



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, Proprietor
C. T. JAMES, Editor

Wednesday, December 15, 1920.

West Coast Hard Hit

In the initial stages of the petition of R. Moulton, Ltd., of Burgeo, for an insolvency order, hopes were entertained, by those interested, that a close scrutiny of assets and liabilities and the general condition of the business, would result in a continuance of the firm's trade, even if curtailed in scope and outlet. By those interested, is meant chiefly, the many fishermen dealers of that concern, who for years have been so closely associated with it, and who had come to look upon R. Moulton, Ltd., as a very anchor of hope during stress of poor seasons, and a business house of which to be proud when times were good and fish plenty. From the very beginning of the foundation of the structure, started by Robert Moulton, and eventually erected by him into proportions of commercial magnitude, the name itself was one with which to conjure on the whole stretch of South Coast from Push-through to Burnt Islands, and so highly was it held in the regard of the people, that when it became merged into a Limited Liability Company, the name of R. Moulton was retained, as much for business as sentimental reasons, and to-day there are very few places from Rencontre in Burgeo and La-Poile to Lark Harbor in St. George's district, where the name of the firm of R. Moulton is not known and respected. The ramifications of the more recent corporation extended to every important fishing centre on the coast, and through agencies a vast volume of trade flowed to swell the already large transactions at headquarters in Burgeo, and dealers were always satisfied that their interests were well served, their needs fairly and squarely looked after by the various officials.

It will come as a thunderbolt from the blue to hundreds of fishermen and planters, when they learn that this once honored house is to have its financial transactions wound up. And particularly will the decision to do so be felt at this season of the year, when winter outfits, heretofore issued, will be denied the men who for so many years had—one might say—current accounts with R. Moulton, Ltd. The suspension of this business will mean more to the West Coast than may be opined by the inhabitants of other sections of the island. It will mean in many cases extreme deprivation for hundreds of families, if not utter destitution, because there are not any firms of like importance or size to fill the mercantile vacancy created by the winding up of its affairs. And the irony of it all is that there would be a possibility of continuing in trade favorably to all concerned if it were not for "the slow realization on fish cargoes" exported by the company. Perhaps that answer of the manager, Mr. John T. Moulton, made in reply to a question of examining counsel at the proceedings in court yesterday, is the most damning indictment that has yet been made against the Fish Export Regulations. It will be

remembered that the boast of the Advocate has ever been that all cargoes of fish shipped from the West Coast this season have been SOLD OUTRIGHT. Had this been the case, the firm of R. Moulton, Ltd., would not have been involved in difficulties, and would be in a perfect state of solvency. And the same thing would have applied but for the prohibition of the export of West Coast new fish when it was ready for market. By the refusal of permits to sail when cargoes were laden in July and August, the hardest blow ever struck at West Coast trade and its right to do business in its own way, was delivered. It put every fish exporting house into a state of panic and confusion, and began that insidious undermining of West Coast commerce, the tottering of the fabric of R. Moulton, Ltd., being the first result of restriction on trade. Slow realization on cargoes prevented the company from meeting its current expenses. This gives the lie direct to the repeated statements of the Government press that not one dollar has been lost on the export of codfish by a licensed exporter, and that all cargoes sailing from the West Coast were sold outright.

New Companies Formed

Three new Companies have recently been incorporated under the laws of Newfoundland, and their incorporation possesses more than a passing interest. Their titles are: "St. John's Light and Power Co., Ltd.," "Newfoundland Dockyards, Ltd.," "Mines and Forests, Ltd. (Newfoundland)." The names of the incorporators are: Harry Duff Reid, Robert Gillespie Reid and Charles O'Neill Conroy, all of St. John's.

The authorized capital of the Light and Power Co., is \$1,500,000, its purpose being to supply electricity, to carry on any kind of manufacture or trade and conduct any other business which may seem to the company capable of being carried on in connection therewith. Newfoundland Dockyards, Ltd., has a capitalisation of \$1,000,000, and the objects of this company are to carry on the business of proprietors of docks, dockyards, piers, wharves, jetties, elevators, warehouses and stores, and of shipbuilders, shipwrights, dredges, tug-owners, wharfingers, warehousemen, ship agents, commission agents, marine insurance writers, etc., etc.

