

--JUST IN--

**No. 1 King
APPLES
Florida Sweet
ORANGES**

J. J. ROSSITER.

Our Motto : "Suum Cuique."



("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

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Finance

NEXT year the Colony will have to raise a revenue of \$5,000,000 or about \$900,000 in excess of this year. The increased expenditure will consist of interest on New Loans... \$250,000 Pension Fund... 250,000 Loss Liquor Revenue... 250,000 Interest on 1917 Loan for War Expenditure... 100,000 Elections... 50,000 \$900,000

The expenditure for 1915-16 is larger than anticipated. That for 1916-17 will be \$100,000 in excess of the estimates or about \$4,300,000. The revenue for the year 1915-16 show a surplus of about \$400,000. The revenue for the present year (1916-17) will not produce a surplus, but it is just likely the last year's surplus will be eaten up by the deficit for 1916-17. The revenue next year will at least be \$1,000,000 less than expenditure. This being so, the total public debt at the end of 1917 will not be much short of \$40,000,000 or an increase of \$18,000,000 under the Morris administration. What conditions will be when the war ends is not easy to forecast, but there will be a great decline in the value of fishery produce and labor will be abundant and cheap. It will take a year to bring about normal conditions of trade.

Of course no one is troubling about those matters and nothing is being done to meet the emergency. The whole policy of the Morris Government is one of drift and inaction. The financial condition of the Colony will not be easy, but war conditions will certainly demand every consideration and every possible effort on the part of the Government; but who expects anything to be done by the Government as at present constituted.

Yesterday we warned our readers to prepare for conditions that will have to be confronted next year. We repeat, that every ounce of economy, statesmanship, patience and endurance will be necessary to get the Colony safely through the breakers that will surround the Colony next year.

A game of waiting on the part of the Government will no longer be tolerated; strong action in administering public affairs must be the keynote of the Government's conduct next year. Unless this is assured mass meetings will be convened to compel action. The excuse for playing a waiting game is that the Government is weak, it can do very little, because it is short of strength. The F.P.U. influence is so great that one half of the Colony will not acquiesce in action taken by a minority government.

The actions of the Government during recent years has greatly weakened it, and destroyed public confidence. After eight years of power the country is craving for the hour to arrive when their votes can be cast to destroy the worse administration the Colony

has endured. Under such circumstances what can be expected but weakness and disruption.

As stated yesterday, 2000 men are wanted as recruits to fill the gaps that will be made in 1917, or the regiment fighting in France, that has covered itself in glory, will have to be disbanded and the proud position attained abandoned, which will mean for us nothing less than national dishonor, and the reflection of cowardice. Is the country prepared for what must follow if we abandon the regiment? It is time that point was decided; but who is to decide and who is to shoulder the responsibility?

If the regiment is to be maintained 150 men per month are required. Those men must come forward this winter and be ready during the coming year to take their places at the front. Where are they to come from? How can they be secured? Those questions must be faced and decided by the Government.

What preparations are being made to counteract an attack by German submarines next spring, if such is encountered? It is the Colony's duty to expect an attack; such is possible. What effect will the presence of submarines on our coast have upon our trade and fisheries? Are those problems being solved?

It will require united action, complete harmony and strong able statesmanship to successfully confront and overcome those dangers. It will require the united efforts of the whole people to raise the necessary recruits. Every harbor must do its part if success is desired. It won't do for two or three districts to do all, while other districts deliberately abstain from taking the necessary steps to awaken interest and entice the young men to be equal to the emergency. There will have to be plain talking during the coming winter, unless great changes take place. If 2000 recruits are to be found all districts must do their part. We do not desire to see compulsory service applied, but what alternative is open if the response the next three months is not equal to the requirements?

If voluntary enlistment must be our recruiter severe measures must be taken immediately to restore public confidence in the Government, and to do so the actions of the Reid Nfd. Co., Bowring and Bishop must be investigated and modified, while such grabs on food as have taken place during the past few months must not be passed over in silence. The people are doing a lot of thinking now. They demand strong action. Unless strong measures are taken, there will be no response to an appeal for Volunteers.

What will the Premier do? Is he strong enough to readjust conditions that will satisfy the country and avert national dishonor as well as internal commotion that will be sure to grow if matters are allowed to drift as in the past? The Government is laying on no bed of roses; the position of the Premier to-day is none too strong, public opinion is strongly against him and the way his administration has conducted public matters. Can he surmount the difficulties which confront him? They are such as no other Premier had to face; they demand a strong hand and a brave heart; they require to be handled firmly but with extreme tact.

No Government broiling over with internal disruption can face and overcome the crisis that will soon confront the Colony. Balfour has been superceded at the Admiralty by Jellicoe, the great High Admiral of the Grand Fleet, and Beatty, the hero of so many naval battles is now Admiral of the Grand Fleet.

In England matters move quickly and the people demand the best services procurable. Balfour is 70 years old and not equal to the demands of the war on a man holding the position of First Lord of the Admiralty. The confidence in Jellicoe is general; the confidence in Balfour was weak since the German destroyers visited the British coast with impunity.

