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J. J. ROSSITER
Real Estate Agent



Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"

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OUR POINT OF VIEW

MEN WANTED

I have done a natural last week referred to the necessity of more intelligent management of our public offices, particularly the Marine & Fisheries and Agriculture & Mines departments, and we make no apologies to our readers for again venturing a few remarks upon the same subject. We have hammered at this question of scientific enquiry into our fisheries and other natural wealth of our country for a long time, and we have not had any success. We have been wasting our eloquence on desert cars. Nevertheless we intend to keep on pounding on the thick and insensible men, till we either break them in or wear them out.

Constant dropping is said to wear a stone, that being the case we feel our courage to keep dropping our eloquent phrases on those thick plates of ivory that out of courtesy are commonly referred to as heads, till some impression be made.

This country has never been blessed with an over crop or superabundance of high intelligence in the personnel of its office holders. The reason is, not that we have not had able men in the country, but because we have been cursed with what Dr. Burke styles, Parish Politics. That has been the bane of this fair land, and left her the sport of politicians, and not that of "historic mistortune" as lovers of euphonious phrases some times remark.

We have had mistortunes, 'tis true, but they have come mostly from those sources over which pit prop men can exercise no control, and these mistortunes do not make Newfoundland their permanent home, but they visit every land.

Our great and abiding mistortune lies in the fact that, not statesmen, but pot-house politicians and greedy grabbers, have had the ruling and guiding of our poor country's affairs.

Our natural wealth wherever those self-seeking leeches have had a chance to control have been squandered in a most prodigal manner, and where they could not divert to their own gain, an executive of cretins could have conserved as soundly.

We are almost discouraged in our undertaking on behalf of Terra Nova, when we look round and witness the stage at which the ruin of our forest lands has reached, and the way in which we have permitted public control over our forest and other national wealth slip out of our hands.

We have sacrificed all our forest wealth and it has not brought to us one-tenth of its value.

This shameful act is the direct result of ignorance on the part of the governments on the one hand and of barefaced robbery on the other.

Had we had years ago, a conservation commission and an intelligent administration of the Crown's Lands department, it is quite safe to say that the country would be millions of dollars ahead of what we possess today.

We have at any rate one great natural wealth that with all the unintelligence of our public men has not yet been ruined, for they have been unable to lay their profligate and greedy hands upon it and that is our fisheries.

Land Grabbers Trickery

DURING his recent visit North Mr. Coaker was consulted by the people cutting pit props respecting a position sent out to them by J. Noseworthy—the noted land grabber—who as a figure head of the land grabbers published a long article about a month ago in The Daily News advocating the continual export of pit props from Newfoundland and Labrador.

That article has been scattered broadcast in pamphlet form accompanied by a form of petition, which people are asked to sign. The prayer of the petition is that pit prop timber be exported and made a permanent business in order to provide employment to meet the increased cost of living. The fishermen however have not been deceived by such pretexts, and they view the efforts of the land grabbing clique at their true value and are resolved to absolutely prohibit the exportation of any timber from this Colony except in a manufactured state.

The pit prop business the past winter has proved a hideous curse and is universally condemned even by the men who have obtained a little assistance from the venture.

The prices paid would starve any hard working man. The areas cut over are absolutely destroyed, as everything growing disappears where pit props are being cut.

The destructive effect is worse than fire itself, as everything is cleaned up before the woodman's axe. A tree that would make a large size picket is suitable for pit props.

Along the water front of our bay the fishermen's reserve has been completely denuded of all timber because of this pit prop venture and the men employed have not averaged sixty cents a day for their labor.

Nothing has been secured for the timber itself, for even the labor has been but half paid for. Hundreds of woodsmen advanced the work long ago. Many commenced to cutting railway ties, which work gave them 100 per cent better returns.

The fishermen at the outside harbors have been continually grumbling and protesting against the destruction of the green timber areas on which they depend for timber supplies to carry on the fisheries. They have resented to permit no further destruction and will bitterly oppose having another pit prop cut.

The F.P.U. members of the House have been directed to insist upon the withdrawal of the permission granted at the war session last September to export pit props during the continuance of the war.

The fishermen are wide awake enough to discover that Mr. Noseworthy's proposition is made on behalf of the grabbers, who own or pretend to own timber areas, and who would, if they secured their wish to export pit props, be enabled to sell their grabbings to English firms who would utilize them for supplying pit props for the mines in England, or the grabbers would be able to work their areas by paying \$20 per month to loggers, and sell the pit props on the bank to the English firms at a gain of three or four dollars per cord.

In the coming of more intelligent men to develop to their full capacity. In the years that have gone since Newfoundland has had a fishing population, who can estimate the wealth that might have been brought to our shores, if only we had an intelligent interest in the development of our great staple industry.

If ever a move be made to establish our fisheries on a sound scientific basis, mind you, it is not mediocre men of uneducated empirical monkeying we want, but the very best men that money can afford must be induced to take up our burden.

In Canada they have enlisted in the cause the very greatest brains, that that great country can boast, while here we have done nothing, but drift and boast of our great staple industry. Great it is, and a good thing it is for us that it is too great for our imbecile methods to destroy.

Our mineral wealth and our agricultural resources have been as unintelligently handled, to the great loss of the country, as have our fisheries.

It is high time that a new era as far as the administration of our public affairs is concerned be ushered in, and as far as lies in our power to bring it about, we intend to stick to the job.

Local Councils have been opened the past winter at Collier's, Kitchens, Avondale, Topsail, Long Pond and Seal Cove.

At Western Bay the Union Hall has been completed. At Job's Cove the splendid Hall started last year is about completed.

