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J. J. ROSSITER

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



(To Every Man His Own.)

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., FEB. 1, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

A Splendid Showing

THE Union Trading Co. and the Union Publishing Co. has declared a dividend of eight per cent for 1914.

We congratulate both Companies upon the success which attended their operations for 1914.

This is the Publishing Co.'s fifth dividend, which totals 48 per cent. in five years.

This is the third annual dividend declared by the Trading Co., which totals 28 per cent. for three years.

Very few companies operating in 1914 have declared a dividend, while some have already decided not to pay a dividend, preferring to hold all profits until the war ends.

Last August when the war came tremendous efforts were made by the commercial, financial and political interests of the Country to bring about the financial embarrassment of the Trading Co., and we were told that the long looked for time had come, and the Trading Co. would now go smash, and with it Coaker and the F.P.U.

For five years they had been looking for something to turn up to end Coaker and the F.P.U., and now this war would so dislocate trade and undermine the standing of the Union that confidence would no longer be placed in the Union, Coaker or the Trading Co., and it was only a matter of a few weeks when all would be over and St. John's Graballs would be forever free of this roaring Lion that had for four years terrified Graball forces throughout the Colony. That a determined effort was made no one can now doubt.

That Coaker has come out on top and is stronger, more powerful, more determined, more independent, more acute, more wise and able than ever before cannot now be disputed.

The Trading Co. purchased 20,000 quintals of fish in the early part of the season at \$6 per quintal, at outports, which was from 50c. to \$1.00 more than any other buyers would pay, and the Graballs here thought they had him sure and would compel him to drop 50c. per qtl., or \$10,000 on the venture, but the Trading Co. went on regardless of the action of its enemies, and when the fishing buying venture for 1914 instead of the Company losing \$10,000, it has made a profit of \$4,000—and in the bargain forced the buyers by its action in buying fish to pay the fishermen scores of thousands of dollars in excess of what they desired to pay.

The Graballs are now realizing that Coaker is not only an able organizer, and journalist, but that he is a keen, sure, farsighted business man and financier.

The shareholders in the Publishing and Trading Co.'s will be more than delighted to learn that their Union investments earned an eight per cent. dividend during a year when the world's trade and commerce became paralysed through the operations of the greatest war ever known to man. Their confidence in President Coaker will be greater than ever, for very few shareholders expected to receive any dividend for 1914.

That President Coaker has brought the Union ship and her partners through this awful year in safety and succeeded in clearing net profits on the year's transactions that, exceed

\$10,000 and in addition increased the F.P.U. funds some \$9,000 will cause all Union members to rejoice gladly, and all Union opponents to lament bitterly.

The day they considered so near is further away than it ever was, for the placing of \$40,000 insurance on President Coaker's life will cement and stabilize the Union and its affiliations so much, that no fisherman, no matter how strongly non-union, will ever again believe that there is any possibility or hope of ever injuring the F.P.U., for while Coaker is alive it will be sure to flourish and when he dies it will be more powerful still, for with his death scores of thousands of dollars will flow into the Union and Trading Co.

The fishermen's confidence in President Coaker was well placed, and if they supported him so nobly when he was on trial and an unknown political and commercial factor, how will they now support him, seeing he has overcome all his enemies and proved himself a safe, reliable, and talented business man and financier?

During the past year he has established a daily paper without any aid or support, except that which the fishermen afforded. That paper is today the leading paper in the Colony. It is the leading paper in St. John's. Its sale in St. John's are not exceeded by any other daily paper. Its circulation in the outports far exceed that of any other daily paper.

The Advocate, which was published weekly, was combined with the daily paper and the weekly issue of The Mail and Advocate is ten times greater than the circulation of all other weekly papers combined.

What other daily papers took for a score or more years to accomplish The Mail and Advocate has accomplished in one year?

Perhaps the establishment of the Union daily paper is one of the most venturesome actions of its progressive founder, for very few friends approved of the venture, and none believed it would pay. It is no easy task to establish a modern daily paper and properly equip a plant for its publication, especially when its only financial backers were poor fishermen.

The toilers of Newfoundland today can boast of being owners of a daily paper for the first time in the history of the Country, consequently during the past twelve months the interests of the Common toilers have been conserved, and their grievances so ventilated that the predominating issues now demanding the closest public attention are those concerning the grievances of the masses of our Country.

The change in public topics of conversation since the toilers operated a daily paper is indeed tremendous. Hitherto the toilers were considered one month in four years—the month preceding a general election. After the elections they were forgotten and a few at St. John's ran the whole show just as they pleased, doing exactly as they wished, not only politically, but commercially, and when the loaf had been carved to their liking they gathered up the crumbs and gave to the outports.

Today every transaction, political or commercial, is reviewed by this paper and the people are as well informed about what is transpiring here as are those on the inner track of the political and commercial combinations.

