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Liberal-Labor Committee Holds Rousing Meeting.

'Hang 'Er Down,' is The Word!

Another rousing meeting of the Liberal-Labor Committee was held in the N.I.W.A. Rooms last night. The workers in the campaign having returned just before ten, a meeting was called by the Chairman, John Caldwell, and Mr. Fred H. Hue, who spoke as a fish buyer and exporter, treated his audience to some information about the fish regulations. Mr. Hue prefaced his remarks by saying he supported Mr. Squires in the general election, feeling satisfied that Mr. Squires would not be controlled by Coaker in the event of his success at the polls. He regretted, however, that Mr. Squires had fallen flat under the Coaker whip, when he gave approval to the forming of the fish combine, composed of Coaker and a few fish merchants along Water St. Mr. Hue explained to the meeting that he was one of the small buyers, not connected with any combine, and who purchased for cash. When the inquiries regulations were promulgated, he interviewed Mr. R. D. Job, one of Mr. Coaker's Advisory Board, and pointed out the hardship the regulations would work on the small man. He said the interview resulted in Mr. Job telling him that his firm (Job's) had a big premises to look after, a lot of overhead expenses to meet, and so on, and that the small man would

have to be eliminated and that it would be wise for him (Mr. Hue) to engage in some other business than buying and selling fish. Mr. Hue also interviewed Mr. Coaker and applied for a permit to export. The latter would be granted only on condition that all the information as to price paid, and price of sale, was submitted. Mr. Hue's U.S. backers were not prepared to submit their business dealings to the Nfd. Government, which Mr. Coaker was informed of. Mr. Hue says his answer from Mr. Coaker when informed of this, was that he was going to run things to suit himself. Continuing, the speaker said the present regulations were antagonizing the Italian, Spanish and Greek markets and that we were cutting a great big stick to lick ourselves. Every utterance of Mr. Hue was attentively listened to, and he was strenuously applauded at the close of his speech.

Mr. Aaron Stone, also a fish buyer and exporter on a small scale, was next invited to speak, and although the ground had been partly covered by the previous speaker, his remarks were brimful of interest and value. The present regulations, he said, were unwise, unworkable, and unjust, that already Newfoundland was suffering, and it would take half a generation

to get back to where we were two months ago. Already two cargoes of fish sent to the European market had been repudiated. The agents of Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece in New York, as soon as they got hold of the Coaker regulations and circulars, had them published in their own papers and then sent to their countries for distribution, with what effect will be known later, and probably when it will be too late to act. It was foolishness for the Government to foster the belief that Newfoundland was the only fish supplying centre. Iceland and Norway and France and Canada were coming back, and with the trawlers used during the war, which would now be used for fishing. Newfoundland would not figure as in the past few years. If the intention of the combine was to ship most of the fish in bulk to the European market, even if a fair price were maintained, the mill-man, the cooper, the laborer, and the truckman were bound to suffer. It would be a sorry day for Newfoundland if present conditions were to continue, and St. John's West had the opportunity of voicing its protest by defeating the Coaker candidates.

Mr. Michael P. Cashin, leader of the L.L.P., followed and astonished every committee member with facts and figures connected with the fish combine of Water Street, and what the likely profits would be for Mr. Hawes (if he got it all). If the combine got control, the greater part of the fish now shipped in packages would go to Europe in bulk, be stored in the warehouses in Italy and Spain, and later put up in packages by cheap labor. Newfoundland's average catch of cod was about 1,500,000 quintals, and the shipper generally figured, at \$2.00 a quintal, for packing, including the package. If the combine succeeded, practically \$1,500,000 would be lost to the mill-man and the cooper and laborer, and St. John's would suffer the greatest loss.

Responding to insistent calls from all parts of the room, Mr. James R. MacDonnell, M.P.A., for St. George's, delivered a rousing, stirring address which set the giant committee ablaze with enthusiasm and delight. The cheering was deafening, and there can be no doubting the statement that Jim (Larkin) MacDonnell, the hero of the election, is a prime favorite with the committee. Those who heard him last night can find it in their hearts to pity the ones on whom the vials of his wrath will be turned at the first general meeting in the District. Some exceedingly hot shots await the Government in this campaign and the people of St. John's West have in store for them a treat whose deliciousness is not often reached. Mr. MacDonnell is in the fight for Martin and Linegar and in him the Liberal-Labor candidates have a veritable tower of strength.

The candidates Messrs. Martin and Linegar reported on the personal canvass done during the day and the splendid reception given them wherever they visited, and urged upon the committee to keep the fight going during the next three weeks with as high speed as it is at present.