Over \$10,000 worth of barrels, hoops, drums and casks have been purchased in the Bay by the Union to help the people over the bad times. The Union has really been doing a work in aiding the poor that the Government—to its shame—refused to do.

At Bay de Verde a movement is on foot to establish a Union Store the coming summer. This morning the F.P.U. sent Mr. Mews to Brigus, Carbonear, etc., on a mission to prepare the Labrador fish price cases for the Supreme Court.

chased thousands of fish casks, drums, hoops and herring barrels, as well as several loads of birch billets in order to help the people.

Options have been secured on several properties at Catalina, in view of establishing a branch of the Export Co. there the coming summer.

At Champney's the Union store is about ready for business. This premises is central and will serve the people of English Hr. as well. It includes a fine wharf and will handle all the fish in that locality.

In Bonavista Bay the Council at Valleyfield is erecting a Union business premises and at Brookfield another Union store will be in operation the coming summer at Capt. Edwin Kean's premises.

At Greenspond the Union is now conducting business at the premises purchased from Hon. Jas. Ryan. At Alexander Bay a Union store and hall is under construction. At Newtown Capt. John Barbour is erecting a large shop and store for the use of the Union there, the present store occupied by the Union on this premises having proved too small for the increasing trade.

Union stores will be operated at Fogol and Tilling the coming season. At Joe Batt's Arm the Union business is being conducted at the premises purchased recently from H. J. Earle, Esq. The Union also purchased all the stock held at Joe Batt's Arm by Mr. Earle.

At Change Islands the Union premises is being enlarged and extended and the people are arranging to open the second Union store at North End.

At Herring Neck a premises was purchased the past winter. This premises is most central and the most suitable business centre in the whole settlement. A large building is being erected to be used as a shop and store. A wharf is also being erected on the premises.

At Lewisporte a Union store is under erection that will serve the business demands for Lewisporte, Sessor's Cove, Seal Pond, Campbellton and Comfort Cove. At each of those settlements Local Councils are operating. A suitable wharf will also be erected at the Union Store in Lewisporte. 10,000 herring barrels are ready to be sent to Green Bay the first chance to be filled this spring, which will mean \$20,000 more for the people.

At Nippers Hr. the Union intends to operate a large business the coming season and will probably move into a larger premises in Bay of Islands progress has also been good and at Wood's Hr. the people are erecting a Union store.

This progress is indeed marvelous under present circumstances and ought to convince the opponents of the Union of the great aid their opposition is, in helping to consolidate and facilitate Coaker's great work in uplifting the downtrodden and securing for all toilers a square deal.

Belgian Army Achieves Successes

London, March 17.—A despatch to the Daily Chronicle from the North of France says: Important events that have been happening at Neuve Chapelle ought not to blind one to the achievements of the Belgian army during the last few days. The Belgians are making distinct and continuous headway against the Germans. In particular, they have scored a remarkable success between Neuport and Dixmude.

One of the latest communications informed us in the usual laconic style of the ground that had been gained at Shoorbakke, a village on the main stream of the Yser. Half-way between Neuport and Dixmude. As a matter of fact, since Friday the Belgians have crossed the Yser between Dixmude and St. Georges, and have established themselves in German trenches abandoned by their former occupants as the result of the particularly efficient fire of the Belgian artillery.

The mere fact that the Belgian infantry succeeded in occupying the first German line of trenches on the Yser is a very remarkable military feat, especially so when one considers that these trenches are situated in the midst of floods.

The whole region is cut up by innumerable channels, either secondary streams of the many branched Yser or ditches or small drainage canals. To reach the German trenches, therefore, it is necessary to build roads yard by yard for the troops to march along.

Naturally this road-making has been very dangerous for those engaged in it, exposed as they were continually to the German fire. Nevertheless, by sheer perseverance this amazing feat has been accomplished, and at this moment little pathways,

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Prince Von Buelow Offers Trentino But Italy Wants Trieste Thrown In

Prince Von Buelow, who, with an Italian wife and a residence in Rome, has for some time past been trying to bribe Italy into continued neutrality, now offers her the Trentino, and the reiteration of the Italo-Austrian frontier. But Italy wants Trieste also. She wants everything that was formerly Italian. Austria will never give Trieste, nor will she give up her share at compensation. She is unwilling to cede Trentino. Even the Kaiser has found Austria utterly intractable on this point. Von Buelow actually suggests that Italy mortgage, in order to bring Austria to the mark, but if that mortgage it will be for war, and not only for the Trentino but for Trieste, and a predominant influence on the east side of the Adriatic. Affairs in that quarter certainly look like an outbreak of hostilities within a few days, perhaps hours.

One reason why Italy thinks it necessary to go to war at this time is that if she does not, she will have to make an advance of some kind on the other side of the Yser. This one reason is then one encouraging as it indicates that the old score against Turkey in Tripoli. She has real interests in the Red Sea and imaginary ones in Syria.

And for much the same reason, it will be difficult to restrain Greece. The Kaiser has on his side the general sympathy of those who are not bound by the League of Nations. It may have been noticed, has been sending troops by way of significant demonstration to its Greek frontier, but it utters accents to take the measure. She will be amply supported. Rumania and Serbia will take care of the Balkans. As the Greek who the past glories of Constantinople are far more Greek than Turkish. Certainly, Greece is about all that remains of the old Eastern empire. She will want to have at least an equal share with Russia in the displacing of the Crescent and the conquest of the Cross over St. Sophia.

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In air-tight packages, which we will deliver for **\$4.00 per barrel**

We undertake to hand over to the Salvation Army funds for relieving destitution in St. John's half the proceeds of sales.

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