



(Founded in 1879 by W. J. Herder.)

Evening Telegram

The Evening Telegram, Ltd., Proprietors.

All communications should be addressed to the Evening Telegram, Ltd., and not to individuals.

Saturday, March 8, 1924.

Fishermen Get Down to Rock Bottom

In yesterday's issue we published a communication signed by more than forty captains of the Northern fishing fleet, in which they signified their intention not to prosecute the codfishery next summer unless steps were taken to ameliorate the present wretched conditions. Doubtless the publication of the letter in question will be considered in certain quarters as prompted by political motives, and we shall be accused of attempting to embarrass the Government at a critical time. With regard to the former, we may say that we are not influenced one way or the other by party prejudices, and with regard to aiding or obstructing the programme of the Government, that depends entirely upon what their plans are.

The letter in question sums up in a simple and plain spoken manner the situation which exists and which can no longer be tolerated by the fishermen, and it is within the power of the Government to improve it. The cost of supplies has reached such a level owing chiefly to the burden of taxation that the fisheries can no longer be looked to by the producers as a means of providing a living, and it is the bounden duty of the Government to listen to their reasonable demands wrung from them by the dire straits in which they find themselves.

The solution of the difficulty is not the bonus so often flung out as the panacea for all ills. "What the sea makes the sea takes," and it is so with a Government. The bonus is artificial recompense, and it is taken out of the pockets of those who receive it with interest in the form of extra taxation. The solution is REDUCTION OF TAXES.

Give the fisherman a chance to purchase his requirements at a reasonable cost, and he will see to the rest. He does not require to be fed with political pap, or to be given a crutch to impede his movements. He is at last beginning to realize that promises are made to be broken, and his requirements must take concrete form if he is to survive. The silver lining to the dark cloud which is so often quoted to soothe him may sound beautiful in a political oration, but the music which he desires to hear is the jingle of silver in his pocket.

The rate at which our late administrations have been spending and which is conveniently attributed to the time worn excuse, the War, must forthwith be checked, if the population of this country is to survive. The cost of administration must be reduced in all its branches, and departments which have outlived their usefulness, if they were ever of any use at all, beyond providing lucrative employment for out at heel hangers on, must be closed. In every branch of the Public Service there is urgent need for closer supervision of work, stricter attention in the matter of ex-

penditure, and most important of all, the enforcement of rigid discipline in the matter of honesty.

Supreme Court.

(Before Mr. Justice Johnson.)
The Attorney General vs. A. E. Hickman & Co., Ltd.

This is an application on the part of the defendant for an order: 1, to strike out the particulars of damage under paragraphs 8, 10 and 15 of the statement of claim as tending to prejudice, embarrass and delay the fair trial of the action; 2, for further and better particulars of said paragraphs; 3, for further and better particulars of paragraphs 5, 9 and 13 showing how he afterwards caused the said pulpwood to be levied upon and sold, and when the levies and sales respectively took place; 4, for costs of the application.

Morine, K.C., is heard in support of application. F. A. Mews for plaintiff is heard against the application. Morine is heard in reply. C.A.V.

New Bank Arrangements.

FOR EMPLOYEES OF ROCK SHEDS.

In order to save the enormous rush on Saturday mornings, the Bank of Montreal made arrangements to cash the cheques of the men working in the rock sheds and for this purpose the Bank was thrown open to the men for the first time yesterday afternoon. Whilst the cheques were being cashed, one of the men had a heated argument with one of the Bank clerks. Matters were beginning to look very serious for a time but the arrival of the police soon quelled the disturbance.

Released on Bail

Bernard Delaney, who was arraigned before the Magistrate's Court on Thursday morning charged with battery and remanded to the Penitentiary, made his appearance before court again yesterday and through his counsel, Mr. W. J. Higgins, K.C., was admitted to bail in the sum of \$10,000 to appear on March 14th. The accused signed bonds in the sum of \$5,000, with two additional securities of \$2,500 each.

Weather and Ice Report

MARCH 8, 1924.

Port aux Basques—Wind N.E. strong; no ice in sight. Sable Island sailed for the Gulf at 11 p.m. on the 5th, and Stella Maris sailed at 9 p.m. on the 6th.

Twillingate—Light easterly wind; lakes of water in bay; several old hoods killed yesterday.

Belle Isle—Light east wind; loose heavy ice.

