

DUE TODAY
1 Car of
CORN MEAL
and
YELLOW CORN
Prices Right
J. J. ROSSITER
Real Estate Agent



Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"
The Mail and Advocate
Issued every day from the office of
publication, 167 Water Street, St.
John's, Newfoundland, Union Pub-
lishing Co. Ltd., Proprietors.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Public Meeting
At Manuels

BY last evening's express Messrs. J. G. Stone, M.H.A., Geo. F. Grimes, M.H.A., and W. W. Halfyard, M.H.A., left for Long Pond, Manuels, where they held a public meeting last night under the auspices of the F.P.U. The meeting was held in the school-room, Mr. Parrott being Chairman.

The meeting started sharp at 7 o'clock so as to allow the visiting gentlemen to return to town by the incoming local train. Interesting speeches were given, the aims and objects of the F.P.U. were fully discussed and each speaker in his own way showed up that W. F. Coaker has accomplished all he claimed he would do for the fishermen of Newfoundland. The new Export Co. was also dealt with.

The Sealing Voyage

THE whole catch of the sealing fleet is not likely to exceed 30,000 seals. That is the worst record by 97,000 of any year since steamers took part in the fishery. The worst record up to the present was that of 1897, when the whole catch amounted to only 127,000. Never since sealing became an industry has the catch fallen so low as this present season.

The Colony will suffer through the loss of revenue some \$250,000, while the owners of the ships will be out of pocket by about \$170,000, as the cropping, outfitting, insurance, &c., for the twelve ships without seals will amount to \$170,000. The cost of outfitting and cropping ships like the Florizel and Nascopie will cost \$18,000 each, while the other steel ships outfitting will come within \$2,000 of the larger ships. The cost of the wooden ships outfit, &c., will amount to about \$12,000 each. The insurance item is a very considerable amount, especially in the case of wooden ships.

About 30,000 seals have been landed so far on the North Side of Green Bay, consequently it may safely be asserted that 250,000 young seals have escaped this year, which in three years will be producing young and thereby adding additional wealth to the fisheries of the Colony. The close season has come, but at an expense of \$170,000, which every poor man knows will have to be made up some way on fish during the coming season.

The poor men who have gone out hoping to secure the wherewithal to ride them over the

spring will be the greatest sufferers, as the failure of the voyage will mean considerable want for them during the coming three months. The owners will have to provide each man with a ticket to his destination, and this will cost another \$7,000, which will bring this season's losses up to about \$180,000.

The Assembly

THE Legislature meets to-morrow for the transaction of business. Most of the M.H.A.'s have arrived and freely express their indignation for having to devote a month to legislative duties that should have been accomplished in February.

Morris, by holding back the meeting of the Legislature thinks he will get through with a short session and cut off much discussion of public matters. He got more than he bargained for last winter when the Opposition delivered blow after blow until Morris found he was really up against it for the first time in his life.

Beside, Morris is well aware of the inward rottenness of his party and this is another reason why he has declined to call the Legislature together to transact business that should have been completed two months ago when members had more time to devote to such duties. He will now meet the House with the worst financial statement that any Ministry had to present to the House of Assembly.

Morris will have to confess that even his attempts to impoverish the people by heaping up taxation 25 per cent. in addition to former taxation, that the Treasury is some Half Million Dollars short of expenditure. He will have to confess that while he attempted to grab \$1,000,000 extra taxation from the people that the expenditure has exceeded even the votes granted so liberally last winter. Some of the Departments have outrageously overdrawn their grants. Not one solitary instance of economy has been practiced.

We presume one of the Labrador coastal steamers will be dispensed with, but that will be caused solely by the Reid Nfld. Co. having sold one of their large ships and not being able or willing to replace it, the Labrador service as performed last year cannot consequently be served this year, but some of this saving in expenditure is to be offset, so we hear, by a bargain made by Morris and Crosbie to place one of the whaling steamers recently purchased by Crosbie, on the Labrador in order to afford Captain Henry Dawe facilities to settle trap-berth disputes in his capacity as magistrate. Crosbie, it is said, is to receive \$4,000 for this job, while that sum exceeds what he paid for the whaler—and thus the farce goes on.

Each day brings its grist to the mills of the clique that for seven years has been filtering the life-blood from the people, and driving the poor old ship of state nearer and nearer to the breakers amongst the shoals that abound on Craball Land.

Morris has proved himself to be the most complete failure as a public man that this Colony has yet beheld. We are told that Executive Council meetings are more like what might be expected to take place among bands of pirates. Angry scenes are said to occur very often; hard words are said to be hurled across the Executive table, and the outside supporters are whispering to each other of this scandal, and that piece of rascality performed so and so, and each vows vengeance upon the other and ends by wishing the farce would soon end.

When the House opens to-morrow the vacant chair unfilled last winter will be occupied by Mr. A. B. Morine. He will occupy an independent seat which will be situated to the left of Mr. Coaker's seat. His presence will give strength to the debating power of the House and his long experience of public affairs will add greatly to the utterances from the Opposition side of the House. He will take his seat as one of the oldest members of the House, and the importance of his presence will be the greater appreciated by the country, as he will by far exceed any member of the House as an orator and constructive statesman.

In legal matters Mr. Morine's presence will be welcomed as he undoubtedly is one of the most brilliant lawyers now practicing in the Colony. He will add greatly to the fighting aggressive ability of the Opposition Party as he was always known as one of the most aggressive members that ever sat in the House. Some of the old glory that blazed from the

The Nickel Theatre

Grand Re-Opening EASTER MONDAY Afternoon, at 2 p.m.

