

### NEW CHARTER GETS COOL RECEPTION

A Committee is Appointed to Deal With the Matter and Report to the Legislature—Consensus of Opinion is That Matter Should be Deferred for Another Year

Last night there was a monster meeting of the citizens of St. John's in the Casino Theatre to discuss the merits—and demerits—of the new charter drafted by the present Board of Civic Commissioners for the better government of St. John's. The meeting had been called by the representatives of the city in the Legislature at the request of the Civic Board, so that if approved of a bill might be passed giving effect to its provisions as they stand or as they will be if changed or modified.

Premier Morris went through the principal sections of the charter, explaining them and defining matters for the benefit of the meeting. The Premier's attitude to the charter, as it appeared to us and to many others, was both a defence and an apology for the work of the Commissioners, and his disposition as regards it seemed to be availing and compromising, and evidently was utterly at variance with the expectations of those who comprised the gathering. He asked for an expression of opinion, and for upwards of two hours speeches on the charter were heard from Messrs S. Joyce, S. Merrills, T. Peel, J. J. Spratt, J. M. Devine, C. Way, L. Gardner, M. Healey, S. Scott, M. Laidlaw and F. Goff.

The speeches were of a very intelligent order and showed that the speakers grasped the meaning and purport of the charter in its various details. The consensus of opinion, both at the meeting and amongst citizens generally is that this is too important and far-reaching a matter to be disposed of in any perfunctory way, that it demands searching and lengthy consideration and that it cannot of necessity be submitted to the Legislature this session.

However, a committee of 30 were appointed with the convenor, Mr. A. Soper, to consider the charter and report to the Legislature at intervals. The following is the Committee.

- PATRICK JOYCE,  
S. MERRILLS,  
H. E. COWAN,  
J. V. O'DEA,  
ALEC. MEWS,  
W. WHEALAN,  
J. M. DEVINE,  
T. H. O'NEILL,  
JAMES J. SPRATT,  
JOHN DAVEY,  
J. C. PUDDISTER,  
P. J. SUMMERS,  
GORDON BRADLEY,  
JOHN CURNEW,  
N. A. ANDREWS,  
THOMAS POPE,  
W. H. PIKE,  
W. A. O'D. KELLEY,  
J. C. BARTER (Arct.)  
T. PEEL,  
J. B. GILEE,  
J. J. JOHN,  
G. W. RABBITTS,  
F. GOFF,  
JAMES P. CROTTY,  
L. G. CHAFE,  
T. J. FORAN,  
NORMAN HEATER,  
J. J. NEVILLE,  
ARCH. LINDSAY,  
C. WAY,  
L. GARDNER,  
A. SOPER (Convenor)  
W. SMITH (Secretary)

### LOCAL ITEMS

Passenger special No. 2 left Clarendville at 8 a.m. with 6 cars; due at St. John's at 3 p.m.

The heavy N. E. gale of yesterday delayed the incoming express, which did not leave Port aux Basques until 3.15 a.m. yesterday.

The T. A. Billiard Tourney is progressing nightly and spot side now leads by over 200 points. The games should conclude next week.

Both the outbreak of diphtheria at John's Pond and the smallpox at Port Rexton have been stamped out, and both cases were confined to the persons who contracted such disease.

Up to 6 p.m. yesterday the Terra Nova had turned out 3,900 seals weighing on an average 56 lbs. The Erik had discharged 5,400 averaging 54 lbs, and the Florizel had landed about 27,000 averaging 55½ lbs. She should be discharged to-morrow.

The engagement is already announced of Miss Annie Fitzgerald, daughter of Patrick Fitzgerald of Western Bay, and Mr. John R. Tobin, also of Western Bay. The wedding will take place shortly after Easter.

The volunteers yesterday spent the day drilling in doors and at rifle practice at the South Side Range. The men are making excellent progress in the various drill and at the rifle, and hope to be fully instructed in bayonet fighting.

Const. Mercer of the Western Station who is resigning, and to whom we referred yesterday, will likely try again to enter the Nfld. Regiment. He did so before but was rejected and had to go to Hospital. He is now in good condition and believes he will pass the medical examiners.

The seals this year are heavier than possibly ever before handled and the skimmers have their work cut out for them. The men are working well and getting the pelts through their hands with despatch. With the increased prices for skinning given, the men in some cases earn as high as \$20 per day.