The change at the Admiralty will stimulate public confidence, and that is what Newfoundland most lack to-day in relation to the administration of public affairs by the present Government.

THE FLORIZEL LEAVES

The S.S. Florizel sails this afternoon for Halifax and New York, taking considerable cargo and as passengers: Capt. Courtenay, Capt. Storm, W. M. Bruce, C. D. Jevenal, Miss E. Lockyer, Miss B. Whiteway, W. Moore, G. S. Isaacs, Miss B. Fitzpatrick, T. Bentley, J. Clapp, Mrs. P. Power, Miss A. Geary and 20 in steerage.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

Cow Head Protests

A RESOLUTION recently passed at a public meeting held at Cow Head, District of St. Barbe, has reached us. The resolution demonstrates a portion of the public feeling existing in reference to coastal matters. Indifference to the public requirements seem to be countrywide. The Ethie's captain seem to have treated Cow Head with much indifference, if not with deliberate neglect. The matter should be attended to by the new efficient Postmaster General, and the penalty for passing ports of call should be enforced. There is too much of this sort of carelessness and indifference, and it do not surprise us to find the people so aroused as to give expression to their feelings through mass meeting resolutions. The resolution reads thus:—

"This meeting of the inhabitants of Cow Head desires to make an appeal to Sir Edward P. Morris, the Premier, and the Reid Newfoundland Company to seriously consider the question of the Ethie's outports on this part of the Coast a more regular and reliable summer mail service. They desire to point out that the steamer 'Ethie' has failed to pick up passengers and collect mails during the past three trips, covering a period of nearly a month, during which time important business interests have been seriously injured and a number of merchants and passengers put to considerable inconvenience. They would point out that when the 'Ethie' missed calling on Thursday evening the weather was in no way unfavourable. The meeting is strongly of the opinion that the mail service has for some time been less satisfactory than it was some years ago and hopes that an effort will now be made to give the people an improved service and see that there is no recurrence of the present most serious situation."

Mr. Benjamin Payne, myself or any other of your constituents at Cow Head, will be pleased to answer any questions or to give you any information you may require.

I think I ought to take this opportunity and inform you that several of the speakers urged the importance of your using your influence to secure something like proper medical assistance for these North-Western outports and, if possible, occasional visits by a dentist or a medical man who understands dentistry. We only wish it were possible for you to visit this part of your constituency in order that you might personally enquire into these different matters of great local importance, seeing that they affect not only the business but the health and happiness of the community.

It happened that we had Mr. J. D. Henry, of London, with us when the 'Ethie' failed to call. He will continue his journey to St. John's at the first opportunity and I am sure that he will be only too pleased if it is possible for you to meet and talk over in a friendly way the several matters I am bringing to your notice in this letter.

I am, yours respectfully,
F. S. SKANES.

How About This One

OUR noble Edward was, according to The News of a few mornings ago, very sore with this paper for insinuating that his summer residence was sold for \$15,000 for the purpose of being used as a hospital in connection with our returned soldiers who may be suffering from Consumption.

"There was not a word of truth in the statement," says The News, acting on the advice of the Premier; "no such sale was ever contemplated and the whole story is positively without foundation."

Seeing that our energetic Premier is working for nothing, the general public would we feel sure not object to Edward disposing of his summer house in order to keep body and soul together in these distressful times; howbeit, the Premier assures us he is still of the opinion that he can live on WIND.

Of all the questions asked the premier during the past two years this one in connection with the sale of his summer residence is the only one he has attempted to answer, and people, to say the least, are wondering why Edward was so anxious to deny this rumor. Edward is too pure a patriot to accept any favors from the country particularly when such favors come out of the pockets of the masses.

To-day we recite another rumor and one which we hope the Premier will rush to The News office and deny as speedily as the one

**REVELLE
BY CALCAR**

NEXT week's gathering at Catalina under the auspices of the Fishermen's Protective Association will be a convention whereat will be discussed and reviewed the activities of the F.P.U. along general business lines during the past twelve months, and plans for the carrying on of the various functions with which the F.P.U. is primarily interested. No doubt the wonderful project at Catalina itself will come in for special consideration at the hands of the various delegates. On this score the F.P.U. deserves every con-

mentioned above. We would like for our gallant Knight to tell HIS people if it is true that on the return of Sergt. Major Cluny MacPherson from the front that gentleman interviewed the Governor and asked His Excellency to lend his Official support to a project that the Sergt. Major had in mind. The project was that the Colony should purchase the residence of the late Hon. H. J. B. Woods for a hospital for invalided soldiers. The Sergt. Major then sought out a prominent member of the Patriotic Committee and outlined his ideas to him.

But, here the Sergt. Major ran up against a snag. The member of the Patriotic Committee positively refused to countenance any such a purchase and threatened that if the matter was not dropped immediately he would expose the whole affair in the public press.

