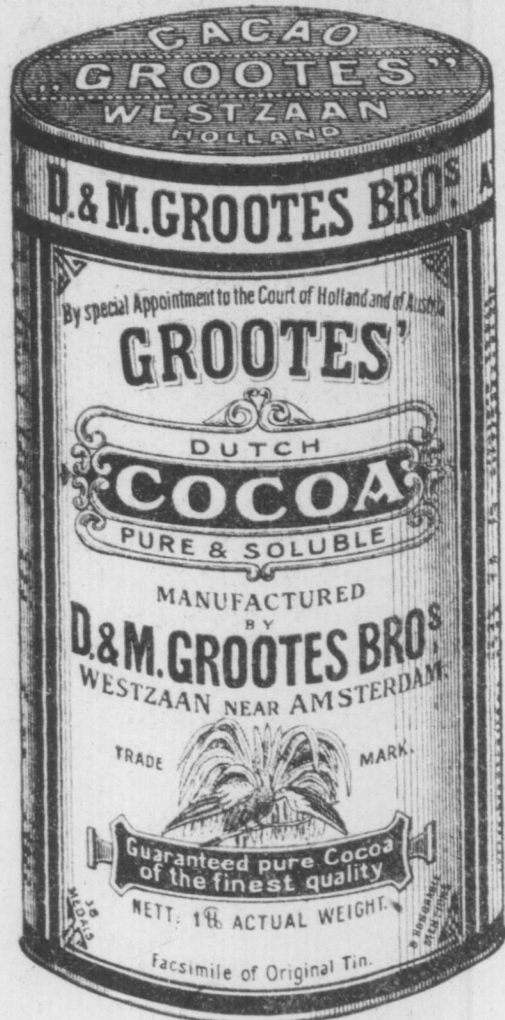


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**The Mail and Advocate**

Issued every day from the office of publication, 167 Water Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, Union Publishing Co. Ltd., Proprietors.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., DEC. 31, 1914.

**OUR POINT OF VIEW**

**Government Should Move**

SOME eight thousand cases of lobsters of 1914 pack still remain in the Colony unsaleable. They could be purchased for \$15 per case.

Could not the Premier approach the heads of the Army and Navy in London and endeavour to sell this choice article of food to the British Government for the use of the soldiers and sailors?

When 1,000,000 men are being fed daily, it ought to be no hard matter to dispose of eight thousand cases of lobsters.

Millions of dollars are spent daily for food to supply the British troops. The United States and Canada are receiving scores of those millions for food supplies and the least that could be done for Newfoundland would be to purchase the available lobsters which are well worth \$15 per case.

Nothing whatever has been done by the Government to secure a portion of the millions of dollars worth of supplies needed for the British troops.

Nothing has been done by the Government to aid the fishermen during the past fall. The fishermen have nothing to thank the Government for, but they have much to condemn them for.

Any poor slob occupying the position of Premier should be able to dispatch a cable or write a letter to the responsible and proper authorities in England and secure an order for eight thousand cases of lobsters at \$15 per case. And surely an able-to-do anything—like the renowned brilliant Premier—ought to secure such an order before breakfast any day.

**The Sealing Commission**

ACCORDING to the trend of the questioning of witnesses before the Sealing Commission since Xmas it would appear that an effort will be made to place the blame on Geo. Tuff and exonerate Capt. Kean.

The cross-examination of witnesses by Dr. Lloyd on the 29th exceedingly excelled his former efforts to exonerate Abram Kean. Well might the fishermen be asking whether Dr. Lloyd is Kean's special counsel before the Commission.

Geo. Tuff blundered but he had no other choice while on the Stephens but to do as directed by Kean.

We know what a martinet Kean is on board of a sealing ship. Thousands know what he is from the evidence of Mark Sheppard in reference to the big job entailed in an attempt to approach him even on matters of life and death.

Geo. Tuff looked up to Kean as an experienced sealer and was guided by his advice and is not half as much to

blame for what he did as Kean's was for tendering the advice.

Again, Lemuel Squires is made to say Kean was not to blame for what happened on Tuesday. Dr. Lloyd would not put that question to Mark Sheppard or Arthur Hiscock, but he squeezed something out of Squires at complete variance with what Squires stated last spring.