Mines and Forests, Ltd., starts with an authorized capital of \$10,000,000, and the company is limited by guarantee. Its objects are to carry on the business of a land company in all its branches: to purchase lease or otherwise acquire and hold any lands in Newfoundland or elsewhere, and any timber rights, mineral rights, quarry rights and other rights exercised over and in connection with any lands, water rights, water powers or water privileges: to prospect for, open, explore and develop mineral areas, and to carry on the business of timber dealers, manufacturers of and dealers in lumber, pulp, paper and wood products, etc.

Commenting editorially on the formation and incorporation of these three companies, the Daily News this morning says: "Briefly, the intention of the new companies is apparently to operate as individual concerns the Dry Dock, the Electrical Department and the Lands and Minerals Department of the Reid Newfoundland Company, and to separate them from the latter's railway and steamship interests. The Reids doubtless know what they are doing, and are probably acting within their rights; but these new developments are being viewed with considerable amazement by the public who are entirely at a loss to understand what they mean. Rightly or wrongly they are being associated with the work of the Railway Commission, and are increasing the fear that the country is getting up against a most serious situation so far as railway matters are concerned. Are the Reids preparing to sever their connections with the railway and steamship services? Do they intend to throw upon the Government the whole responsibility for the operation of these services? If so, in what position do they stand to the country? These questions are being persistently asked, and it is time there was an official pronouncement on the matter, so that the public may understand and appreciate what is taking place. The work which the Railway Commission has undertaken during the past four or five months greatly exceeded that outlined in the House of Assembly, and as a result it looks as if the Government has succeeded in befriending the Reids to the extent of relieving them of all future worries. It is to be so, then the country's worries have been seriously increased." An expression of opinion with which popular opinion will heartily agree.

Obituary.

JOHN RYAN, C.E.

The community at large will learn with regret of the passing of Mr. John Ryan, City Engineer, which sad event occurred at the General Hospital last night at 10 o'clock, following an operation performed during the forenoon. Mr. Ryan was widely known in the city, had just passed his 73rd year and up to a very short time ago enjoyed excellent health, and was able to attend to his duties and be present at Municipal Council meetings until very recently. For more than thirty-five years he has been attached to the Council and has been City Engineer since 1896, following the death of Engineer Harvey. Under his superintendence the new water system from Windsor Lake was laid and also the new service from George's Pond. The sewerage service and street construction for the past quarter of a century has been under his direction, and at all times he gave personal attention to the work. Visiting engineers from Canada and the States brought here for consultation, always approved of his opinions, and the splendid water supply that the city has to-day was largely brought about through the efforts and recommendations of Mr. Ryan. In his official capacity and as a private citizen, Mr. Ryan was held in high esteem by all who knew him. Deceased for many years has been a member of the B.I.S. and the Knights of Columbus.

Left to mourn are three sons, William, Assistant City Engineer, A. J. telegraph operator at Sydney, and Stan at home, and three daughters, Mrs. A. Sullivan and Misses Mary and Hannah, to whom the Telegram extends sympathy.

Disabled Steamer Coming.

The Furness Withy Co. received a wireless message yesterday from the S.S. Lake Pontant stating that the ship was making for this port in a disabled condition. The Pontant has trouble in her boiler room, and gives her position as 400 miles east of this port. Owing to her condition she is unable to steam more than 4 knots per hour and is not due here till Friday. The steamer is bound from Leith to Hampton Roads and is over 20 days on the passage. She is owned by the U.S. Shipping Board, and her gross tonnage is 2592 gross, 1604 nett.

A Christmas Greeting.

The President of the Sergeant's Mess of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment has received a Christmas card from the Sergeant's Mess of the 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, which last formed part of the Imperial 29th Division and is at present on service in Cork, Ireland. They extended hearty greetings for the coming season which is no doubt reciprocated by the Sergeant's of "Ours." The card is very artistic, having their crest printed thereon. The centre piece is a drawing of the "Landing from the River Clyde of the 29th Division at Gallipoli." All Christmas cards received will be placed on view in the G.W.V. A. Club Rooms.

"The Life of Nelson."

Commander Fenn of H.M.S. Briton gave an illustrated lecture in Cochrane Street School Room last night on the "Life of Nelson." The attendance was very large. Rev. E. W. Forbes, Scoutmaster of the Gower St. Boy Scouts, presided. The lecturer was fully conversant with his subject, and gave a splendid address on the life of Nelson, beginning from his early boyhood up to the Battle of Trafalgar when in the hour of victory he fell mortally wounded. At the close of a vote of thanks was heartily accorded the lecturer. During the evening solos were rendered by Miss Calvert, Mrs. C. F. Garland and Miss Maund. The proceeds, which amounted to a handsome sum, will be devoted to the funds of Gower Street Troop of Boy Scouts.

