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Our Motto: "Suum Cuique."



"To Every Man His Own."

The Mail and Advocate

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NAVAL RESERVISTS

The Premier yesterday tabled a statement from the Acting Commander of the "Briton," relative to a protest made in the House by Mr. Coaker concerning the difference in treatment accorded the Volunteers and Naval boys. It is generally known that last week when the Volunteers returned they were accorded every consideration and travelled in sleepers across the country, while 20 Naval lads whose term of service had expired, who returned on the same train, travelled second class. The people along the railway who beheld this treatment have indignantly protested, and their protest was voiced by Mr. Coaker when he brought the matter to the Premier's attention in the House on Wednesday.

The Government's reply is presented in the form of a letter from Acting Commander McDermott, of the training ship "Briton," which reads as follows:

H. M. Ship "Briton,"
 St. John's, Nfld.,
 28th April, 1916.

Sir,—
 In reply to your letter of the 27th instant I have the honour to report that Naval Reserve Men returning from England are not discharged from the Service till they have reported on board H.M.S. "Briton." They travel at Admiralty expense and are under Naval discipline and are in receipt of pay and allowances till date of their discharge.

2.—The Admiralty Regulations re travelling are that Petty Officers and Men are given 3rd class tickets (there being no 3rd class in Newfoundland), 2nd class tickets are issued, and men of the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve are treated in all respects the same as Petty Officers and Seamen of the Royal Navy.

I have the honour to be,
 Sir,
 Your obedient servant,
 A. MacDERMOTT,
 Acting Commander.
 The Right Hon. Sir E. P. Morris,
 P.C., Kt., (K.C.M.G., &c., &c.),
 Prime Minister of Newfoundland.

It will be observed that the regulations provide 3rd rate travelling fares. It is a pity this Country does not possess a third class service, as it would be interesting to find out whether it is possible for any class to be any worse than the second class system endured in this Colony.

The 20 returning Naval lads went to their homes and throughout the whole North to-day the story of how they were treated as compared to the other 20 returning heroes, is being passed from house to house. The Naval lads had served their King and Empire for a year, according to the terms of their engagement, and were ready to offer their very lives in defence of the flag had necessity arisen. They did their bit like

men. They offered their all—their lives.
 Had all been treated alike in travelling and reception, none would complain. They were treated as cattle, while our Volunteer boys were treated as heroes. The Naval lads laid as best they may on the lathed seats of the Reid second class cars, the Volunteers had beds in a sleeper provided.

We contend that the best treatment was only good enough for our Volunteers; they received that treatment and reception; but why humiliate the Naval lads and the whole fishing population by drawing such a distinction?

The Hon. J. C. Crosbie was on the train that brought along the Naval boys and the Volunteers. He should have demanded similar treatment for the Naval fishermen lads as was accorded the other 20 Volunteer heroes. The Premier should have seen that all were treated alike. The Reid Nfld. Co. might have taken interest enough in the matter to provide sleepers for all, and had Mr. Coaker any idea of what was transpiring a special sleeper would have been provided by the F.P.U., had the Premier not realized his responsibility towards those Naval heroes.

The matter has created an indignation throughout the West and North that will be fatal to further recruiting for the Navy. It was bad enough for the Government to allow those Naval lads to enter the service on a pay of 26 cents per day—which matter we have so persistently condemned—but to allow treatment as above related to be meted out to fishermen serving as Naval Reservists is producing the straw that will break the camel's back.

Had the Premier been interested and tactful enough to have stated last evening that the Government would in future see that no distinction was made between our fighting lads on sea and land when returning to their homes and families, from the front, we would not have referred further to the matter, as the Country would have overlooked the unfortunate occurrence and impute it to an oversight; but in the face of what transpired yesterday and the Government's laconic reply, we must perform our duty by insisting that a declaration as above be pronounced, or further recruiting for the Naval Reserve will suffer immensely.

During the past few weeks over 100 recruits have enlisted on the "Briton." This is exceedingly encouraging, and is more recruiting for the Navy in three months than had been during the previous nine months.

We fear that in view of treatment accorded Naval Reservists in the matter of pay as compared to the Volunteer compensation, and the different treatment accorded them in travelling and in receiving them on their return from active service will mean the complete destruction of the Naval Reserve scheme in this Colony after the war ends.

The complaints are universal and the dissatisfaction is becoming more apparent. It is now the duty of the Premier to ensure the Country that in future the Government will see that all our heroes are treated alike when returning from the front; and unless such an assurance is given this matter will have a very serious effect throughout the whole Colony.