### WILL RAISE DESOLA

We learn to-day that the survey of diver W. Butler as to the S. S. Desola is favorable to raising the ship. Divers, we hear, will wedge the cuts in the side and bottom of the ship and four powerful pumps will be put on from the tug Petrel to pump the hull free of water. If the ship is floated she will be put under thorough repair.

### RELIEVED FREIGHT CONGESTION

The Reid Nfld. Co. had a telegram last evening from their agent at Sydney saying that the S. S. Durley Chime had then 53 cars of freight on board and will take all the freight now remaining over at that place. She should be loaded and ready to sail for here by Monday or Tuesday next.

### Spring Fever.

He—But doesn't my devotion arouse in you some feeling for me.  
She—Oh, yes; the sort of feeling one takes a tonic for in the spring.

### LAST NIGHT'S LECTURE CANNON WOOD HALL

Members Treated to One of the Best Lectures Yet Given in the Series—Concert Followed Which Proved Thoroughly Enjoyable

Mr. H. E. Cowan addressed a large gathering of the members of Llewellyn Club last night at Canon Wood Hall. Rev. Dr. Jones, who presided, introduced Mr. Cowan, who spoke for an hour or more with great force and eloquence and in a very patriotic manner. In dealing with recruiting he paid a warm tribute of praise to the lads who have rallied round the flag here, compared our system of recruiting with that of Canada and dwelt upon the duties of the people as regards civic and public problems generally. A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. J. Coaker and seconded by Mr. Maidment, was tendered Mr. Cowan.

The concert which followed was thoroughly enjoyable, songs, speeches, recitations and piano selections being contributed by Miss Langmead, Rev. C. A. Moulton, H. J. Earle, Master Snow, H. W. Stirling, F. Emerson, Macklin, C. E. Hunt, C. Noonan, McDonald, Hammond, A. Carnell and R. Dowden. The latter in his remarks referred to the improvement being made in connection with St. Thomas's Church and asked all to assist as best they could particularly this afternoon if possible in removing the refuse from near the building. The various items on the concert programme were nicely rendered, particularly those by Mr. Earle whom the Chairman styled "the grand old man of the Club."

At the close of the concert Rev. Dr. Jones thanked all for their attendance and announced that on next Thursday evening Hon. R. A. Squires would deliver a address on "Efficiency." The evening closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

### BRING YOUR KNITTING TO THE "MOVIE"

At one of our Nickel Shows on Wednesday evening last a new departure was observed. Several young ladies keenly interested in helping our soldiers and sailors could be observed, during the intermission, busy plying their knitting needles. It is expected their patriotic example will be followed by others.

### SHOP AND CONTENTS DESTROYED AT NEWTOWN

Hon. S. D. Blandford had a telegram yesterday from Newtown, B.B., saying that the shop and contents owned by Mr. Stanley Gill there had been destroyed by fire Wednesday night. The place was a large one and a good stock was carried. Mr. Gill was insured for \$3,600 with the Acadia and British American Companies.

### OFFICIAL SEALING NEWS

Wireless to the Postmaster General  
Via Foggo—Samuel Blandford reports crew aboard and well.  
Via Cape Ray—Viking, Ranger, Diana, all well; no men on ice. No report from Seal yet; other ships standing until cause ascertained.

### SEAL REPORTED BY DIANA

Early this morning the Postmaster General had the following message from Cape Ray:  
"Diana reports Seal about eight miles north at dusk, apparently O.K. Also that intermittent signals were heard from Seal about 9.20 p.m. Wireless apparently out of commission. Diana reports calm, clear night there, so thinks there is nothing to fear. Other ships closed down at midnight, Montreal time."

### LOGGER BADLY CUT

During the past week while a man named Hickey was cutting pit props in Placentia Bay the axe he used slipped and almost severed his right foot at the instep. The arteries and veins being severed he suffered much and was very weak from loss of blood. He had to be carried 15 miles to a doctor who dressed the wound and he was then taken to his home.

### SHOULD BE PUT IN THE POOR HOUSE

The unfortunate man Edward Scott who has been put down in the Penitentiary several times of late, who has no home or friends and cannot work, sought shelter in the Police Station again last night. He was again sent to the "pen" to-day for 2 months. Something should be done to have this man placed where he of right should be, in the Poor Asylum.

Toronto (noon)—Fresh West strong North East winds, cool with local rains. Saturday, N.E. and N. winds, cool.