The latest in Mesh Hand Bags, Silk effect, a few in Black. See them at LANGMEAD'S Jewellery Store.—dec13, eod, tf

Resolution of Sympathy.

At a meeting of St. Joseph's Society held on Dec. 12th, the following resolution of sympathy was passed: "Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst one of our members, the late M. O'Brien, and

Whereas the late Mr. O'Brien has been a respected member for many years past,

Be it Therefore Resolved that we sympathize with the late member's relatives, and we pray that God will comfort them in their bereavement. J. J. CLUNEY, Pres., P. J. SMITH, Secy.

Insolvency of Ephraim Inkpen.

BURIN FIRM WILL CLOSE ITS DOORS.

In the Supreme Court this forenoon another West Coast firm, Ephraim Inkpen, of Burin, was declared insolvent. The petition of insolvency was filed by H. A. Winter on behalf of Bowring Brothers. Hunt, who represented Mr. Inkpen, examined him concerning the affairs of his business and elicited the following information:

That Mr. Inkpen has been carrying on his present business for the past 8 years and started with a capital of \$20,000 of his own. His accounts for the last year were audited by Read Son & Watson. At the 31st October, this year, he owed the Canadian Bank of Commerce the sum of \$197,155, secured by a chattel mortgage, his codfish being previously hypothecated. The sum of \$97,570 is owed to sundry creditors and is not secured. There is also a sum of \$9,100 owed preferred creditors, these having money to their credit on the books. Holmwood & Holmwood were owed \$8,000, balance on fish, and there was an outstanding account of \$1,590 for a cargo of salt. \$10,000 were owed shermen on fish caught in summer, some 2,700 qts. The total liabilities are about \$310,000 and the assets are about \$265,000, some of which are: Fishing property valued at \$75,000; Freehold, \$22,490; Stock of Merchandise, \$46,445; Book debts, \$43,321; Fish in vessel on way to Halifax, \$16,745.

Only 4 or 5 of the book debts were over \$1,000. Asked what the present value of the book debts was, Mr. Inkpen said it would be hard to say, considering the conditions existing on the West Coast where they are owed. He also stated that he lost during 1919-20 \$92,000 on fish shipped.

Mr. H. A. Winter appeared for Bowring Bros., whose claim against the estate is \$39,000. Mr. Inkpen stated to him that he raised only one loan this year. A Moulton, of Halifax, is a creditor also for about \$6,000 or \$7,000. The balance of the liabilities is made up of smaller amounts. At the end of last year the firm owed Bowring Bros. only about \$7,000. Mr. Inkpen had no fish shipped before October this year, and he gave the manager of the Bank at Burin the mortgage during the month of October, but did not dream that the Bank would put them out of business. The Bank manager guaranteed that the mortgage would not be registered but he believed that through the inspector it was done. He understood that they wanted the mortgage only as a kind of security and he did not realize what they meant to do with it. The Bills of Sale of his vessels were also held by the Bank. This was demanded by the inspector. The total assets are made up at cost price. In reply to further questioning Mr. Inkpen said, that when the Bank stopped their credit the fishermen took their fish to other premises and that if he had been allowed to go on this fish would have gone a considerable way to paying of the local liabilities. During the months of October, November and December he would have collected in about \$100,000 worth of fish. As it is, one firm has had about \$80,000 worth of his business since the action of the Bank. He understood that when he gave the mortgage that the Bank would carry his business along in which event he would have paid all local creditors.

If you are thinking of giving a Wrist Watch this Xmas you should see the ones that DULEY'S are showing. For value, quality and beauty they are unequalled. We invite comparison.—dec15, 2i

Express Passengers.

The following passengers from North Sydney to Port aux Basques by S. S. Kyle are on the incoming express: Jas. Helmar, J. and Mrs. Harpe, A. Harpe, W. Knox, P. Graceme, P. Collins, A. Slade, G. Whelan, Mrs. A. Courage, J. P. Guy, Mrs. W. Dawe and daughter, P. McEvoy, J. Abbott, J. Moore, R. Neil, F. Vaters, P. Moore, W. James, A. Gosse, J. Gosse, Mr. Mills, E. Bursey, P. Gorman, H. Halliburton, E. Cormier, J. McGanigle, J. B. Patten, A. B. Harding, J. A. Buckle, E. Grant and H. Edge.

From Cape Race.