Theatre Renovated, Cleaned and Improved from Top to Bottom.
The Home of Clear, Sharp, Flickerless Motion Pictures.
Showing only the Absolute Cream of the Entire Industry.

FOR A LIMITED SEASON,
Arthur Priestman Cameron
That extremely popular Comedy Song Artist, in all new repertoire.
Prof. P. J. McCarthy | **Joseph F. Ross**
St. John's favorite Pianist. | That past master of Effects and Realism.

THE NICKEL---The House With the Big Reputation!
It's Always Good---It's Recognized the Best

The German 42 Centimeter Gun

English Engineer Describes Weapon

London, Nov. 28.—In the earlier days of the war it was asserted that the Germans possessed a siege gun of unprecedented power, and that it was used to batter down the Liege and Namur forts. Of late little has been heard respecting it, and many assert that there are no guns of that calibre in existence and that the stories regarding them were put in circulation in order to spread consternation among the Allies.

It has been said that the heaviest guns used by Germany is the 28 centimeter (11 inch) gun borrowed from the Austrians, and photographs of this weapon, with its splendidly designed recoil mechanism and its broad well shod wheels, have been pointed out as photos of the 42 centimeter (17 inch) gun. There has been a tendency on the part of some to consider the 42 centimeter gun as being of similar design to the 28 centimeter, differing only in size.

As a matter of fact, the two guns are dissimilar in design and in practically every detail. At the beginning of the war Germany possessed eight of the big howitzers, which have a bore of just over 16 1/4 inches or 42 centimeters, and not of 17 inches, as is popularly supposed. One gun was ready for action during the siege of Liege, and as the German 15 centimeter howitzers with the 30-pound shells were making little or no impression on the place, the big gun was sent to the spot accompanied by a gun crew from Krupp's. The first six shots practically demolished one fort apiece, and the Kaiser, anxious to gain possession of Namur as speedily as possible, ordered the seven other guns to be completed immediately and sent to that city. When they arrived they reduced the forts to rubble and dust in some 4 hours, but the heavy work so damaged the howitzers and so strained their mountings that it was necessary for them to be sent back to Essen for thorough overhaul and repair.

At extreme personal risk an English engineer, determined to solve the mystery of these guns, schemed and bribed his way into the railway station at Cologne at a time when one of them was waiting to be taken back to Krupp's. He was able to make a detailed examination of the gun and its equipment.

The short squat barrel of the gun is mounted on a massive cradle of girders, with an over-all length of 38 meters (59 feet). This cradle terminates at either end in a platform slung on a six-wheeled bogie truck, the bogies being necessary to enable the big gun to be taken around curves of short radius.

The actual gun carriage on a live roller ring of 9 feet diameter, which is rotatable by hydraulic power. An arrangement of hydraulic pumps are driven by a small internal combustion engine fitted with a carburetor of a type which allows it to be run by either petrol or paraffin. This engine is mounted on the forward platform and is coupled to a dynamo of the series wound type which is in series with the primary of an induction coil.

It is fitted with mechanical interrupter. The secondary of this coil forms the firing circuit and is taken to the breech of the gun. The gun crew stands fifty yards away when the circuit is closed and the gun fired, so tremendous is the atmospheric disturbance at the moment of firing.

heavy to be carried on an ordinary temporary light railway and can only move on one of standard construction and gauge. It is safe to assert that no bridge of a temporary nature could be built to carry this gun except at a tremendous expenditure of material and labor. It would also be impossible to haul it along any kind of road. It follows, therefore, that the destruction of a single bridge on a railway on which this gun was traveling would be sufficient to stop its progress, from which it will be seen that if the railways within a ten or twelve-mile radius of a threatened position were destroyed the gun would be harmless as a weapon of offence.

Emphasis must be placed on the fact that these big guns, like all made temporary bridge.

Easter Shoe Sale



Special Easter Footwear is now ready. The season's best models for Men, Women and Children. High or low cut styles that any man or woman would be proud to wear. Shoes for men and women that are classy and different. Black or tan leathers. Not a shoe in our whole stock is priced too high or beyond reach. Our prices are always pleasing. Men's Shoes, high or low cut, bright or dull leathers and tans. New high toe or low receding toe. Prices: \$2.40 to \$5.00.

In our Women's Shoes are the new military boots in colored tops, Gun Metal and Patent Leathers. Prices: \$1.50 to \$3.00. Youths' and Misses' Shoes. Prices: \$1.25 to \$2. Children's and Infants'. Prices: 39c. to \$1.40.

We cordially invite you to come and see
The White Shoe Store
304 and 306 Water Street. S. B. KESNER, Prop.

THE BEST IS CHEAPER IN THE END



Order a Case To-day "EVERY DAY" BRAND EVAPORATED MILK. German—42 cm. howitzer, 100 tons. German—28 cm. howitzer, 28 tons. Russian—31 cm. howitzer, 28 tons. Austrian—28 cm. howitzer, 22 tons. French—27 cm. howitzer, 22 tons. The gun is thus far more cumbersome than any other in use, and, judging from its construction, the inefficient method of loading and the great weight of the projectile it would appear that the process of loading and firing must be long, and that consequently only a few rounds can be fired in one day. It was probably for that reason that the full battery was ordered to Namur. By reason of its great weight the gun is far from mobile. It is too

Job's Stores Limited.
DISTRIBUTORS