Nipper's Hr.—Strong east wind, cloudy; mild; schools of old harks seen in water yesterday.

Fogo—Easterly wind; ice moving off.

Westville—Wind and ice conditions same as yesterday.

Greenpond—Wind N.E., fair breeze, ice conditions unchanged.

Bonaville—Light N.E. wind; bay full of ice.

Catalina—Wind E.N.E.; ice as far as can be seen.

Ice Blockade

HOLD SEALING FLEET IN PORT.

The whole sealing fleet of eight ships, due to sail yesterday for the voyage northward have been held in port owing to the ice blockade. The Neptune, Thetis, Seal and Eagle are in the stream, the Terra Nova is at upper Harvey's wharf and the Ranger is berthed at Harvey's lower premises. The Sagona is lying at Bowring's north side premises. Very heavy slob ice is close in to the Narrows. Cape St. Francis reports the ice field extending as far as can be sighted. The wind is easterly and the fleet will be held in port until a change of wind lifts the blockade.

Shipping

Schr. Ronald M. Douglas is loading fish at Gaultois for Oporto.

Schr. Edith M. Cavell has arrived at Ramess, salt laden from Oporto.

Schr. David Morris has entered at Bath to load codfish for Spain.

Schr. John W. Miller arrived at Bahia yesterday, after a passage of 39 days, with a cargo of fish from Crobie & Co.

S.S. Silvia arrived at Halifax yesterday morning after a run of 38 hours from this port. The ship is due at New York Monday morning.

S.S. Rosalind is leaving Halifax this afternoon for here and should arrive here early Monday, ice conditions permitting.

DUCK SHOOTING—A large number of small boats with gunning crews are at present operating in the Narrows, and quite a number of ducks and Baccalieu birds have been taken. Ducks and other salt water birds are reported plentiful.

Yesterday's Proceedings at the Enquiry

Model Farm Stock not up to Expectations
--Settlement of Claims Made Over Ministers Head.

When the enquiry resumed yesterday afternoon, Mr. Hunt interposed. Hon. Joseph Downey, Minister of Agriculture and Mines since August last. Questioned about Model Farm, witness said the Government came to the conclusion that the Farm was not a paying proposition and decided to sell off. The horses except two stallions were sold. The bulls with the exception of two were reserved. Witness said Dr. Campbell in his evidence referred to a Holstein bull which was in his fifth year. All the farmers knew of this animal's vicious disposition and refused to keep him. The same applied to a Jersey bull and it would have been an unprofitable proposition to keep either of them. From what he had heard from buyers of live stock, the best possible was done under the circumstances.

MODEL FARM STOCK NOT AS REPRESENTED.

Questioned further, witness said Sir Robert Bond had purchased two cows from the department and returned one because it was tubercular. Others had been returned for the same reason. Witness said that although they were very good, none of the animals came up to the standard he expected, and although they might be pedigreed yet it was possible for them to be inferior. Witness was not prepared to say that the Model Farm stock were of any special quality. Witness said it would have been a waste of money to advertise sale in foreign papers as the same grade cattle could be picked up in Canada at any time of the year. Mr. Downey said he would like to have kept the Holstein, but owing to its being so vicious, he could get no farmer to keep it. Several well known farmers were applied to and refused.

MODEL FARM REVERTS TO THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Cross-examined by Mr. Howley, witness said that about 28 young and matured bulls and two stallions were retained and are now in charge of Mr. Lester who is receiving so much per head for their keep. The Model Farm had now reverted to the Lunatic Asylum.

The COMMISSIONER questioned if the Jersey bull had been sold as no mention was made of him in the returns. Witness said there was no doubt that the animal had been sold, and that the money had gone to the Department.

FORMER MINISTER MADE A VOW.

MR. JENNINGS recalled and examined by Mr. Winter, said instructions for the erection of rock sheds and making roads were given by the Prime Minister. Questioned about the relief of May, 1922, witness said that in the fall of 1922, he made a vow to have all road making done under contract as results previously were wretched. He had no choice as to what roads were to be operated upon. In this particular he was advised by the two road inspectors and Mr. Davey. No bill was paid until certified by Mr. Davey. Questioned about the contracts for road making witness said he accepted the lowest tender for all the roads except that for the Normal School Road. In this case a medium price was accepted much below the Government engineers estimate. The contract was given to a man named Stead and the job turned out very satisfactory. Questioned about the rock sheds witness said they were built of P. and T. lumber and were heated by wood stoves. The only object in view in having stone broken was to find some kind of work other than direct relief. Witness said the result did not justify the expenditure as the men did not perform the work they were supposed to do.