SCHR. "LORANINA"

YESTERDAY we referred to the bounty paid on the schooner "Loranina," and in our remarks a printer's error crept in, making a sentence read: "The vessel was not treenailed; she was iron fastened." What we mean is that the vessel's planks were fastened with bolts.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries yesterday in reply to Mr. Coaker's queries of Thursday, submitted a letter signed by Messrs. Black and Bell, certifying that the vessel had been surveyed twice during construction and again on completion, and in accordance with the Act, and entitled to the Eight Dollar bonus. With that certificate we will have more to say.

An investigation by the Auditor-General into the payment of this money will be demanded.

THE "KYLE'S" PASSENGERS

The S.S. Kyle arrived at Port aux Basques at midnight, bringing Mr. Chabin, J. W. Keating, P. Ferrer, Ralph Workeneck, J. McCoubrey, J. A. Baxter, F. English, J. C. R. Bankward, S. Baker, A. J. French, S. E. White, Mrs. J. E. Storey, R. J. Murphy, C. W. Matthews,

Hon. M. P. Gibbs Moves Second Reading of the Sealing Bill in the Upper House.

Mr. Gibbs Said if we do Not Take Advantage of the Opportunity Thus Afforded to Help Both the Industry and the Toiler we Will be False to be the Best interests of the People and the Country in General

In moving the second reading, Mr. Gibbs pointed out that the awful catastrophe which had taken place on the ice-floes in 1914, had rendered necessary the enactment of many of the provisions of the Bill, while several of the other sections aimed at the preservation of the fishery. The primary object of the Bill was to make impossible, so far as human foresight could, recurrence of awful loss of life which had left many a home bereft of its bread-winners. In other words this legislation aimed at making the rights of the individual superior to the rights of property.

The Rights of The Individual—Our Chance Now To Protect The Sealer.

For a great number of years, down until the dawn of the 20th century, the deliberations of legislative bodies in Britain and elsewhere were chiefly occupied in conserving vested interests, while man, without whose aid those interests would be valueless, was entirely forgotten. Democracy has forced upon the attention of the world a recognition of the fact that the right of the individual is superior to all others. It is this lack of respect for the rights of the individual, and the subservency of all interests to that of the State that has made Germany, with all her civilization and culture, the foe of those cherished rights of democracy which form so large a part of Anglo-Saxon institutions.

He then took up the various sections of the Bill and in a lucid manner explained their objects and purposes. He pointed out that in the section dealing with the prohibition of steamers of over 450 tons, prosecuting the seal fishery. This should commend itself to everyone who desired to see the industry preserved, not alone for the present, but for future generations.

We had no right, strictly speaking, to wantonly destroy the gifts which nature had bestowed on us, because they belong, not to ourselves, but to others yet unborn; and if powerful

GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO REDUCE TAXES

On Motor Engines, Kero Oil and Gasolene or to Tax War Profits on the Sale of Steamers

YESTERDAY when the House took up the consideration of the Revenue Bill, Dr. Lloyd moved the following resolution:—

BE IT RESOLVED that this House is of opinion that the Minister of Finance should have recommended the imposition of taxes on profits made by the sale of steel steamers to the Russian Government;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House is of opinion that some steps should have been taken to relieve in whole or in part the duties now being collected on either kerosene oil, motor engines used for fishery purposes, gasolene used for fishery, or cattle feed.

Be it remembered that gasolene is 15 cents per gallon dearer than it was previous to Morris passing last year's Revenue Bill, which makes gasolene, including the drawback, 21 cents higher to the fisherman than it cost before Morris passed last year's taxation.

Be it remembered that kerosene oil is to-day 10 cents per gallon dearer than it sold for before the war.

Be it also remembered that yesterday the Government refused to reduce the tax on either kerosene oil which is 5 1/2 cents per gallon, or gasolene which is 6 1/2 cents per gallon, or motor engines which is 11 per cent., or on cattle feed which is 11 per cent; and further,

steel steamers were permitted to prosecute the sealing industry, it death knell in a very short time would be sounded. Some may point to the splendid catch of this season, but they will do so forgetful of the fact that 1914 and 1915 were practically close seasons. "The tendency of legislation in all countries for some years has been to conserve their natural wealth. Many far-seeing statesmen, notably in Great Britain, have viewed with alarm the destruction of the natural wealth of their country at a rate which, if continued, must mean its downfall commercially and industrially.

Our Chance Now To Protect The Sealer.

We now have an opportunity of protecting the life and limb of the sealer, and if he should lose his life in the prosecution of the fishery, of doing something for those he will leave after him, and also to protect and stimulate the great national industry, which is growing in value each year.

"If we do not take advantage of the opportunity thus afforded, we will be false to the best interests of the people and the country in general."