### OUR THEATRES

#### THE NICKEL

For the week-end performance at the Nickel theatre there is a most elaborate and highly interesting programme. There is a beautiful three-part drama entitled "The Counter Intrigue." This is produced in conjunction with the Ladies World Magazine. This photoplay continues the scene of the missing paragraph in the story of the same title published in the Ladies World Magazine for which cast prizes have been offered. The Keystone Company will be seen in a very funny comedy entitled "Hearts and Planets." There will be two other subjects by well-known artists. To-morrow afternoon there will be the regular big bumper matinee for children.

#### THE CRESCENT

"The Working of a Miracle," a grand photoplay by the Edison Co., featuring Edward Earle and Gladys Huetette, is the feature at the Crescent Picture Palace for Friday and Saturday. "For His Mother," with Carlton King and Helen Strickland, in the title roles is a splendid story of a son's sacrifice for mother and brother. "In High Society," a Ham comedy featuring Lloyd V. Hamilton and Bud Duncan. Extra pictures at the Saturday matinee, send the children.

### Five Brothers Meet at Front

Some Were Coming Out of Trenches, Others Were Going in—Were Given 4 Hours Leave by Officer

LONDON, March 30.—Five Cardiff brothers named Griffiths and their brother-in-law met recently at the front under strange circumstances, says the Chronicle. Some of the brothers were coming out of, and others going into, the trenches, and they all met in the middle of the road.

Two of the brothers are in the Royal Engineers, one in the Pioneers, one in the Welsh Guards, and one is a driver. An officer who witnessed the incident gave them four hours' leave. There are two brothers fighting (Scots Guards and 3rd Welsh), and one has been wounded three times.

### OUR HOUSE OF LORDS

In the Council yesterday the "Articles of Commerce" Bill was again the bone of contention. Hon. John Harvey, as at the previous sitting, contending that it was derogatory to the dignity of the Supreme Court and outside of the scope of the functions of its judges to drag them down as arbitrators in purely commercial matters. His arguments were similar to those raised by him in discussing last year the Labrador Fish Prices Bill, and he moved as an amendment to Section 1 of the Act that the power of fixing the prices of commodities called for in the Bill, be vested in the Governor-in-Council or arbitrators appointed by him instead of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

The President and others held that after all the Judges of the Court would perform—even if Mr. Harvey's contentions were confirmed—be the ultimate tribunal in cases of appeal, and the amendment being put was lost on the vote. The control of Trading Bill was read a second time. Hon. Mr. Bishop tabled the reports of the Savings Bank and Inland Fisheries Board, when an adjournment was taken at 4.30 p.m. to-day.

### BADLY CUT HAND

While cutting wharf shores on A. H. Murray's premises to-day a man named Halfyard had his left hand severely cut. He lost much blood and was treated at Wadden's pharmacy.

### BOUGHT NEW SCHOONER

Skipper Nath Piercey of Winterton, T.B., arrived here Tuesday from the West Coast with a fine schooner, the "Grill," which he bought in that section. She is a vessel of 50 tons and will be used as a trader.

### SUBSCRIBED \$160.00 FOR COT FUND

Capt. Kean and the crew of the S.S. Sable Island took up a subscription for the Cot Fund before they left for home and raised \$160, which was handed Mr. D. M. Baird. No doubt the crews of the other ships will follow suit.

Teacher—"Who is familiar with the battle of Bunker Hill?"  
Pupil—"Well, ma'am, I guess I am. I've been a caddy for two years."

### FIVE YEAR OLD CHILD BADLY BURNT

With Clothing Afire She Rushed Into the Street Shrieking for Aid—Fireman O'Neill Acts Promptly and Saved the Child's Life

People passing down Water Street, just west of Patrick Street, at 9.30 this morning were horrified to see a little girl named Mary Mason, aged 5 years, of 180 Water Street, West, run out of her house to the street while she screamed loudly for help. It seems that the little one's aunt, also a young girl, had only just come into the house and went out to the store near to purchase some milk. Mary was then in bed in her night-dress and while her aunt was out leaped out of bed and procuring matches lit them and caught her clothing on fire.

When the child reached the street she presented an awful spectacle, and with the flame shooting up over her head resembled a human torch. Her aunt who appeared in answer to her cries was doing her best to tear the burning clothing from her person, and in doing so had both her hands badly scalded. Fortunately Fire Const. Andy O'Neill of the Western Station was passing at the time, and running to the little one divested himself quickly of his over coat, wrapped it round her and smothered the flames. He then bore her into the residence of Mrs. Hayes, near, where the poor child lay moaning with pain and with her head, legs, arms and body terribly burnt.