Matters that would not have been referred to by a daily paper, had there been no Union paper, have been thoroughly discussed and ventilated, and will be, hence the people have appreciated our efforts to turn out a paper devoted to their interests, and as a result we have placed on our outport daily subscription list over 1000 paid up subscribers during the month of January, while over 2500 names have been added during the same month to our weekly list of subscribers.

Can any hard shelled Graball longer doubt the power and influence of this great organization, that within five years have so intensely gripped the affairs of this Colony and which operates in clock-like regularity by the force of its main spring residing at St. John's?

Yes, the fishermen's confidence in President Coaker has grown more and more, and as a result of this great confidence between the Union members and their leader, Mr. Coaker will, within a few days, bring into being another Union Company which will surpass all his former constructive efforts and will be even more far reaching, influential and beneficial than the mother stem—the F.P.U. itself. This Company will be the Union Export Company with a tremendous capital—\$1,000,000.

This gigantic concern is to be the exporter of the fishery products of Union fishermen and with its established fishermen will be their own importers through the Union Trading Company, their own traders through their own Union stores, their own exporters through the Union Export Co., their own legislators through the Union Political Party and in a few months their own rulers through the new Union Government.

Surely poor Terra Nova have changed

Getting Better All The Time—THE NICKEL Monday and Tuesday

"FROM THE FLAMES."

A two-part melo-dramatic picture play that contains intense and gripping scenes. It visualizes how a dissolute son comes to grief through an attempt, with the aid of a dishonest clerk, to destroy his father's will. The fire scenes in this production are wonderful.

"IN THE SPIDER'S WEB."—A strong social drama. **"MACK AT IT AGAIN."**—A Keystone riot, with Mabel Normand.

"THE GEISHA."

Produced in two parts. The love story concerning a naval officer and a Japanese Geisha Girl. It excels in scenic selections. Fine photography. Splendid Cast.

FAREWELL OF MISS MARGARET AYER.

YOU ARE ALWAYS SURE OF A GOOD SHOW AT THE NICKEL. EVERY AFTERNOON AT 2; EVERY NIGHT AT 7.

"INEXPEDIENT" FOR CAPT. KEAN TO GO TO THE ICE

(Harbor Grace Standard.)

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE is not sent North as far as Seldou to take the place of the S.S. Prospero. The weather, it contends, is mild and two more trips are due according to contract. It says that the year before the last election the Prospero was kept running till the middle of February and a winter coastal boat was also operated at a cost of some \$12,000. Whilst it would not be advisable we think that the North would ask for any extension of service in view of the depleted state of the exchequer, it seems only reasonable that the contractor should send a boat North without delay for the two trips due according to contract.

We uphold the Mail and Advocate in asking for an inquiry into the damage sustained by the S.S. Prospero, but can hardly believe that it is the intention of the authorities not to hold such.

This leads us to say a few words respecting the case of Capt. Abraham Kean in connection with last spring's Sealing Disasters.

We have no personal feeling against Captain Kean and have no doubt he possesses some admirable qualities. We are sorry to find a man of his record and prominence in the position he has placed himself.

We are not quite sure his case has been properly dealt with. It will be remembered that we said at the time, Judge Knight who presided at the Inquiry into the Newfoundland Disaster, stated in his report that there is a section of an Act that requires the captain of a ship to do everything reasonable to safeguard a ship in distress and the men on board of her, provided in so doing he would not imperil his own ship and ship's company. We took it for granted that in instancing this section, the Judge had some idea that it applied to the case of the sealing disaster. The Judge as our readers are aware did not make any recommendation in his report but left it to the Minister of Justice to deal with the matter on his return from abroad last summer.

We considered at the time, as we stated, with all deference, and consider still that in the case of Captain Abraham Kean, and perhaps in the case of others the section is one that in the interests of justice and of the thousands of sealers that will prosecute the fishery in the future—is one whose applicability should be tested. The question should not be left in doubt and can only be properly settled by the recognized tribunals whether Captain Abraham Kean did everything that that section requires of the master of a vessel when he neglected to pick up the men of the Newfoundland that had left his vessel and went on the ice at his request on Bemard at the outset of the storm that proved so fatal to so many of them. Was there nothing that could have and should have been done then and after by him (and others). So far as the public are aware, this matter has been allowed to fall into abeyance. On the fact of it, the matter is one that should be tested.

We do not think that it is in the interest of Captain Kean himself that it is so. We do not think that it is in the power of any tribunal to reverse the popular verdict, in which in the main, we agree; but we do think that if he were to demand a full and impartial inquiry into the whole question of his responsibility, and were to conjoin with it voluntary retirement from any further participation in the seal fishery, and express heartfelt regret at his lapses, it would disarm a good deal of the criticism and hostile feeling that his attempts to justify himself or to minimize his responsibility have provoked in the

minds of the people of the country in general.

