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Our Motto: "Suum Cuique."



("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate
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The Great F.P.U. Convention

NOT since Newfoundland possessed Responsible Government has there been such an important meeting of workmen as that held last week at Catalina. It will be known as the great Convention, for it surpassed in importance, attendance, harmony, enthusiasm and ability all former F.P.U. Conventions.

In 1909 the first Convention was held at Change Islands, which was attended by 9 delegates. In eight years the Union's progress has been marvellous, and 180 delegates from all sections of the Colony responded to the last invitations of President Coaker to convene for the consideration of matters solely affecting the interests of the Toilers of the Country. The ablest men responded; many of them will be 10 days absent from their homes and at considerable personal expense, but they resolved to avail of the instrument raised to defend their rights, protect their interests, uplift their country and destroy corrupt government, and they have returned to their homes with a knowledge of affairs that will make them far more valuable citizens. They have learnt to discuss public matters as well as matters pertaining to industry that supports them and their country. They have become interested in the uplifting of their neighbours and the proper government of their country.

They for five days studied the most important matters affecting their interests and those of their country and the result of those five days deliberations will bear fruit as the months and years pass. They seriously discussed problems that hitherto no one could be found in public life to face, and they have become responsible men, directing the energies of a vast organization that five years ago was treated with derision. It is now generally conceded that the F.P.U. is the greatest factor for Right that the country ever beheld. That all are intent on supporting only Right, may be gleaned from what is published of the proceedings of those Conventions. The best interests of the country may safely be entrusted to the men who meet at the F.P.U. Conventions, for the vast majority of them will not countenance wrong doing.

Last week's Convention will be remembered as the most harmonious of the eight that have been convened; not one division was taken during the five days deliberations. All were exceedingly pleased to support measures proposed. Every opportunity was given for full discussion. President Coaker on every matter expressed his opinion; he spoke during the five days deliberations about fifteen hours. The Convention was a unit concerning matters regarding the new premises and the Export Co. Some thousands of dollars worth of shares were sold to delegates who attended. The amazement caused by the inspection of the colossal undertaking at Port Union was easily apparent. There is nothing like it to be found in the Colony and

very few of the delegates were prepared to find the premises so colossal and substantial. The foundations and the framing are so solid and enduring as to immediately convince all who inspect them of the wonderful faith President Coaker has in the future of the Union work. There is not one of the 180 delegates who attended who has not the fullest confidence in Mr. Coaker's ability to carry the whole proposal through and make it an astonishing success.

The grand demonstration in itself was an eloquent tribute to the great work being accomplished by the President and Union. The District Council meetings were a unit in re-selecting the sitting members of the House as next year's candidates. The proposal to name the new town after President Coaker was another tribute to him and an appreciation of his services. He declined such an honour and preferred the proposal to name it "Port Union," which is another indication of his determination to place Union first in all his considerations. The Trading Co.'s shareholders resolved to erect a suitable dwelling house for the President of the Company which is to be ready by next August.

The placing in the President's hands the selection of remaining candidates for Twillingate, Bonavista, St. Barbe, Burin, Fortune and Burgeo is another indication of confidence. The placing in his hands the supreme power to manage the affairs of the Trading Co., Export Co. and Publishing Co., as he deem proper is another indication of the confidence placed in him by those who have put their hands in their pockets to establish the commercial side of the Union's activities. We venture to state that so far as the political aspect of the Union work is concerned that the vote next year in all the Union districts will exceed by 25 per cent. the vote of 1913. All are determined to return Liberal-Union candidates next fall. The proposal to name the party Liberal-Union was unanimously received. The selection of a Leader for the Party at the next elections was placed in President Coaker's hands, who will nominate the Leader and submit his selection to the Party for approval. If Mr. Coaker wishes to lead he is empowered to do so.

This is another eye opener for those who have preached that the Union was alright but the man leading it was not alright. Union men will abstain from attending meetings of candidates opposing Union candidates in the coming elections. This is an indication of the contempt which the fishermen will shower upon the unlucky chaps who will be barefaced enough to contest Union districts next fall in opposition to Union candidates.

All the officers were unanimously re-elected, there being none nominated but the retiring officers. The President was nominated by Mr. Stone, which was seconded by Mr. Jennings.

The speech of Dr. Lloyd was a masterpiece, nothing surpassing it being heard on the floors of the Convention since the Union was established. The open, eloquent manner in which he reviewed Union matters and explained matters of public concern won for him a warm place in the hearts of all present.

Pte. Jensen's address on Patriotism was another Convention treat, and if the delegates were not fully informed of the recruiting needs and their duty to King and Empire it was not Pte. Jensen's fault. For over an hour he held the earnest attention of his hearers and at the close they warmly cheered him. He left with a smile upon his face as he tucked away the Convention's contribution of \$50 to Red Cross Funds.