Seeing that the Woods' residence was doomed to remain in possession of its owners, for the present at least, the Sergt. Major then suggested that the Government commander the Museum. This suggestion, like his former one, was given the "icy mit" by the member of the Patriotic Association who said in his opinion it would be just as feasible to commandeer the two Cathedrals.

Having a rather mild respect for the member of the Patriotic Association the Sergt. Major was compelled to let his scheme drop; but not so with the M.P.A. He himself got busy and after looking over the city discovered a building on Military Road which in his opinion would suit the purpose to a T. He sought out the owner and explained the object of his visit with the result that the owner, although not adverse to grabbing a few dollars extra on flour, saw a chance to pose as a patriot and handed over the building free of cost with the sincere hope thrown in the bargain that the Government may in the near future see their way clear to take this White Elephant off his hands at a "sacrifice price."

There is another rumor, which we were near forgetting, and it also refers to the returned Sergt. Major. We hope as in the former case it will be denied by the Premier with the same haste. This second rumor is that Sergt. Major MacPherson demanded that the Colony furnish him with the services of a groom, for he contends that on the other side an officer holding the same rank as he does is furnished with such a servant and at the expense of the Commonwealth.

The above are only RUMORS. We give them for what they are worth. If they are incorrect we hope The News and the Premier will lose no time in denying them.

Mr. Clapp

MR. WM. CLAPP, M.H.A., and family, leaves by the Florizel enroute to England. He is visiting England to place his children at school and to visit a brother who is seriously ill. Mr. Clapp may not be back in time to take his seat when the House opens. It is understood that Mr. Clapp will not again contest the elections for St. Barbe District. He has represented St. Barbe for 16 years and does not desire re-election. He possesses considerable private means and intends to take it easy the rest of his life. We trust Mr. Clapp will return in time to take his seat at the next session of the House and avail of the opportunity to bid Parliament adieu.

The Grand Duchess Tatiana, second daughter of the Czar of Russia, and a number of court ladies of Petrograd have adopted a new war style of 'clothes' and have taken an oath never to wear anything but black on every occasion until Russia is victorious over Germany.

gratulation for the courage and initiative which prompted so gigantic a venture, that as far as scope and ambition go has never before been equaled in this country.

It is a daring piece of business and let us hope that it will meet all that success which such boldness deserves.

As far as the deliberations of the convention relate solely to the business undertakings of the F.P.U. people outside are very little concerned, beyond that interest which intelligent people always take in such universally interesting projects.

It is to the interest of the country that the F.P.U. find itself in a generally flourishing and satisfactory condition, because the F.P.U. is an instrument that has done a great amount of good in the country, and for this reason people generally wish it will and should like to see it prosper.

Outside all this more or less casual interest which the convention holds for the country generally is the very specific interest people feel in it because of its political aspect.

It has come to be recognized that the F.P.U. is a strong and active power in the political life of this country. Spokesmen from the far flung centres of F.P.U. activities will gather at Catalina to deliberate on a future policy for this country. That the work-

ings of the government will come under pretty general review it is perfectly safe to say, and it is safe to predict that the review will be anything but favorable to the Morris administration.

No matter how the coming session of the People's House terminates a general election is not far off, and this must be provided for at the coming convention at Catalina. The F.P.U. must organize for the campaign of 1917. No doubt the delegates will criticize the conduct of the government to their heart's content, and much of the criticism we know will be justified, and judging by the temper of the people throughout the country it will be hard for the convention to say anything too severe or that will not be received by the country with grateful acknowledgement.

Let us hope that the F.P.U. will not stop at a criticism of the government, but will go on to the formulation of a sane and satisfactory policy for this country to adopt.

Never in the history of responsible government in Newfoundland has there been a more unique opportunity than the present, affords for a party such as the F.P.U. to declare itself for the country as against the policy of the Morris Government which is a government by and for the "big interests," such as the Reid Newfoundland Co.'s interests, the

grafters' and grabbals' interests, etc.

The policy of the big interests is a policy of exploitation of the resources of the country, a policy directly opposed to the interests of the people.

The F.P.U. must get up a plan that will give them a something tangible to offer the people in exchange for the confidence and support which they are to ask from the country. The glaring incompetence and gross dishonesty of the present administration have landed them and the country in a hole from which they cannot extricate themselves or save the country.

Their mismanagement is the work of a political party without the least vestige of principle, a party that gave the reins to all the baser elements that find their way into public life.

The country is looking for relief from the present deplorable and chaotic state of affairs, and the time is now ripe for a declaration from the party that can muster together the remnants of public integrity and rally the people to their banner. We look with confidence to the coming convention, feeling sure that all will be done that honesty of motive can suggest. We hope to witness a starting point at that convention that will be a source of inspiration for all future public men.

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SLATTERY'S

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P.O. Box 236.

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Reid-Newfoundland Co.

S. S. SOUTHLAND
will now sail December 6th from
Halifax for Liverpool. Passengers
now being booked from here via
this ship.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.