We have long, we may say here, come to the conclusion that it is inexpedient that he should again have charge of a ship at the seal-fishery, tho we cannot—rightly or wrongly—see our way to go so far as the Mail and Advocate in declaring that he should be debarred from command of a coastal boat, at all events so long as he is competent to discharge his duties to the satisfaction and safety of the travelling public.

Sends Donation Help Desjouté

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—In reading over the editorial headed "Starvation" in to-day's issue of the Mail and Advocate, I noted with deep regret the sad condition of the poor family mentioned and can imagine the parents position finding themselves and children practically starving. The only regret is that I have not more means to help them. Enclosed find one dollar. Will you please send it to them or its value in anything you may think suitable, at your earliest convenience?

A SYMPATHISER.

Another Complaint Of Night Howlers

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—Please allow me space in your valuable columns to support the friend that objected to the mongrels that have been disturbing the people around Hamilton St. during the past month.

I think it would be a pleasant walk for some of our "kops" during this mild spurt to call along about 12.30 a.m. and hear the pleasant noise that we are subject to.

If they would I'm sure they would do something to alleviate the misery of those who are now subject to such a nuisance.

WIDE AWAKE.

Who Are Rulers People or Party?

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly allow me space in your most esteemed paper for a few remarks concerning the House not being opened until after the sealers are gone to the ice. If this is so, behind all this there comes a voice of 40,000 strong, and on that strong sentiment we demand that Sur-tax Morris open that House not later than the 16th of February and have that Kean case righted up, with other things much more important.

This state of affairs has been going on too long, so now we want to know who owns this House of Parliament, is it Sir Ned and his nowday dowdeys, or the public? These are to be the servants these men we put there to do our work, and we, as the masses, contribute to their wants and the upkeep of our House, and they have to do our work at our bidding. If they don't do as we demand let them pack their canvas bags and get away for we won't recognize them as leaders any longer. Now, sir, send along this call and they will get a bigger surprise than any have got yet. We, to-day, are treated worse than ever, and now we call a halt. Let them open the House quickly or there will be fun.

A PRIMROSE.

RIGHTS OF WEAK NATIONS.

London Express:—The Allies are fighting in his war for he sacred rights of nations to be themselves. Germany is fighting for the right of the great and the mighty to rule, bully and absorb the small and the weak. The existence of the smaller European nationalities and the freedom to progress along their own characteristic lines are essential to the theory of democracy.

TO THE EDITOR

Ideal Season For All-Winter Service North

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—This is an ideal winter for the All-Winter Steamship Service Sir Edward promised us when he was seeking election. Maybe with prophetic eye he could see this mild winter in the distance, and he would no doubt have had a fine service at our disposal now had it not been for the war. However that may be, Mr. Editor, the winter is a good one for coastal boats, not much ice on the shore North and some harbors fairly open.

The Local Council here have not yet decided when parade day shall be or how they will celebrate it. Probably you will hear about that later.

Thanksgiving Day began with services in all the churches, which were well attended and fine collections taken up in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund.

In the afternoon a meeting was held in Alexandra Hall and the large building was packed to the utmost, the meeting was addressed by Adj. Sainsbury, of the Salvation Army. Mr. George Roberts, Ex-M.H.A., Captains J. Anstey, Jas. Gillett and J. Phillips, Revs. Bennett and Stirling, Messrs. Ashbourne and Hodge, while the public news, which had just arrived, telling of Admiral Beatty's victory and the sinking of the German cruiser Blucher was told by Mr. Temple of the "Sun" and called forth hearty cheers for Admiral Beatty and the Navy. Patriotic songs and appropriate hymns were sung and it was also learned that three or four more of our boys had decided to join the Naval Reserve and fight for King and Country. The interesting meeting was brought to a close at six o'clock after a \$100 collection had been taken in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund.

Wishing the Union, in all its efforts, unbounded success.

A T'GATE BOY.

Jan. 26, 1915.

For a Good Time go to the C.L.B. Old Comrade's Dance, Gymnasium, Harvey Road, To-Night, Feb. 1st. Ladies' Tickets, 40c; Gent's, 60c. Dancing at 8.30. Tickets may be had from any members of the Old Comrades.—Jan.30.11

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

A Splendid Offer

To all new yearly subscribers for the Daily issue of The Mail and Advocate sending in a year's subscription between January 2nd and March 1st we will mail free a 20 x 22 Crayon Bust Picture of President Coaker, fully as good as a three dollar crayon.

This special offer is good only for two months and subscribers must fill out the subjoined form if they avail of this special offer.

Special Offer to Mail & Advocate Subscribers.

To the Union Publishing Co. Ltd., St. John's.

Find enclosed the sum of Two Dollars, for which please forward the Daily issue of The Mail and Advocate for one year, and the premium crayon picture 20 x 22 of President Coaker.

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Date _____, 1915.

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