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("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

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JOHN J. ST. JOHN.

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WHAT ARE WE DOING?

WE ask what is being done with regard to making provision for our soldier lads who are returning from the scene of battle, maimed and wounded? We shout incessant hurrahs when they set forth to fight for King and Country. We feted them to their heart's content; but we seem to have forgotten that those who are returning need more than hurrahs and honorary membership in the clubs of the city.

Those who return will, in the majority of cases, if invalidated home, be unable to engage in active work, or such work as they were engaged in before enlistment; so we must wake up to the necessity of making provision for our brave lads who have done service for the Empire.

In the Canadian cities, there is a Soldier's Aid Commission; and recently there was a gathering of prominent citizens in Montreal to discuss the best means of providing for returned soldiers. Prominent educators were invited to attend the meeting, and several useful measures were suggested by such experts as Professor Sexton, Head of the Technical School in Halifax, and other well-known educators.

The work of this Commission is, as a Canadian exchange says, hardly less urgent and patriotic than that of the Militia Department. While the latter trains, equips and transports Canada's soldiers to the front, the Commission welcomes home the discharged soldier heroes, provides for their immediate needs, and does everything that is humanly possible to find employment for those who are able to work.

Fair words butter no parsnips; and we should awaken to the necessity of doing something for our boys who have been worsted in the fray. A Commission on lines similar to those recently organized in the Canadian cities should be organized here; and something of a substantial nature should be done.

There is no provision made as far as we know, even for convalescents. They cannot, and should not, be shunted off to an already crowded hospital; but some suitable Home should be provided for them. Failing the initiative of private citizens, we insist that it is the duty of the Government to

SEALERS' MEETING LAST NIGHT GREAT SUCCESS

PRESIDENT COAKER AND DR. LLOYD DELIVER ELOQUENT SPEECHES—MANY NORTHERN SEALING CAPTAINS PRESENT.

LAST night's sealers' meeting held at the Mechanics' Hall was well attended, by the sealers, amongst those present being Captains George Barbour, Stanley Barbour, Kenneth Rideout, Isaac Squires, Kenneth Barbour and other Northern Captains. Messrs. Halfyard and Targett, M.H.A.'s, occupied seats on the platform.

Mr. Coaker opened the meeting and, spoke for an hour, delivering probably the best speech he has ever delivered from a St. John's platform. He dealt with the price of fishery produce since the war opened showing that the war had not inflicted any financial loss on the fishermen up to the present, as splendid prices for fish and oil had been realized, while the price of provisions was hardly above normal.

He spoke at length about 1916 conditions and warned the audience that it must expect to feel the pinch far more severely during this year. Prices of fish would be fairly good if the war continued until early summer, but owing to transportation troubles, the price of salt, flour and many articles commonly used would advance in price.

Mr. Coaker reviewed conditions as they affected the fishing industry in a manner that enabled the meeting to grasp the whole situation and what he said will cause them to do considerable thinking while at the icefields. He spoke of future developments of the fisheries of Newfoundland and felt sure markets could be found for three times the quantity of fish now taken in Newfoundland. He wanted to see all the lobsters, turbot, and salmon exported in a fresh condition, and outlined a system of cold storage that would enable such to be done, as well as providing a constant supply of free bait for the fishermen throughout the Colony which would at least add \$1,000,000 worth of fish to the present annual catch.

From \$6 to \$7 prices would be paid for dry fish next season and \$5.50 for soft Labrador if the war continued; he thought cod oil would fetch high prices, from \$120 to \$140 per ton; salt would be from \$2.50 to \$3 per hhg.; seals would be \$5.50 per cwt., the first ship arriving demanded that figure or secured their own share and sold it to the highest bidder. The Trading Company may be able to buy any seals offering at \$5.50.

Mr. Coaker then appealed to the young men to respond to the call for soldiers to fight the Germans. His appeal was one of the most eloquent and stirring that St. John's has yet heard and his words were carefully listened to. He showed how disgraceful it

would be if Germany was not humbled; he said there could be no peace until that object was accomplished, that the cry was "men, and more men!" and Newfoundland would have to make a greater sacrifice than hitherto made, and must do her part to uphold the principles that has always made Britain great and respected.

Mr. Coaker declared that if the Germans did not give in, that the Colonial Governments may yet have to pass laws that would be considered compulsory in order to provide the men to win this war for any peace but one that would break military rule in Germany would be dishonorable and disgraceful for all time to the Empire, as Britain is now doing her very best and getting after slackers, it follows that if more men must be found, the Colonies and Dominions will have to produce still greater supplies of troops.