WAGES TOO HIGH FOR RELIEF WORK.

Cases of men registering and then leaving their work were reported to

him. Mr. Jennings said he considered the rate of wages \$2.50 was too high for relief work but his opinion in the matter were overruled by higher authorities. Witness said that at first \$2.00 per day was paid and then the men complained and the pay was raised to \$2.50.

The COMMISSIONER asked to have the pay sheets submitted at Monday's session so that he could find out when the increased pay began.

Questioned about the purchases of wood (splints) Mr. Jennings said the purchase of splints for the institutions was always done by the Public Works Department under a special vote. He had heard complaints of the splints being sold and in one instance upon examining a load at the General Hospital he found the bundles so small that he put two of them in his overcoat pocket. Witness said the Minister of Agriculture took the management of the split business out of his hands but he had authority for doing so. The Commissioner questioned under what act a Minister of one department could invade another department. The act supposed to cover the matter was looked up but the Commissioner was not convinced that the procedure was according to law. Witness could not say if all the wood represented by the \$6000 expenditure was sent to the old shed.

TOOK RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYMENT OF OVERTIME.

In reference to payments of overtime (time and a half) to officials of the department Mr. Jennings said he was responsible for introducing the system.

The COMMISSIONER questioned if it was sufficient to do this on his own responsibility. Witness said he thought he had sufficient authority as Minister without consulting the executive and he still held to the opinion. Witness said the Auditor never questioned this overtime payments. Asked about the payments of \$500 to Mrs. Neville in 1922 witness said it referred to the Road de Luxe and should not have been charged to another account. Reference was made to payments for motor car hire Oct. 16, J. F. Davey for \$200, passports for men sent to Bermuda, cab driving for Mr. Whitty, and payments to members of the Constabulary for vegetables which were destroyed making the new road and settlement of claim of \$425 for trespass on Costello's land on Southside Hill. Mr. J. Davey received \$95 in connection with Costello's claim, but witness could not tell what service he rendered unless it was that he paid two or three visits to the hill.

ARBITRATION AWARDS PAID OVER HEAD OF MINISTER.

In regard to a claim of \$25,000 paid J. J. Duff, April 9th, 1923, for land taken to widen Waterford Bridge Road, witness said he refused to sanction the payment or sign the cheque. This land had been arbitrated on, and two of the three arbitrators made the award \$480, but Mr. Duff's representative refused to consent. Later the amount of \$25,000 was paid on orders from the Colonial Secretary's Department. Witness said he had the official documents in his possession and would produce them on Monday.

In reference to land taken from Mr. Cousens for which a claim of \$3,000 was paid, witness said Mr. Davey gave him the impression that Cousens had no claim and he on this grounds opposed payments, but payment was made in May. At this time witness was not the head of the department. It was pointed out that the total cost of the two relief accounts was about \$800,000. Asked if the results justified the expenditure, witness said looking at the matter now he thought that direct relief would have been much cheaper.

Adjournment was taken at 5 p.m. until Monday.

Sealer Still Missing
Firemen Called Out.

Owing to the ice conditions in the harbour yesterday, nothing was done in the way of jiggering or diving for the missing man Denis Hyde of Red Head Cove. Should conditions become more favorable this afternoon Diver Squills will go own in the waters at Bowring's wharf where the S.S. Ranger was moored. The latter ship was the one in which the missing man intended to sail.

Coastal Boats.

Argyle left North Hr. 2:45 a.m. yesterday, outward.

Glencoe left Burin 6 a.m. to-day, coming east.

Kyle got clear of the jam of ice at Cape Spear 7:30 a.m., and is now steaming in open water.

Annual Meeting

Of the Nfld. Bible Society to-morrow evening.

On Sunday evening, at 8.15, the Newfoundland Bible Society will hold its annual meeting in the Methodist College Hall. His Excellency the Governor will preside, and the special speakers will be Rev. Canon Earp and Rev. R. E. Fairbairn. A musical programme will be rendered by the choir of St. Thomas's Church under the direction of Mr. H. Stirling. The President, Rev. Canon Bolt, and those who have been associated with him in furthering the work of the Bible Society, have been unremitting in their efforts to secure the general co-operation of the public, and in this they have succeeded. A cordial invitation is extended to all friends and supporters to attend the meeting to-morrow evening, and it is safe to say that the opportunity will be availed of by many to show their sympathy and support of the movement, and to hear the learned speakers who will address the gathering.