Procuring a bottle of olive oil O'Neill rubbed it all over the little one, especially in the legs and abdomen which were in a terrible state, and then procuring a clean sheet wrapped it about the child. He then sent for a doctor, but as one was not coming quickly he telephoned Capt. Kean, and Const. J. Nugent coming on the run telephoned from Callahan's grocery for a doctor, but though several were connected with none could come until Dr. Tait was reached and he responded promptly, prescribed for the child and then ordered her to hospital, where she was taken late.

From 9.30 till 10.30 the child was left without medical aid, the doctors spent to over the phone by Const. Nugent giving various excuses for not responding and their heartlessness was denounced by the people about in scathing terms. Both Nurse Ellis and Officer Nugent gave excellent assistance, though but for Fire-Const. O'Neill the child would have been burnt to death.

### S. A. CONCERT A SUCCESS

Girls' Life Saving Guard of the Salvation Army gave a very nice concert at the Citadel last night. It was attended by a large number and the programme consisted of solos, drills, recitations &c., which were heartily enjoyed. The First Aid Exhibition was very good and Capt. Holland deserves credit for her training of the Girls' Guard.

### Was Asleep At Duty's Post

Alleged Cause of Big Railway Wreck at Amherst, Ohio, in Which Some 50 Persons Were Killed

Cleveland, Ohio, April 3.—With twenty-seven bodies recovered from yesterday's wreck of three New York Central trains, at Amherst, Ohio, attention to-day was focussed upon the several investigations that were put under way by federal, state and railroad authorities, to determine responsibility for the wreck.

Coroner Garver, of Lorain County, planned to begin an inquest at Elyria, into the death of the wreck victims, and the causes leading thereto. The question of whether the so-called "death coach" on train No. 86 was of modern steel construction, as claimed by New York Central Officials, or was mainly of wood construction, promised to be an important feature of the investigation. Railroad officials to-day were still divided in opinion as to whether the blame should be placed upon the tower man, who it is alleged by some officials, was asleep and failed to give the proper signal or upon the engineer, who they say, it may be shown, either failed to see the signal, or exceeded his orders.

Large Capsule.  
The little girl rushed into the drug store, handed the druggist a note and said:  
And the druggist opened the note and read: "Please send me a dime's worth of calomel and soda for a man in a capsule."

### SHIPPING

The S.S. Sagona left North Sydney at 7 a.m. to-day for Port aux Basques.

The S.S. Kyle left Sydney at 4 a.m. to-day and is due at Port aux Basques at 4 p.m.

The S.S. Prospero left Hr. Breton at 8 a.m. to-day and is due here Sunday.

The S.S. Glencoe left Push-through at 2.30 p.m. yesterday, going West.

The Sagona and Kyle, on their last trips from Sydney, brought full freights.

The S.S. Home arrived at Placentia at 4.50 p.m. yesterday; 19 passengers, no freight; sailing to-day for West.

The schr. "Viola May," which recently arrived here from Halifax is now loading fish for Europe at the Smith Co.'s premises.

The Argyle, which is now in port, is receiving her annual overhaul, and the Home has taken up her route for the time being.

### Waste No Sympathy On The Germans

View of Battlefield Would Cure Home Folk of Spirit of Leniency—Peace Still Remote—Pays High Tribute to the Fighting Qualities of the French

London, April 3.—A Canadian officer well known in the West, who was recently transferred to the English artillery, writing here, says:—

"I have succeeded in securing many prospective settlers for Canada after the war. The Canadian railways may look for a lot of business unless England goes broke. Meanwhile the Verdun offensive is some engagement. I admire the quiet, unassuming way the French go about the job. Only when the full history of this war is written will be realized what the French have done, and are doing. I personally believe Germany is done right now, but with the line so well secured and wired for a succession of lines back miles and miles it is like getting a fox out of a hole. They must come out in time though. I feel the time is getting nearer every day. What is your surmise about the end of the war? November seems the popular idea. The Germans are very much upset because no counter-attack was made by us all along the lines after Verdun. Their shells have been more defective and the general opinion is they are getting short of the proper ingredients. We all dread lest peace be declared too soon and before their navy is sent under. I fear if the war goes on say another six months the people at home will begin to say, 'Let's be merciful, and not hit them too hard.' Let those sort come here and see the desolation of war everywhere. We are most keen on going on and getting our own back and making the brutes beg and be kicked for doing it."

