

President Coaker's Address.

tion to the increased railway rates. The Bowring coastal contract will expire in 1918 and in arranging a new contract it will be necessary to provide a service that will protect our people against the avaricious intention of the Reid Nfld. Co. and minimize the effects of the Legislators who in 1898 attempted to give away our heritage to a Corporation. That the Reid Nfld. Co. will regret its amazing impudence in placing such an outrageous burden upon the people at such a time of natural misery and sacrifice, I entertain no doubt.

Another sad matter for the country in connection with the tricks of the rich to impoverish the masses, is the absolute indifference manifested by the press. Not a word of protest has been uttered except by the Union organ. Not one word of resentment has been published by the hiring press against the amazing deeds of grabbing that has from time to time been attempted by the rich of the country. We have in St. John's men who will add \$1,000,000 to their savings through grabbing since the war opened.

Last spring the Government refused to tax war profits which would have added \$1,000,000 to the revenue. Men in the executive made war profits on the sale of steamers amounting to 100 per cent. Is it any wonder the Government dare not interfere with such profits? Those men are asking the masses to supply recruits to uphold freedom and liberty. It is surprising to find that the people who are asked to provide such a sacrifice are enquiring as to where such freedom and liberty exist under existing circumstances in this Colony. The only sure conclusion reasonable men who study local conditions

can arrive at is, that the whole foundation of constitutional government which the Colony possessed, which was based as all supposed, on British ideals of Liberty and Freedom has been superceded in the Empire's hour of trial by demoralizing tendencies that proclaim the policy of grabbing all one can no matter how, regardless of national consequences and the party in power care neither for laws or people. The war has taught one lesson which soars above all others which is, that no matter who suffers the rich must grow richer.

The masses will inherit a feeling of bitterness as one result of this war that will bring about political changes after peace is secured, that will destroy all trust and confidence in the classes. The classes have demonstrated clearly that they recognize no creed but that of self aggrandisement. Humanity is a word that they mention with hatred and contempt. The masses therefore must exert themselves to secure such political freedom and liberty after the war, in all parts of the Empire as will tolerate no longer the dictation of the classes.

Great danger confronts the independence and progress of the country in the silence of the Press in matters of National wrongdoing on the part of the classes and Government. We possess five daily papers and four of them are intent upon publishing nothing that would be resented by the classes. They are controlled by interests that are not in sympathy with the general public. They are silent in matters of national importance where class interests are involved. They will not denounce wrong because it is wrong if committed by the interests. They cover up the wrong when the wrong has been committed by

those who can contribute liberally towards the upkeep of those papers in the way of advertisements. That method is now one of the tricks practiced to influence or silence newspapers. So many papers have appeared in our midst as to cause their managers to keep an eye chiefly on doing or failing to do anything that reflect upon any action of those who support the paper as advertisers.

Some firms pay as much as \$1500 per year for advertising space in some of the daily papers. How can such a paper criticise the actions of such a firm unless it makes up its mind to defy such contractor and proclaim what is Right, and end by finding the receipts of the paper diminished severely enough to force the publisher out of business. The daily press has become a hiring press—controlled entirely by business and political interests—and the public cannot rely upon its utterances or trust its statements, especially statements intended for the protection of the rights of the masses. When men without means are given a paper to operate, it must be apparent to the most dense, that such a paper cannot express an independent opinion. Its utterances are as ordered, and as the interests demand.

Your paper is fearless and unurchasable and will defend Right only and severely condemn wrong no matter by whom committed. Your paper is therefore the only Guardian of the Public Conscience in the Colony. Public men's actions should be incessantly criticized in order to ensure intelligent action and efficiency. A new spirit has arisen amongst us that is seeking public expression which is not possible except

through the columns of your paper. That spirit is rising like the sap in a tree in spring and will spring forth next year and emancipate the masses and break the chains that have hitherto bound the people and made them the play things of professional political tricksters.

The duty of the working men is to be up and doing, to assume responsibility for matters of public importance, to go forward trusting entirely on themselves and relying upon the unsatisfied spirit within that has always prompted men to achieve great things. Your opportunity has come, avail of it, turn neither to the right or the left but go straight forward to the goal that is before you if you care to attain it. May God endue you with the power of Faith and the spirit to persevere and endure. Your cause is right, your aim pure. Your determination is to benefit your Country, and uplift the Sons of Toil; therefore there must be no hesitation on your part, for Victory awaits your efforts if you do not grow weary in well doing. Right will surely prevail and duty faithfully performed must bring success. Therefore go forward into 1917 with courage and determination. There has been placed upon the working men of Newfoundland to-day a great responsibility and woe to us and our country if we shirk our duty or fail to live up to the standard of our professions. Obstacles will have to be overcome which will be easy if you are determined not to recognize defeat.

During the coming year the country is likely to face difficulties hitherto absent from our list of worries. The submarine menace is not to be lightly regarded. The supplying of recruits for the Navy and Regiment; the high cost

of living, especially of provisions; the shortage in the supply of flour; the additional revenue to meet the loss of liquor revenue; the war pension fund; the increase in interest on the debt; the big increase in freight rates by railway; the possible dislocation of trade and commerce after the war ends; the slump in prices of fishery produce and labor when the war ends; the loss on stocks of goods remaining when conditions become normal; the re-employment of our returned Naval and Volunteer heroes, especially of the disabled. All of these difficulties will have to be faced, and to overcome them all our resources, patience, and ability will have to be availed of. National issues will have to be raised and adjusted and a general election will have to be fought. The picture is not a pleasant one, but it will have to be solved. The greatest responsibility ever shouldered by our Government and people will have to be carried during the coming year. Few have any idea of what is ahead, but I am convinced that it will prove the most momentous year in our country's history. All must be ready to make sacrifices for I cannot see any indications of ease from worry or of prosperity in 1917, although prices of fishery produce will be exceedingly high while the war continues—probably \$10 per qtl.