Special to Evening Telegram. CAPE RACE, To-day. East winds, fresh; weather dull; the steamer Melgie passed West yesterday afternoon and steamer Sable I. West at noon to-day. Bar. 29.90, ther. 87c.



His Excellency the Governor and Lady Harris, will be "At Home" to receive callers at Government House on Thursday, December the 16th, from 4.30 to 6 p.m. Government House, 14th December, 1920. dec15, 2i

Fish Exporters Meet.

The Fish Exporters held a meeting in the Board of Trade Rooms to-day for the purpose of discussing the advisability of publishing some recent correspondence received from the Government. It is thought that the correspondence is in relation to the Government guarantee of fish. At any rate very little business was transacted at the meeting, but we were told that in a day or two the subject of to-day's discussion would be made public. It is not thought that Mr. Coaker has given any definite information so far. It is known, however, that the subject of the guarantee is causing him some worry, and this morning the Minister of Justice and the Deputy were summoned to the Marine and Fisheries Department, where they were closeted for a considerable time.

Fads and Fashions.

The Gift for Health from the East, "LES FRUITS." ELLIS'S. dec9, tf

Buy your Felt Footwear at Smallwood's, and save 25 p.c.—dec13, tf

Stafford's Ess. Ginger Wine only 20c. bottle. Postage 10c. extra.—dec10, tf

For Evening Wear, Evangeline Pumps; 25 p.c. off at Smallwood's.—dec13, tf

Men's \$13.50 Boots in Black and Tan Leathers, for \$10.00, at Smallwood's.—dec13, tf

For your health's sake we offer Nature's answer to Constipation, "LES FRUITS." ELLIS'S.—dec9, tf

Grand Dance and Supper. C.C.C. Hall, Dec. 27th. All latest hits by Dominion Orchestra.—dec13, 3i

ROSALIND LEFT TO-DAY.—S. S. Rosalind left New York this morning at 7 a.m. having been delayed a day by bad weather.

Second day of Smallwood's Big Shoe Sale; 25 p.c. off all Boots and Shoes in our Stores.—dec13, tf

SABLE L. PASSENGERS.—S. S. Sable I, sailed last night for North Sydney, taking the following passengers:—Miss E. Wetmore, Mrs. Malone, Miss A. Malone and Miss M. Malone.

Dissolve 1 1/4 lbs. sugar in 3 quarts of water and add contents of one bottle Stafford's Ess. Ginger Wine.—dec10, tf

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—The men of the West End Fire Station wish to express their thanks to Mr. Peter Mars for kindly providing them with magazines.

CARD OF THANKS

to the people of Grand Falls for their kindness during the illness and death of my wife. MR. HERBERT SHAW and Family. dec15, 3i

At the present time the best value in Ladies' new style Spats are to be had at BISHOP'S for only \$1.49 a pair. This offer holds good only while the present stock lasts.

Floral Tributes to the Departed.

Nothing so nice as Flowers in time of sorrow. We can supply Wreaths and Crosses on short notice, and guarantee satisfaction. We will endeavour to meet the humblest purse. "Say it with Flowers."

VALLEY NURSERIES, Phone 124. Box 994, St. John's. Tessier Brothers.

BORN. On the 14th inst., a daughter to Mrs. and Mr. Michael Lawlor, 14 Walsh's Square.

DIED. At the General Hospital on Tuesday at 10 p.m., John Ryan, City Engineer, aged 73 years. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy upon him. Funeral on Friday, at 2.30 p.m., from his late residence, No. 7 Newton Road.

Last night, at 10.30, Muriel, darling child of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Hudson, 16 Convent Lane.

FUNERAL NOTICE. The funeral of the late Florence Ellinor (Nellie) Mercer takes place to-morrow, Dec. 16, from her father's residence, Cove Road, via Kings Bridge.

IN LOVING MEMORY of John Thompson (formerly of Spaniard's Bay), who died at Riverhead, Harbour Grace, November 8, 1920.

"Silent and cold in the grave he is sleeping. The sorrows and cares of this life are now o'er; But time on tireless wing ceaselessly sweeps. Shall ne'er dim the memory of him we deplore." Dec. 8, 1920. R.I.P.

WANTED TO RENT — A Shop suitable for Wholesale or Retail, either on New Gower, Duckworth or Water Streets. Write to T. E. COLLETT, P. O. Box 234. dec14, 3i

MINARD'S LINIMENT RELIEVES DISTEMPERS.