Let Dr. Lloyd and the Dummy Minister of Justice not run away with the idea that the public can't see through their mighty endeavours to "make believe."

Let the farce end. No good, but much evil has already come out of it. Another Commission will have to investigate this awful massacre of the Country's primest breadwinners and its direction won't be left to two such sealing experts as Squires and Lloyd but to men who have forgotten more about sealing matters in a day than Squires and Lloyd have learnt in a life time.

The one awful mistake and unpardonable blunder of this investigation is the mad act of Morris in mixing up the Judges of the Supreme Court with it. How the Judges came to accept such appointments puzzles the intelligent men all over the Colony.

Morris has outwitted himself. Again he has failed to count the cost of his smart unrighteous machinations.

Again his efforts to blind the people have failed.

Again he stands charged with a serious failure of duty.

Again he has aroused the indignation of the electorate.

He has humbled by his action the high repute and untarnished esteem of the Supreme Court Bench.

What can compensate him for such conduct?

All the waters of the Atlantic won't wash him clear of this foul business in the eyes of the electorate.

From end to end of the Colony comes the demand to uncapitain Kean.

From all sections comes the request for legislation that will not permit floating coffins to engage in the seal-fishery.

From every village and settlement in the Colony comes the appeal for legislation that will prevent sealing masters from steaming away miles from their crews when sealing or searching for seals.

What has the country heard about those matters from the famous experts placed in charge of this so called investigation?

Will our readers tarry a while and think of the effective and far reaching enquiries which immediately followed the Titanic and Empress of Ireland disasters? Was not the Anglo-Saxon world searched for its ablest experts in order to secure an enquiry that the people had the fullest confidence in?

What a show has been made of Terra Nova by the childish actions of the Premier in connection with the slaughter of 251 of Terra Nova's primest sons.

No sane man open to reason can forgive the Premier for his outrageous blundering or childish knavery in connection with those two awful catastrophes. Things were bad enough in the spring but one chance of making good remained open, now that last refuge for Morris has been lost.

The whole sad business will have to be gone over again—gone over to its very depths, and by a Commission appointed by the incoming Government which will be placed in power by the toilers of our Island Home, and that will be the first free government of the people and by the people that ever ruled Terra Nova.

**Another Safeguard**

THE shareholders of the Union Trading Company at its annual meeting held at Catalina resolved to place an insurance of \$40,000 on the life of President Coaker and in compliance with this resolution the President underwent medical examination by Drs. Anderson and Macpherson recently and the agent of Manufacturers Life, Mr. S. J. Foote, has been apprised that the Company is willing to take this big risk on President Coaker's life.

Those who had been hoping against hope so long, expecting Mr. Coaker's health had been injured by his incessant labors of the last six years, will find little consolation from the action of this Life Insurance Company in accepting a risk on his life to the value of \$40,000.

The policy will be made out in favor of the Union Trading Company and will be a splendid addition to the Company's capital at Mr. Coaker's death.

Many opponents have assured the fishermen that should Coaker die the whole business of the Union would go smash. The placing of this life insurance policy will ensure perfect financial tranquility at the Union's Head Office when Mr. Coaker bids adieu to earthly friends.

It won't be hard to find a successor to successfully operate the Trading Company's business when \$40,000 cash is laid on his desk as a gift to the Company as he assumes control of the Company's affairs.

This is another of Mr. Coaker's far-

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NEW IMPERSONATIONS IN SONG, CHARACTER AND RAPID CHANGES OF COSTUMES,  
Including: "You Will Know What it is to be There."  
**BIG PROGRAMME OF ALL FEATURE MOTION PICTURES.**  
SONGS AND MUSIC! THESE ARE GOOD SHOWS!  
NEW YEAR'S DAY! AFTERNOON AND NIGHT!  
AFTERNOON, TWO SHOWS! NIGHT, TWO SHOWS!  
**FRANKLYN and HIATT**  
Presenting a Comedy Playlet, in novel form:  
**"THE GODDESS OF LOVE."**  
A screaming farce-comedy, with some splendid costumes, and surprising effects.  
YOU OUGHT TO SEE THEM!