Abie's Irish Rose.

Another chance to see this wonderful comedy with its fund of wit and humour. It will be played in the Casino on St. Patrick's afternoon and night, as will be seen by the ad, which appears in this evening's paper. This will be good news to those who missed seeing this splendid performance, as well as to those who are most anxious to go again, as Abie's Irish Rose is admitted by everyone to be the best amateur performance staged in St. John's for many years. In addition to the play, there will be specialties, and a delightful program of the latest Irish music by the talented Mount Cashel Band.

McMurdo's Store News.

THE BOSCILLA COMPLEXION.

We have just received a new shipment of the following Boscilla Toilet Goods.

Boscilla Beautifier, (in tubes) . . . \$1.25
Boscilla Beautifier, (in pots) . . . \$2.00
Boscilla Beautifier, (in pots) . . . \$3.00
Boscilla Vanishing Cream, (tubes) . . . 65c.
Boscilla Vanishing Cream, (pots) . . . 90c.
Pack O' Beauty Sets . . . \$3.50
Large Sets . . . \$3.50

ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

At our Candy Counter we have our usual weekly supply of delicious Candies, all fresh and wholesome at our special week-end prices. This week-end we have some new ones.

Moir's XXX Assorted, a delightful mixture. Moir's Stuffed Dates, Raisins and Walnuts. Chocolate Brazil, Peach Cakes and Ginger. Maraschino Cherries and Pineapples.

OUR EXTRA SPECIALS—FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

The best yet . . . 85c.
Turkish Gums and Vienna Cuts . . . 85c.
Italian Mixture, Chocolates and Candies . . . 85c.
Delicious Coconut Perfections.

Exports for February 1924

COMPILED BY THE NEWFOUNDLAND BOARD OF TRADE.

FROM OUTPORTS:

To Brazil . . . 2,364
" W. Indies . . . 1,362 1/2
" Europe . . . 19,317

ALSO:

2,835 Qtls. Haddock.
1,844 Brls. Herring.

FROM ST. JOHN'S:

To Brazil . . . 19,453 1/2
" Europe . . . 14,476
" W. Indies . . . 14,937
" U. Kingdom . . . 3,636 6-7
" U. States . . . 1,998 3-4

ALSO:

913 Qtls. Haddock.
40 Qtls. Ling.
3,150 Brls. Herring.
117 Brls. Caplin.
8 Brls. Trout.
3 Brls. Turbot.
97 Brls. Salmon.
1 Tc. Salmon.
4,320 Bxs. Boneless Fish.
56,731 Lbs. Frozen Salmon.
425 Cn. Lobsters.
27,770 Gals. Cod Liver Oil.
5,277 Gals. Seal Oil.
252 Gals. Seal Oil.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FISH EXPORTS.

Dry Fish . . . P. Fish
1924 108,945 1/2 Qtls. NONE.
1923 95,926 " NONE.

Inc. 13,019 1/2 Qtls.

From Cape Race

Special to Evening Telegram.

CAPE RACE, To-day.

Wind E.N.E., fresh, weather clear. Ice packed on land east and west and extending about three miles off shore. No vessels in sight. Bar, 29.68; therm. 45.

NOTICE—The Regular Monthly Meeting of the St. John's Mechanic's Society will be held in their Hall, at 8.30, on Monday. By order, J. A. LEATHEY, Secretary. mar.8.11

Sealer Still Missing
Firemen Called Out.

Owing to the ice conditions in the harbour yesterday, nothing was done in the way of jiggering or diving for the missing man Denis Hyde of Red Head Cove. Should conditions become more favorable this afternoon Diver Squills will go own in the waters at Bowring's wharf where the S.S. Ranger was moored. The latter ship was the one in which the missing man intended to sail.

Coastal Boats.

Argyle left North Hr. 2:45 a.m. yesterday, outward.

Glencoe left Burin 6 a.m. to-day, coming east.

Kyle got clear of the jam of ice at Cape Spear 7:30 a.m., and is now steaming in open water.

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