Knowling's GROCERY STORES

DUCKWORTH ST., CENTRAL and WEST END. Offer the following Goods for the Christmas Season.

BISCUITS

SODAS 18c. lb.
TIP-TOP SODAS 20c. lb.
JAM-JAM 33c. lb.
VANILLA CREAM 33c. lb.
COCONUT TAFFY 33c. lb.
SQUARE LUNCH 21c. lb.
MIXED CAKES 29c. lb.
MOIR'S PILOTS 28c. lb.

CONFECTIONERY and CHOCOLATES

LOCAL PEPPERMINT NOBS & MIXTURES, 30c. lb.
BATGER'S BUTTER ALMONDS, the finest confectionery made 80c. lb.
MOTTOES SCOTCH 55c. lb.
100's and 1,000's or NONPAREILS for Cakes, 45c. lb.
ASSORTED BARS 55c. doz., 5c. each
MOIR'S BEST CHOCOLATES, 1 lb. boxes, 85c. each
MOIR'S BEST CHOCOLATES, 1/2 lb. boxes, 45c. each
FRY'S 5-BOYS' CHOCOLATES, 9c., 18c. and 35c. each
APPLES—Okanagan, in boxes, from 40c. dozen
CUSTARD POWDER, 1 lb. tins 40c. tin
TABLE JELLIES, pint size 20c.
TABLE JELLIES, Sherriff's best 22c.
DESICCATED COCOANUT, best quality 30c. lb.

CANNED GOODS

PINEAPPLE, in tins 28c., 47c., 50c. and 52c.
APRICOTS, large tins 45c. up
PEACHES, tins, from 35c. tin
PEARS, GREENGAGES, CHERRIES, RASPBERRIES and STRAWBERRIES of very finest quality.

EVAPORATED APPLES 23c. lb.
EVAPORATED PEACHES 30c. and 38c. lb.
PRUNES 16c. lb.
DATES—Good 18c. lb.

Finest Quality NEW GLACE CHERRIES, 68c. lb.

GELATINE—Knox's 30c. pkt.
GELATINE—Nelson's 20c. and 37c. pkt.
CURRANTS—Finest cleaned, 1 lb. packages 25c.
RAISINS—4-Crown; Spanish 30c. lb. only
RAISINS—Seedless 40c. lb.
RAISINS—Sunmaid, Seeded 30c. lb. pkt.
RAISINS—Smyrna, Sultana 35c. lb.
TARTARALINE—Equal to the best Cream of Tartar 30c. lb.
MINCE MEAT—Lazenby's \$1.10 tin
MINCE MEAT—Libby's 75c. tin
NUTS—Filbert's 25c. lb.
WALNUTS—Very fine quality 40c. lb.
ALMONDS—Soft shell 28c. lb.
WALNUTS—Finest shelled 70c. lb.
ENGLISH PLUM PUDDINGS—Lazenby's, \$1.30 each
AMERICAN PLUM PUDDINGS 80c. each
WORCESTER SAUCE (from Worcester) 30c. and 45c. bottle

SYRUPS—Moir's, best quality 75c. bottle
SYRUPS—Good full 1/2 pints, 34c.; full pints, 47c. btl.
TOMATOES—Best quality, 2 lb., 24c.; 2 1/2 lb., 28c. tin
WINES—Non-alcoholic 50c. and 80c. bottle
GINGER WINE ESSENCE—Newball's original, will make 2 gallons 24c. bottle
ORANGES, LEMONS, GRAPE FRUIT, RED and GREEN GRAPES, at very low prices.

Moir's Plain, Fruit, Sultana Cake We have about 2,000 lbs.; all fresh goods 60c. lb.

TEA

FINEST CHINA TEA—Celestial, 1 lb. tins 90c. lb.
TEA—Golden Pheasant, 1 lb. packages 85c. lb.

COFFEE

OUR COFFEES are BLENDING, ROASTED and GROUND on our own premises, and are unsurpassed for both quality and price.

We have now landing 60 cases FINEST VALENCIA ONIONS which we will sell at lowest prices.

G. Knowling, Ltd.

dec13, 3i, eod

AT THE BALSAM.—The following are guests at the Balsam:—Mrs. Charles McCarthy, Miss Marcella Lee, Carbonare, W. J. Parsons, Harbour Grace; Miss F. Cluett, V.A.D., Belmor; T. W. Francis, Pilley's Island; R. N. Hoskins, Mrs. E. St.

Try our Special Cambridge Sausages. Made fresh daily. ELLIS'S.—nov10, tf