He showed that if there were any who felt dissatisfied with the Government ruling Newfoundland, that no blame could be placed on the King, or England, or the Constitution; none were to blame but the people who voted for the Government Party after a four years' experience that had opened the eyes of Northern men. He assured the Unionists that there was no power in the Colony strong enough now to injure the F.P.U., that it could overcome all outside attacks or opposition, and that the only power able to injure the F.P.U. was the members of it who if untrue could do it great injury. If all were loyal and faithful to the Union, all would be well, and in 1917 a Union Government would be elected that no power would be able to turn out for at least 25 years.

Mr. Coaker's address will not soon be forgotten by those who heard it. Dr. Lloyd was then introduced and delivered an able address which occupied 40 minutes. He briefly reviewed the principles of Unionism, and what it was possible for it to accomplish. He strongly believed in the F.P.U.; he was convinced that it had conferred great benefits on the fishermen. He spoke favorably of Mr. Coaker's work and what he had accomplished.

Dr. Lloyd reviewed some of the important remarks made by Mr. Coaker concerning general fishery conditions and prospects and pointed out what a great change had come over the country, when fishermen were now afforded an opportunity to have their concerns and interests discussed as Mr. Coaker had done in his able speech. The Doctor's words were strong-

ly applauded, and the meeting felt that in Dr. Lloyd the F.P.U. possessed a great defender and admirer, and that Dr. Lloyd could be depended upon to do his part in devoting the political policy advocated by the F.P.U.

The learned Doctor then spoke of the war and what it would mean for the Empire if Germany won. He felt sure that Germany had put forward her fullest strength and must daily grow weaker and eventually give in. He pointed out what sort of political freedom the Germans enjoyed and contrasted it with our constitution.

Dr. Lloyd did a great service last night by showing the fishermen the difference between British and German rule and the liberty and freedom given to the masses by England and Germany; the contrast was so great that the meeting realized that German rule was no better than slavery for the masses. He appealed to the young men to do their duty to defend those liberties held so dear by all Britons.

The Doctor's address would prove very helpful to present recruiting if it could be published, and we trust he will see his way to prepare an address on the lines of last night's speech for publication.

The learned Doctor received a splendid ovation as he closed.

Mr. Coaker's closing remarks brought this splendid patriotic meeting of sealers to a close, and the audience joined heartily in singing the National Anthem.

The meetings of last night and Monday night are additional proofs of the strength of the F.P.U. and the determination of the Northern fishermen to stand by Coaker. That the Union will sweep away every political opposition opposing it at the next general election is a foregone conclusion. Many prominent planters and fishermen are daily being added to the supporters of the F.P.U. Several present last night were not favorable to the Union in 1913 but are today some of its strongest advocates.

We wish the sealers good luck, and a safe return to their homes with fairly good bills, and it is thought all will secure a share of this spring's whitecoats, for conditions are very favorable and there are plenty seals to give all fair trips.

The Neptune, Sam Blandford, Erik, Bloodhound, Terra Nova, Eagle and Sable Island will likely clear from Pool's Island on Saturday at 6 p.m., as it is usual to permit the steamers to depart on Saturdays when the date fixed by law for sailing come on Sunday.

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make provision for returned soldiers, and to make them as comfortable as possible, and if necessary, have them placed in a position to learn something useful such as telegraphy, or other such subjects which may enable them to help themselves.

WE do not believe that any young fellow will be satisfied to remain a pensioner on the bounty of the Colony, if he is able to supplement his pension by some useful employment.

Possibly some of our readers may have suggestions to make on this subject; and we would be glad to have their views. This is a matter which has a direct interest for everybody in the Colony; and we hope that it will receive immediate attention on the part of the authorities.

This is no party issue; but it is an affair of State. Do not allow these brave young fellows to feel

that they are being neglected. With never a whimper of pain or hate For the sake of those who at home await.

Only a dad, neither rich nor proud, Merely one of the surging crowd, Toiling, striving, from day to day, Facing whatever may come his way.

Silent, whenever the harsh condemn, And bearing it all for the love of them.

Only a dad, but he gives his all To smooth the way for his children small, Doing, with courage stern and grim, The deeds that his father did for him;

This is the line that for him I pen.

Only a dad, but the best of men. —Detroit Free Press.

ONLY A DAD

ONLY a dad, with a tired face Coming home from the daily race, Bringing little of gold or fame To show how well he has played the game. But glad in his heart that his own rejoice To see him come and to hear his voice.

Only a dad of a brood of four, One of ten million men or more, Plodding along in the daily strife, Bearing the whips and scorns of life