With a few closing remarks by the Chairman, the meeting closed with the National Anthem.

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The Methodist National Campaign.

The Methodist National Campaign is the name of the Methodist section of the great Inter-Church Campaign to which reference was made last week. The Inter-Church Campaign is being vigorously carried on in Conventions and Conferences by representatives of the uniting churches in the Dominion of Canada, from Halifax in the east to Victoria in the west, from ocean to ocean. In all the provinces and in the cities and many of the towns in each province, large and enthusiastic gatherings of all the denominations are being addressed by Anglican, Presbyterian, Baptist, Congregationalist and Methodist clergymen and laymen. The laymen of each church, including Judges of the Supreme Bench, educationalists, financiers, farmers, and in every walk of life are taking a full share of the work involved in making the Church of God EFFICIENT for the new day which is dawning. The Church, whatever may be its denomination, belongs to the people, and the most hopeful feature of the campaign is the fact that the entire work is no longer made a burden to rest upon ministers and clergymen, but the layman in the Church is taking up his share of the work with joyful enthusiasm.

In arranging for the United Inter-Church Campaign, it was only recognized that each church would be the best judge of its own particular needs, spiritual and financial, and also its own resources to meet such needs; so that while pressing a United Inter-Church Campaign for the accomplishment of Union in spiritual aims, the details are left to each denomination to work out—hence "The Methodist National Campaign."

The Methodist Church in Newfoundland has been for some time engaged, in common with the Conferences in Canada, in seeking the spiritual objectives that are essential in this period of reconstruction. As far as spiritual objectives can be expressed in figures, the spiritual aims of the Methodist National Campaign are 200,000 pledged intercessors, 200,000 pledged personal workers, 100,000 Christian stewards, 100,000 new members of the Church, 100,000 new Sunday School scholars, 50,000 new members of Young Peoples' Societies, 5,000 volunteers for life service. After very full and prayerful consideration of these objectives, the Newfoundland Conference of the Methodist Church has accepted, and will endeavour by Divine help, to reach, as its quota 6,000 pledged intercessors, 6,000 Christian stewards, 3,000 new members of the Church, 3,000 new Sunday School scholars, 1,500 new members of Young Peoples' Societies, and 100 volunteers for life-service.

The effort to reach these objectives will in itself be a means of grace to the Church, resulting in blessing beyond human telling. At the present time these objectives are being reached at least approximately. In a few days over 3,000 pledged intercessors will be at work, while at least 50 per cent. of the objective set for volunteers for life-service will be enrolled. Life-service includes ministers and missionaries, deaconesses and teachers and workers in all those avenues that the Christian Church of the 20th century is opening to the consecrated young manhood and womanhood of the present time. Surely a New Day is dawning when the Church shall hear the call of her Divine Lord: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."

M. F.

Is This Profiteering?

Yesterday, wholesale prices for flour were increased by some importers about 12 per cent. Retailers stock only small quantities, and are continually replenishing their stocks. All this must have been taken into account when prices were fixed. Why should these prices be raised because Canada has raised the minimum price by eighty cents a bushel? There is nothing to justify Newfoundland in following Canada's example. The Canadian dealer is still subject to the law of supply and demand. Until navigation opens the Newfoundland dealer is not, for both the supply and the demand are exactly the same now as they were a month ago. Profiteering of this character is a direct invitation to disorder. It is the obvious duty of the Government to deal with the matter, and to do so without delay. There was no hesitation in crushing the small man when the big man wanted larger returns for his fish. Is this to be repeated when flour is the issue? The former was bad enough, but the latter intolerable because those who can least afford to suffer will be those who will suffer most.

Another unpleasant and unwelcome surprise was sprung on the consumer yesterday when the price of local creamery was jumped 6 cents a pound. The reason advanced for this large increase is that the cost of the raw material has increased in Canada. This may be a legitimate excuse, but it is difficult to persuade the public that the manufacturers are not well supplied for their winter trade at least, with the necessary stock of material. When the Food Control Board was done away with a few months ago, there was good reason

to believe that the days of its usefulness had passed, and to hope that competition would govern the price, as in pre-war days. Recent developments, however, would still seem to support such a Board. But though the Board has ceased to exist, there is no reason why an enquiry should not take place.

It is in the power of the Government to see whether the increase is justifiable and to place the facts fully before the public; and in fairness to the manufacturers as well as to the consumer this should be done without delay.—Daily News.

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