He asked for a serious and careful consideration of the several sections of the Bill and pointed out that one of the reasons of the prosperity of this country was the great distribution of wealth among the people. "If however, by any action of ours we give the power of concentrating wealth in the hands of a few, then instead of having, as exists to-day, thousands of independent fishermen, who carry on their own fishing operations, they will become the servants of the large corporations, and, as a result, you will find that wealth as is now distributed among the people, will be concentrated, and you will then have colossal wealth on the one hand and abject poverty on the other. There can be no gainsaying the fact that this is the trend of modern industrial development, but if we are true to ourselves, this will not happen here."

that they voted down by a strict party vote the Opposition's motion to tax profits on the sale of ships to the Russian Government which gave the owners a net profit on the cost of those vessels when new, of \$700,000; had a 50 per cent tax been placed on those profits \$350,000 would have passed into the Treasury.

In Canada and England war profits are taxed heavily. In England 50 per cent is the tax; in Canada 25 per cent is taken by the Treasury. In Newfoundland the Government voted down the Opposition's motion to tax war profits which, if properly administered, ought to produce \$1,000,000 revenue.

PROHIBITION

YESTERDAY the House of Assembly passed a Bill making the Prohibition measure of last year effective on January 1st, 1917 and removing any possibility of doubt in reference thereto.

Patent medicines, such as Beef Iron and Wine, that contain a large percentage of alcohol, will also come within the scope of the measure.

The liquor dealers had petitioned the House the day previous to extend the time for the selling of liquor, but the Government did not suggest any alteration in consequence of the petition.

Had they done so the House would have in all probability given their petition a favorable hearing and allowed them some extra time to dispose of their stocks.

WAS PIT PROP BOAT

The S.S. industry which to-day's public message says was sunk by a Hun submarine was well known here. She took two loads of pit props from Bonavista Bay across last year and was here previously short of coal.

The sch. "Waterwitch," 52 days from Bahia, arrived to Crosbie & Co. yesterday.

YESTERDAY AT THE HOUSE.

The Morris Government, Unmasked, Refused to Tax War Profits of the Merchant Czars Who Made Enormous Profits from Sale of Steel Fleet of Steamers—Refuse to Reduce Duty on Either Kero. Oil, Motor Oils or Motor Engines Used by the Fishermen.

The Opposition Again Protects the Toilers of Terra Nova—The Price of Pit Props in Future Fixed at \$5.00 for Unrinded Wood and \$6.00 for Rinded—Monthly Wages for Cutting Pit Props to be \$30.00 per Month With Board and Lodgings

Following the customs of the House the Assembly met for business shortly after 3 o'clock.

There was a goodly number of government members present and as soon as The Mail and Advocate arrived "all hands" got busy. Mr. Higgins "followed the custom" with interest and seemed to enjoy the "hot shot" handed out to the offenders on the Government side of the House. After the general routine business was transacted the order of the day was taken up and dealt with.

The House went into committee of the whole on Ways and Means. As soon as the Speaker left the chair "following the customs" of the House Messrs. Higgins, Downey and others made a "bee line" for the Speaker's room to have a "whiff."

The Public Service Act was introduced and passed through all its stages. While the Committee was dealing with the Bill, the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Lloyd, proposed a resolution to the effect that the Government should have availed of the opportunity to levy a tax on war profits made by the sale of the fleet of steel ships to the Russian Government. This was defeated by the party vote. Nothing that the Morris freebooters have done the past seven years more clearly proves their utter disregard for the masses of this country. Here was a chance for them to make the merchant princes pay a little on the enormous profits they reaped by the sale of these ships. Morris and his Pe-Nie Party absolutely refused to do what the Government of Canada and the Old Country have done. The Morris Government by their action yesterday have written themselves down as the willing dupes of the "Big Interests" and have forfeited all claim as representatives of the masses. How the members of the Government who voted against this resolution can again face their districts is hard to conceive.

Here was an opportunity for Devreux, Walsh and Cashin, who represent large fishing districts, to do something which would have at least showed the people that they were sincere in the boasted love for the toiling classes; but their bluff was called yesterday and they have signed their death warrant. No longer will Richard the "expert" and Mike the "disturber" pose as champions of the masses. They clearly proved yesterday that they are the unmistakable champions of the autocrats and gilded gentry who have been growing rich at the expense of the people. Clear it is a striking example of "to him that hath much shall be given."

DR. LLOYD, when the Committee with such a measure and wished to place a minimum value on pit props and wages of the cutters, and therefore proposed an amendment providing a rate of \$30.00 per month for wages to the cutters of pit props, and \$5.00 as a minimum price per cord and when cut on contract. This amendment was strongly supported by Dr. Lloyd, Mr. Coaker and Minister Piccott. The Minister of Finance and Customs who had charge of this Government Bill, finding the wind taken out of his sail thought that \$6.00 be the lowest price for rinded wood.