Lieut. Hicks' address of ninety minutes was also a splendid presentation of the Regiment's experiences in Britain, Egypt, Dardanelles and France. He is a pleasing speaker, fluent and clear, and he handled the subject with credit to himself. He was warmly cheered at the close of his address.

Those two patriotic meetings will we trust be beneficial to recruiting as both addresses were appreciated and closely followed by all the delegates.

The Reid Newfoundland Company overlooked the big rush on the Bonavista Branch and put no extra cars on, which caused every inch of sitting and standing space to be occupied on the cars, resulting in dissatisfaction and great inconvenience. The delays en route to Bonavista were long and the train arrived nearly three hours late. Had consideration been given by the dispatching office, nothing but passengers would have been attended to, freight

could have been taken along by another train. The Company however were ready to meet the wishes of Mr. Coaker in having the Wren call at Old Perlican and the Dundee at Bonavista, or Catalina if necessary, to take the delegates for Bonavista Bay and also in arranging a special train to connect with the Dundee. They also arranged half first class fares throughout their system which was appreciated and the Convention ordered the Secretary to forward its thanks to the Company.

The Prospero as usual was behind, but most of the Green Bay delegates came via Lewisporte and were present at the opening of the Convention.

Mr. Collishaw was prevented from visiting Catalina on Tuesday owing to being indisposed. He however missed a treat for had he been at Catalina during Convention week he would have been surprised with what he heard and saw.

The eighth Convention will long be remembered by those who attended and the results of the meetings will have a powerful effect upon next year's happenings, and for years upon matters pertaining to F.P.U. interests.

To-morrow we will publish the report of the Committee appointed to consider a reply to the President's opening address which is the substance of the work of the Convention's deliberations.

A CORRECTION

In addition to the Halls owned by the F.P.U. as enumerated in President Coaker's opening address at Catalina Convention, the Halls at Trouty, Victoria Cove, and Salvage should be added, which Halls have been in use for the past two or three years.

The New Appointments

LONDON, Dec. 9.—There is unanimity among political writers of the morning newspapers to-day as to the appointment of Andrew Bonar Law as Chancellor of the Exchequer; Arthur J. Balfour as Foreign Secretary; Earl Derby as Secretary of War; Walter Hume Long, as Minister of Colonies; Austen Chamberlain, Secretary of State for India; Dr. Christopher Addison, as Minister of Munitions; Arthur Henderson, as Minister of Labor, and Ellis J. Griffith, as Home Secretary. There is a divergence of opinion as to the appointment for the Admiralty, and of one of the Ministers without portfolio who is to be a member of the War Council. The two posts apparently will be between Lord Milner and Sir Ed. Carson, but there is uncertainty as to which post each man will get. According to the Times, Baron Devonport will be Food Controller.

A Greek Ultimatum

LONDON, Dec. 10.—It is understood from a reliable authority that the Entente ultimatum will be presented to Greece on Sunday, says Reuter's Athens correspondent, who telegraphs under Saturday's date. The British and Russian Ministers had an audience with the King to-day. Subsequently the King summoned the American Minister. The personal baggage of the Entente diplomats has been sent to Piraeus.

A New Crossing Of the Danube

BERLIN, Dec. 10.—A new crossing of the Danube, between Teserovoda and Silistria, by the Bulgars, is announced in to-day's army headquarters statement regarding operations on the Rumanian front, which also records continued advance by the Teutonic armies in Eastern Wallachia. On the Moldavian front the Russian troops captured a height south of the Tretus valley, but were repulsed in their attacks between Kirlibaba and Dona Watra.

St. John of Jerusalem

OTTAWA, Dec. 10.—Promotions in the Order of St. John of Jerusalem are announced as approved by the King. Sir Walter Davidson is made a Knight of Grace and Lady Davidson becomes a Lady of Grace.

Italian Govt. Supported

PARIS, Dec. 10.—A Havas despatch from Rome says a debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the Government's declaration regarding the war, which lasted four days, ended with a vote of confidence in the Government of 376 to 45.

Oyama is Dead

TOKIO, Dec. 10.—Field Marshal Oyama, Commander-in-Chief of the Manchurian army of Japan during the Russo-Japanese War, is dead.

REVELLE BY CALCAR

THE STORY respecting "The Killing of Our Caribou" which The Mail and Advocate furnished on its sixth page last Friday is one to arouse the indignation of every man who reads it, if he has any red corpuscles in his blood at all. It buttresses in the most forceful manner the reiterated arguments put up by us in this column, that it is high time that something be done for the preservation of our caribou herds unless we want to see them wiped off the face of the country as completely as our forebears wiped out the unhappy aborigines—the Beothics.

It is with loathing and repugnance that we refer to the butchers who murdered the red men, as our forebears, but there is no help for it, we of to-day must bear the stigma which they have indelibly fixed upon Newfoundlanders for all time to come. They did the pioneering and the slaughtering, as their heirs share alike their glory—and their shame. They were hardy, brave fellows and of this we are proud, but they shame us with the story of their merciless and ruthless killing of the poor Red Indian.