I sincerely welcome you all to our Eighth Convention. It is a pleasure to meet so many old friends once more. As we will now proceed to business I trust our deliberations at this time will promote a feeling of closer fellowship amongst us, and be conducive of lasting good to our country, our organization and ourselves.



Published by Authority

Under the provisions of "The War Measures Act, 1914," His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to order that the following Regulation shall come into effect as and from the sixth day of December, 1916.

ARTHUR MEWS,
Deputy Colonial Secretary.
Department of the Colonial Secretary,
December 1st, 1916.

No person in Newfoundland shall be permitted on and after the sixth day of December, 1916, to be in possession of any issue, either published since the first day of November, 1916, or hereafter published, of the following newspapers, namely—"New York American" (Daily); "New York Journal" (Daily); "Boston American" (Daily); "Boston Sunday American" (Sunday); "Chicago Examiner" (Daily); "Chicago Sunday Examiner" (Sunday); "Chicago American" (Daily); "San Francisco Examiner" (Daily); "San Francisco Sunday Examiner" (Sunday); "Los Angeles Examiner" (Sunday); "Los Angeles Sunday Examiner" (Sunday); "Los Angeles Herald" (Daily); "Atlanta Georgian" (Daily); "Atlanta American" (Sunday).



OUR QUESTION IS,
What will you do if you have a fire and haven't any insurance? Can you stand this loss?

IT'S FOOLISH TO TAKE YOUR OWN FIRE RISK
when our premiums are so low. Don't take chances, but

HAVE US INSURE YOU
in one of our companies. Why not do it to-day?

PERCIE JOHNSON
Insurance Agent.

Any person convicted of a violation of this Regulation before a Stipendiary Magistrate or a Justice of the Peace shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding two hundred dollars, or in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both fine and imprisonment.
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NEYLE'S
246 Water Street.

HARNESS
We manufacture all kinds of Slide Harness.

FELT SWEAT PADS
STABLE RUGS
for Horses.

HORSE SHOES
Snowball sharpened for winter use.

SHOT
4 and B.B.

CARTRIDGES
12 gage loaded with Black and Smokeless Powder.

BOLTS and NUTS
Slide Bolts, 3/4 x 27 inches.
" " " " 1/2 x 31 inches.

No. 6 Horse Shoe Nails.
COOPERS' TOOLS
White's Adzes, Plain and Check Face Chamfer Knives.

NEYLE'S HARDWARE

Sold Liquor to Wounded Soldier's and is Jailed

London, Eng., Nov. 29.—For selling intoxicating liquors to wounded soldiers, and also for selling without a license to Frederick Blay, an Uxbridge auxiliary postman, was sent to prison at Uxbridge for six months (the maximum penalty). The house

J. J. St. John

The TEA with strength and flavor is

ECLIPSE,
which we sell at **45c. lb.**

ROYAL PALACE BAKING POWDER
20c. per lb. Small Tins 5 cts.

SCOTCH OATMEAL, PATNA RICE, JACOBS' BISCUITS, HARTLEYS' JAMS,
1s. and 2s.

J. J. St. John
Duckworth St & LeMarchant Rd

Just Arrived:
A LARGE SHIPMENT OF

PRINCE ALBERT
Smoking Tobacco

In 1/2 lb and 1 lb Glass Jars.

Always in stock a full line of **Smokers' Requisites.**

S. G. Faour
378 WATER STREET.

KEROSENE OIL

For Sale at lowest market prices.

SMITH CO. Ltd.
Telephone 506.

placed out of bounds as so many cases of drunkenness had been reported from it. A large percentage of these troops had to be sent back to Canada rendered permanently insane through the action of alcohol allowing shell shock. The Bench asked the police not to relax their efforts in putting a stop to this sort of thing.

Liverpool publicans have been warned of the serious results that may follow repeated disobedience of the Control Board orders. Two houses have been closed for six months by the Board.

TEAS

AT THE LOWEST PRICES, BUT UPON WHICH YOU CAN ABSOLUTELY RELY, AT

BLAIR'S.

We offer:—

REAL GOOD TEA @ 40c. lb.
EXTRA GOOD TEA @ 45c. lb.
SUPERIOR QUALITY TEA @ 50c. lb.

We are enabled to do this as we import these teas in large quantities direct from Ceylon when the markets are at their lowest, and we give our customers all the benefits. We have on these values quadrupled our Retail Tea Trade during the past year, as all our customers find our teas are the very best they can get for the money. The above are all straight Ceylon Teas, but we can also give you the milder Blended Teas as packed by Messrs. Lipton, Ltd., London (and which have always had a large sale) at 50c. and 60c. lb. The other teas previously mentioned are put up by ourselves to suit a large portion of the Newfoundland market which does not care for blended teas.

However, we can suit you to a T no matter what your taste.

HENRY BLAIR

625 Cases

New Crop Tomatoes
Due to arrive 1st half September.
Get our Prices.

Job's Stores, Limited.

In Stock

100 Cases

-Valencia Onions,-
200 brls. Apples.
and to arrive by S. S. Graciana

75 Kegs
Green Grapes

H. J. Brownrigg
Phone 469.

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THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE