him for the efficient and self-sacrificing way in which he served the Association. He called upon the members to rise with him and give three hearty cheers for Colonel Bernard.

Comrade Garland spoke for some length with regard to having a representative of the G.W.V.A. placed on the Board of Pensions. In this he was ably sustained by Comrade Thistle and on the motion being put to the Association it was unanimously carried. The Meeting then adjourned until Tuesday, Oct. 5th, when it is hoped that all members will make an effort to be present, concluding with the singing of the National Anthem.

Shipping Notes.

Schr. Viking has sailed from Fogo for Alicante, with 2157 qtls codfish from Earle & Sons & Co.

Schr. Gordon T. Tibbo arrived in ballast at Grand Bank yesterday, 19 days from Oporto.

Schr. General Allenby has arrived at Grand Bank, 24 days from Oporto.

Schr. Guide has arrived at Bonne Bay from Sydney, with a coal cargo for S. G. Freble.

Schr. Edith Parry has arrived at Greenspond, coal laden to Jas. Baird, Ltd.

Schr. Flowerdew has arrived at Halifax, N.S.

LACO is pure virgin oil.

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Exceptional fine quality in solid colors Serges, Worsteds and refined striped effects.

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SUITS—Originally \$20.00.	Sale Price	\$15.35
SUITS—Originally \$23.50.	Sale Price	\$16.75
SUITS—Originally \$33.00.	Sale Price	\$24.75
SUITS—Originally \$37.00.	Sale Price	\$27.90
SUITS—Originally \$45.00.	Sale Price	\$33.00
SUITS—Originally \$58.00.	Sale Price	\$44.50
SUITS—Originally \$75.00.	Sale Price	\$58.50

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Quality! Uniformity! Reliability!

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Obituary.

MR. RICHARD BYRNE.

The many friends of Mr. Richard Byrne, Water Street, will learn with regret of his passing to the Great Beyond, at the General Hospital this morning. He entered the Hospital about a week ago to undergo a serious operation, which was successfully performed, and hope was held out for recovery, but the strain eventually proved too much for the once rugged constitution, and Mr. Byrne entered into rest.

The deceased was well and favourably known in St. John's, where he carried on business for a number of years at the corner of Water and Queen Streets. He leaves to mourn him a wife, one daughter in the Royal Bank of Canada, this city, and a son, at school, one brother in Canada, and a sister, Mrs. J. Flynn, of St. John's.

In his passing St. John's loses a good citizen, and his family an exemplary husband and father, to whom is extended general sympathy in their bereavement. May his soul rest in peace.—Com.

MINARD'S LINIMENT FOR BURNS, ETC.

Personal.

Mr. J. M. Curran, of Gambo, is in the city and a guest at the Crosbie.

Mr. Leo Chafe, of the Avalon Telephone Co., son of Constable Chafe of the Central Station, left by yesterday's express for the U.S.A. to receive special medical treatment.

A cordial welcome home has been extended to Captain J. H. Campbell and his wife, says the Glasgow Weekly Herald, on their return from Newfoundland to their residence, Strathcathro, Forfarshire. Captain Campbell is a grand-nephew of the late Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. Mrs. Campbell, formerly Miss Flora Clift, was the acknowledged belle of Newfoundland, where the Captain met her when he was acting as A.D.C. to the Governor.

Shipping Notes.

S.S. Sagona reported leaving Snug Hr. Monday afternoon, going north. Schooner J. S. G., S. Tucker, master, has returned to St. Jones Within from Labrador with 600 qtls. of codfish.

Schooner Nordtraff has cleared from Fogo for Oporto with 2415 qtls. of codfish from the Newfoundland Labrador Export Co.

Schooner George C. Hogg sailed yesterday in ballast from Baine Johnston & Co., for Port Hastings.

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Coastal Boats.

GOVERNMENT.

S.S. Prospero left Springdale at 10 p.m. yesterday, going north.

S.S. Portia left Hermitage at 12.30 p.m. yesterday.

REIDS'

Argyle left Merasheen at 7 p.m. yesterday, on Bay route.

Clyde left Seldom early yesterday outward.

Glencoe left Harbor Breton at 5.30 p.m. yesterday, going to Port aux Basques.

Home no report since leaving Lewisport, Saturday.

Kyle at Port aux Basques.

Petrel no report since leaving Clarendville, Monday.

Sagana left St. Anthony Monday, going north.

Senef arrived at Lewisporte at 12.30 a.m.

Watchful left Port Blandford at 10.45 p.m. yesterday, outward.

Earl of Devon left Lewisporte at 8.20 a.m. yesterday.

Diana at Humbermouth.

DIED.

This morning at 8 o'clock, Ann, wife of the late James King, aged 86 years. Funeral on Friday, at 3 p.m., at St. Philip's.

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