With the story of the exterminated Beothic before us, and the shame of it which causes a blush to mantle our cheek and a sigh of sympathy to agitate our breasts at the recollection of their cruel fate let us be careful of what our legacy may leave to those who are destined to inhabit this fair land of ours, when we, like the Beaton and other brutes who reddened their hands in innocent human blood, are lying beneath the sod.

If we believe, as we profess, that the human race is advancing towards a higher and more noble civilization surely a little thought must convince us, that the day is coming when men will no longer take delight in the ruthless slaughter of God's beautiful creatures. The day is surely coming when mankind shall have reached to that pinnacle of refinement where he will regard as a degenerate and a savage who would kill for the lust of killing. Then it will no longer be called "sport" to way lay the meek creatures of the forest in order to take from them that life which God has given them. It is a relic of our barbarous state when the instinct to kill was the leading passion.

Let us be careful not to offend our heirs by our slaughter of the

deer, as the slaughter of the red men by those gone before us offends us to-day.

If we have none of these finer instincts and it is still regarded as manly to hunt and to kill, then let us say we have no quarrel with any one on such a score. Perhaps it is right to hunt, we have no desire to raise the point whatever, for granting you the justness and weight of your argument, we are furnished with a finer and more potent weapon with which to fight this battle for the preservation of our caribou.

You say you want to hunt, then it is up to you to see that the finest game we boast is preserved for your enjoyment. Do you want to see the day when your rifle will rust on the rack because of disuse? If you sleep on, taking no action in this matter, you are inviting the day when there shall be nothing left worth hunting. Do you console yourself with the reflection that there are enough deer to last you to the end of the chapter?

We hope there is nobody here to-day boasting the title of hunter who takes this contemptible view of the matter. Such a man is little if any better than a thief who would steal his neighbour's property, he is not fit for citizenship even in the land of the savage. We hold this fair land and all it holds, in trust for future generations. Let us then be as honest stewards and so conduct the affairs of the country that we may hand down to our heirs not only what we have ourselves inherited but an accumulated capital.

The animals that roam our hills and valleys as well as the fishes that dwell in our lakes and streams are the assets of this country that it is our bounden duty to preserve and to enrich. The demands for sport and recreation must grow more and more incessant at time goes on, then unless people change greatly future generations will seek the interior for the hunting season, in ever increasing numbers. What if we leave them nothing to hunt?

What of the future if we instead of preserving this great attraction for foreign hunters who leave their gold with us, we kill the goose which lays the golden egg?

There are many reasons why we should try to preserve our game from extinction, reasons that appeal to our higher humanitarian selves as well as to the lesser sentiment which looks only at the utilitarian side of the question.

An issue which appeals to us in so many ways must surely be heard if not for one reason then for the other. How we have suffered this all important subject

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

DECEMBER 11

Charles H. Simms admitted to Bar, 1857.

Schr. Queen of Swansea reached neighborhood of Gull Island at 4 p.m., 1867.

Collection of Peter's Pence in local Catholic churches; amount, \$1,344, 1870.

One hundred and sixty-five children confirmed in Church of England Cathedral, 1870.

Walter Richardson Grieve left Newfoundland, 1879.

Dr. Louis Joseph died at Pileley's Island, 1893.

Smallest brigantine that ever entered St. John's; the Stanley, 69 tons, belonging to Hodge, of Fogo, 1891.

Arrives Home

BERLIN, Dec. 10.—The Deutschland arrived at noon to-day from the United States, completing a quick trip.

A French Surprise Attack

PARIS, Dec. 10.—The French made a successful surprise attack in Champagne, penetrating enemy trenches, destroying mine galleries and taking many prisoners.

Dutch and Brazilian Steamers Captured

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—The Flemish naval force have brought into harbour the Dutch steamer Caldonia and the Brazilian steamer Rio Parde, both on the way to England with cotton.

CURRENT EVENTS' CLUB MEETING

A very interesting meeting was that of the Current Events' Club, which took place Saturday at the Ladies Reading Rooms. Mrs. F. W. Ayre read a paper entitled "Through German Spectacles," showing the views of the people of the Fatherland on the war. Teas were served by Mrs. J. Harvey and at the next meeting which will be on the first Saturday in January there will be a debate on the duty of daughters to parents. The principal speakers will be Mesdames A. McPherson, R. A. Squires and Cooper.

to be so long ignored is beyond all understanding.

Mr. Gibbons by giving this tale to the public is deserving of great praise, for it may succeed in awakening before too late the mighty sleepers we have been pounding at this many a day without avail.

An Italian Explorer

TURIN, Dec. 9.—An explosion has occurred in the Alexandria explosives plant, and it is feared that more than fifty persons have been killed.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The Government Press in Athens admits that the Mayor of Athens and 1800 followers of former Premier Venizelos have been imprisoned on a charge of high treason. The Mayor of Athens, who is 75 years old, along with 188 others, has been committed to prison on charges of high treason and intent to commit murder.

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