**TO THE EDITOR**

**Down on Treating**

(Editor Mail and Advocate.)

Dear Sir,—The members of the W.C.T.U. wish to express their disapproval of the custom which prevails to a large extent in this city of offering wine and other stronger drinks to their gentleman friends on New Year's Day.

Certain cases have been brought to our notice of young men of good families who coming to this city from other countries Total Abstinents are now, through the mistaken kindness of their friends, on the high road to ruin.

We are glad of the many, we believe hundreds of homes where nothing of this kind ever is offered, homes which young men may safely enter, but there are still many who still keep up this old custom.

Mothers of St. John's, wives, sweethearts. Will you not this year take a stand on this point. This is a matter which rests almost entirely with the ladies.

Let no young man be able to say that he took his first step on his downward course at your home.

I am not speaking of what I do not know. I have seen homes broken up, wives and mothers prematurely aged through this cussed stuff.

May we begin the New Year striving to help and uplift, not by helping to bring sorrow and disgrace.—Com.

**GERMAN CONCEPTION OF WAR**

London Times:—The reason why Field-Marshal von Hindenburg had been suddenly idolized is that, in German eyes, he is saving the eastern provinces from invasion. The German public care little about his enormous losses, and are even prepared to transmute his defeats into victories, so long as he can manage to keep the cam-

**Freshwater Local Council Officers**

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

The annual meeting of Freshwater Local Council of the F.P.U. was held on Nov. 23rd, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Chairman, Wm. Joyce, Jr.  
Deputy Chairman, Geo. Evely.  
Secretary, W. H. Hillyard.  
Treasurer, Gilbert Pottile.  
Door Guard, Henry Butt.

I wish to thank the former officers of our Council, for their good work the past year. More especially our Past Chairman, Wm. Joyce, Sr., who held the office as Chairman the past four years.

And we sincerely hope that the officers for the coming year will be as valiant for the F.P.U. as the past.

Wishing the President and the F.P.U. every success throughout the Country, on behalf of Freshwater Local Council.

W. H. HILLYARD, Secretary.

**Twillingate Local Council Officers**

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—Twillingate Local Council held a meeting on Wednesday night, Dec. 23rd, when the election of officers took place, as follows:

Martin Phillips, Chairman, elected.  
Edward Smith, Deputy Chairman, elected.  
Samuel Elliott, Financial Secretary, elected.

Peter Young, Treasurer, re-elected.  
George Osmond, Recording Secretary, elected.  
Fred Newman, Inside Door Guard, elected.

Edgar Roberts, Outside Door Guard, elected.

Wishing the F.P.U. in general a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year on behalf of Twillingate Local Council.

MARTIN PHILLIPS, Chairman.

**From a Volunteer**

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—Please publish enclosed Volunteer letter in your paper.

WILLIAM McCUE.  
Fox Hr., Dec. 24, '14.

Forth George,  
Inverness, Scotland,  
December 9th, 1914.

Dear Friend,—Just to let you know I am well, hoping you are the same.

We arrived here yesterday (Tuesday) and like to be here. It is much better than under canvas. You would never know it from home, it is so comfortable, and the people are just the same. We get a great reception every where we go.

We had a Highland band to meet us yesterday at the station and accompanied us to the fort.

We are in town, and will get constant leave. I saw a lot of strange things and strange faces since I saw you last, German prisoners, and wounded soldiers, etc.

London was the nicest place I ever saw or "ever will again," as "Uncle Ned" used to say.

I had a letter from my Mother before I left Salisbury; I hope they are all well. Don't fail to write and tell me all the news, as I did not hear much from home since I left.

I hope you are enjoying yourself and having lots of dancing. I am sending you some papers, I will post them to-day, and will send you some every mail.

We can't get any good chewing tobacco here.

I suppose all hands are gone away for the winter, that is, any one that's going. Remember me to all the boys and girls and especially to "Bridget's Maurice." Tell him I'll write him Sunday. Tell Norah I will send her my photo some day this week.

I think my news is pretty near exhausted now, so I'll be wishing you good-bye and a Happy Xmas. Hope you'll spend a happy one. No more at present.—P.S.

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