DR. LLOYD on behalf of the Opposition Party at once took advantage of the Minister's remarks and amended his motion, making the values as stated above. The one great regret

is that the Government did not wake up two years ago and establish this Board and fix the prices. For the two past sessions the Opposition members have repeatedly brought this matter of sweating the pit prop cutters before the Government in the House, but there was no way of moving them to take action.

This matter received every considerable attention at the hands of the Opposition during the debate of this session on the Government's Speech, and it was noteworthy yesterday that the arguments put forward by Messrs. Coaker and Jennings in the early days of this session and during the past three sessions, exactly coincided with Mr. Cashin's advanced arguments yesterday when explaining this Bill. The fishermen will therefore take notice, that, pit props will be cut next year if the Upper House passes the bill. If no green timber will be allowed to be cut on the three mile limit. That the value of rinded timber will not be less than \$6.00 per cord; that unrinded wood will not be less than five dollars; that monthly wages for pit props cutting by contractors must not be less than \$30.00 per month with board and lodging.

The Opposition Party has again demonstrated its ability to secure important benefits for the toilers, and this action of securing \$6.00 for pit props and \$30.00 per month wages will prove news as welcome to them as the surprise which awarded the sealers the past spring, when Mr. Coaker offered \$6.00 for fat, or an advance of \$1.25 per cent over last year's value.

The Prohibition Bill was then taken up and quite a lot of discussion took place from both sides of the House as regards patent medicines. Dr. Lloyd proposed an amendment that all patent medicines containing two per cent alcohol come under the Act. This was thought to be too severe and was subsequently amended to include all patent medicines, except such preparations as may be exempted by the Governor in Council. Another amendment came about through the expressed refusal of the Druggists to sell liquors. This amendment provides that the Controller may dispense on prescription of a regular medical practitioner; but the same safeguards providing for records of all sales, etc., are placed around this section. A further amendment provides that it shall be lawful for the controller to deliver to all clergymen such quantities of wine, for Sacramental purposes, as may be certified to by the head of the denomination of which the clergyman is a member, or such agent as may be appointed by the head of the denomination.

The Premier gave notice that on Monday he would move the suspension of the Rules in relation to all matters nor- or to come before the House.

The House then adjourned till Monday at the usual hour.

BRITAIN'S POSITION

CHICAGO Tribune.—Great Britain has lost not an inch of territory. She has added an enormous territory contiguous to her former estate in South Africa. Her navy is larger and more efficient than before the war. For the first time in her history she has a huge army. Her internal economic organization is being reformed and from an aggressive nationalistic point of view undoubtedly greatly strengthened. The human wreckage of war has not been relatively great. Socially and politically there is every reason to believe she will get rid of some of her worst weaknesses. Her Empire has demonstrated an astonishing loyalty. In short, Great Britain now seems to be on the threshold of a period of renewed and enlarged power. Unless we are wholly deceived by observable facts, she will tower higher above her rivals than ever and be able to take easily the dominant part in the vast reconstructive process which will follow the war.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Sir F. B. T. Carter appointed Administrator, first time, 1880.

APRIL 30

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

APRIL 29

CARDINAL CULLEN, of Dublin, born, 1803.

Alexander D. Rankin born in St. John's, 1849.

House of Assembly passed resolutions of condolence to the widow of D'Arcy McGee, 1868.

Governor Glover arrived first time, 1876.

Dr. Adam McKen died at St. Mary's, 1877.

Last meeting of elective City Council, 1898.

Neil Stewart's grocery, Harbor Grace, burnt, 1893.

Don Carlos, Spanish Pretender, arrived in St. John's, in cog., in steamer Hibernian, en route to Baltimore. He was booked as Eduardo Gonzales, 1876.

Alfred L. Blackman assaulted James Murray. Blackman was bound over to keep the peace, and find two sureties of \$500 each, 1882.

Sir F. B. T. Carter appointed Administrator, first time, 1880.

APRIL 30

BODIES of Dowsley's party found at Gull Island by crew of Rowsell's schooner. Eleven were found, four had drifted away in the sch. Queen, 1868.

Rev. George M. Johnson married to Miss Crowdy, 1863.

Hon. Thomas Talbot appointed Sheriff, 1872.

Capt. Shea, Royal Artillery, married to Miss Stuart, 1868.

A phenomena appeared in heavens—serpent-shaped, 1878.

James P. Parsons (Pitts) married, 1878.

Lewis Routledge died, 1884.

Arch Heath killed by falling over Custom-house wall, 1883.

Final vote on Railway measure taken in Assembly (20 for, 6 against), 1881.

Lewis Tessier died, 1884.

Skating benefit for Tigress sufferers, in Avalon Rink, 1874.

Bishop Feild married, 1867.

Bishop Binney (Church of England) of Nova Scotia, died, 1887.

James B. Sclater married, 1888.

John C. Oke married, 1887.

Moses Spurrell took charge of Bannerman Park, 1891.