### "God Was With Us"

German Field Marshal Makes Great Statement in Turk Capital  
Berlin, March 29.—The Tageblatt's Constantinople correspondent sends the following dated March 23:  
This afternoon General von Mackensen was received by the sultan in the Meraissin Kiosk for the purpose of delivering the marshal's baton and a personal letter sent by the kaiser. After a half hour audience, at which the war minister, Enver Pasha, was also present, the sultan personally conferred the brilliants of the Osmanieh Order on von Mackensen, who later went to tea at the Deutsches Haus Teutonia, where most of the German colony in Constantinople were on hand to meet the field marshal.  
In answer to the address of thanks for having opened up a direct road to Constantinople, von Mackensen, deeply moved, replied: "God was with us, and everything else for which I am given credit my soldiers did. My share in comparison with the devotion of my soldiers is infinitely small. Fortune has been faithful to me, and I hope it will continue to be faithful, but the greatest thanks is due to God for His leadership."

### OVER-NIGHT WAR MESSAGES

#### Curzon May Succeed Derby on Aerial Board

LONDON, April 6.—The Evening Standard says that Earl Derby has resigned the Chairmanship of the Joint Naval and Military Board of Control of the Aerial Service, on the ground that his position as Director of Recruiting occupies his whole time. The Standard says that this position has been offered to Earl Curzon. A committee has been appointed to consider questions of the construction and design of naval and military aircraft.

#### Canadian Battalion "Fired" Out

SYDNEY, April 6.—Broughton Arms, the principal building in the mining town of Broughton, where the 15th Battalion is quartered, was destroyed by fire this afternoon. The building, which was a large structure, contained hospital, officers' quarters, mess rooms for two companies and recreation rooms. The cause of the fire is not known, but is attributed to a defective chimney.

BERLIN, April 6.—German troops have stormed the village of Haucourt, on the Avocourt-Bethincourt front, to the north-west of Verdun, the War Office announced to-day.

#### Holland Demands Return of Mail Matter Seized

NEW YORK, April 6.—A news agency despatch from the Hague, published here to-day, says that Holland has demanded from Great Britain the return of valuable securities and documents seized by vessels of the British Navy. An official announcement to this effect was made to-day.

#### Officially Denied

LONDON, April 6.—A despatch from the Hague to Reuter's Telegram Co., states that the Foreign Minister denies a report published in a Dutch paper that Great Britain had suggested to Holland that she should allow passage to an army through Dutch Flanders.

Never Has Any  
The man who is always telling what a lot of good he would do if he had the money, never has any.

### TOO SOON!

It is much too soon to put away your rubbers for another year. We will have wet, slushy streets for some weeks yet. It is unwise to wear broken rubbers at this season, first because of the ever present danger of wet feet, and second, because mud will soon work its way through your rubbers and ruin your boots. If your rubbers are broken or likely to break soon, it would be well for you to buy today a pair of BEAR BRAND Rubber Shoes. You will know them, because the "BEAR" is stamped on the shank, and because the lining is purple. Distinctive in every way. Bear Brand Shoes are health preservers and money savers.

### Cleveland Rubber Co.,

New Martin Bldg., St. John's, N.F. mar29,tu,fr,ti

### CHRISTIAN'S BORAX SOAP

GUARANTEED PURE  
Save the Wrappers, they are valuable. \$10.00 will be given the person saving the most for 1916.

### M. A. DUFFY, SOLE AGENT.

#### Agents Wanted.

WANTED TO BUY RAW FUR.  
Highest price paid. Send your catch along or write for Price List. W. G. WHITEHOUSE, Photographer, Springdale.—ap7,6i

WANTED—AN EXPERIENCED BOOKKEEPER and STENOGRAPHER. Good wages; reference required. Apply BRITISH CLOTHING COMPANY.—mar28

COAT AND VEST MAKERS WANTED—Good wages and constant work. Apply to BRITISH CLOTHING CO.—mar25,31,tf

## LINEN SHOWER!

Altho' Linen Goods have advanced considerably, we will sell AT REDUCED PRICES

White Linen Table Covers, from . . . \$1.00 to \$3.50.  
Unbleached Linen Table Covers, from . . . 50c.  
Tray and Side Board Cloths.

**DAMASKS.**

Unbleached Table Damask, from . . . 25c.  
White Table, "Extra Value," from . . . 35c. to \$1.20.

**TOWELLINGS.**

White Linen Towelling . . . 10c. and 12c.

**HOLLANDS.**

Finest White Hollands, from . . . 11c. to 25c.

**PILLOW COTTON.**

Extra Value, 40 and 42 in. . . 25c. and 30c.

**BUTCHERS' LINEN.**

Very Fine, 40 and 38 in. . . 35c. and 45c.

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