

OUR MOTTO: "Suum Cuique."

**The Mail and Advocate**

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("To Every Man His Own.")

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, DECEMBER 16, 1916.

**FOOD CONTROL**

YESTERDAY'S message gave the first speech of Britain's Food Controller and it is noteworthy to see to what extent England desires to husband her food stocks. Not, we think, because there is any immediate necessity to do so, but because in these days of "all for the Empire," it is felt that even one weak link in the chain of Patriotism, makes the Ship of State unsafe. Extravagance before now has always meant energy misdirected somewhere. It has had its effect on the life of every nation. When men are employed in producing things that are not only expensive but unnecessary, it means that so many more men are withheld from the production of those things that are necessary. Luxury and self-indulgence had permeated great numbers of our people before the war. Now, simple living and self-denial will be the imperatives imposed upon us by the inevitably heavy taxation. In this way the lessened demand for luxuries will divert our attention to the growing, making and selling of things that are useful. Consequently these will become more plentiful and cheaper, for the more we have of a commodity the cheaper it will be. The art of a gambler in business is to confine a commodity to as few holders as possible, thus forcing the public who want to buy to pay much more than its value. The Food Control that Baron Devonport speaks of will be enforced against this very thing and as he says, the food stocks will be distributed fairly and no one be permitted to hold large stocks. If this legislation is necessary in war-time, the question naturally arises, Why not in peace-time? If England and her Allies can do this, as well as our enemies, it cannot be an impossibility after the war to establish a World Board of Control, which would prevent large holdings in food and other stocks and which could regulate with a great deal of fairness the price, that would give the producer on one hand a decent living and the consumer on the other hand a fair deal.

**OUR OWN CASE**

IN OUR own case we are very slow to take any steps in this direction of food control. The imports of the last year show that the value of them has increased by one-third. That is practically to say that what was costing a dollar to import is now costing one dollar and thirty-three cents, because we do not think that as a matter of fact we are consuming one-third more than we did. This increase is simply due to the increased first cost of our imports. And when we add to this the very excessive increase in freights, the increase on duties, and the increased profits which seem to be invariably made when costs are high, it can be seen that the people of this Country are labouring under heavy burdens in the way of the cost of living. Now we think that this should not be. If the Government are doing anything about food control or food stocks we know not. We are sorry that the coal problem has been left alone so long again. For the Government to step in now, with winter on us, means that even if coal be procured, it is going to cost considerably more than it would have a month or so ago. This problem could have been taken up before, and enough coal secured to tide us over the winter. As it is now, those who are able to fill their cellars, have obtained their winter coal, and the increased cost of that coal, which we notice the Government Engineer is proceeding to Sydney to arrange for, will bear on those who can least afford it, the man who can only get a half, a quarter, or an eighth of a ton. Governments which do not actively interest themselves in the welfare of their people can no longer expect to retain their confidence and support. In these days of war, this is more to the front than at any time, but we are curiously slow in this country in working this idea out.

**OUR MORNING PAPER**

THE Morning Edition of *The Mail and Advocate* will appear on Monday. This morning paper is at present a necessity, as outport friends at many places do not receive the evening paper until it is a day old, while this morning paper will reach readers in Conception Bay with the previous evening news. The alteration of the time for despatching the express to Port-aux-Basques from 6 p.m. to 12.30 p.m. cuts off all readers North from receiving a late evening paper. It will add to our responsibilities and make our burden the heavier, but our first consideration is our readers and the interests of our organization. Mr. Richard Hibbs, Delegate of the F.P.U. in Conception Bay, will at present perform the duties of morning editor, which position Mr. J. J. St. John, our late editor, was unable to accept. Mr. Michael James has been appointed reporter of the morning paper, and our friends in town will kindly afford him every opportunity to secure information of public interest for publication. Mr. Alex. Mews, as Editor-in-Chief, will have supervision over the three papers issued from our office. The price of the morning issue will \$2 per annum, the same as the evening issue.

**A PRAYER**

God save England, blessed by fate,  
So old, yet ever young;  
The acorn isle from which the great  
Imperial oak has sprung!  
And God guard Scotland's kindly  
Soil,  
The land of stream and glen,  
The granite mother that has bred  
A breed of granite men!

God save Wales from Snowdon's  
Vales  
To Severn's silver stand!  
For all the grace of that old race  
Still haunts the Celtic land—  
And, dear old Ireland, God save  
You,  
And heal the wounds of old,  
For every grief you ever knew  
May joy come fifty-fold!

Set Thy guard over us,  
May Thy shield cover us,  
Enfold and uphold us on land  
and sea;  
From the palm to the pine,  
From the snow to the line,  
Brothers together and children  
of Thee.

Thy blessing, Lord, on Canada,  
Young giant of the West,  
Still upward lay her broadening  
way,  
And may her feet be blessed!  
And Africa, whose hero breeds  
Are blending into one  
Grant that she thread the path  
which leads  
To holy union.

May God protect Australia,  
Set in her Southern Sea!  
Though far thou art, it cannot  
part.

**F.P.U. Clarke's Beach.**

(To the Editor)

Dear Sir,—The election of officers in the F. P. U. Hall, Clarke's Beach, was held on Monday, Dec. 11, 1916. The officers elected were as follows:

Chairman—R. Boone, Clarke's Beach.  
D. Chairman—William Hussey, Clarke's Beach.  
Secretary—Kenneth Morgan, Salmon Cove.  
Treasurer—William J. Anthony, Clarke's Beach.  
KENNETH MORGAN, Secretary.  
Salmon Cove, South River.

**ENJOYABLE CONCERT AND TEA.**

A very enjoyable and most successful concert was held last night in the C.C.C. Hall, Mechanics' Building, in aid of the Presentation Convent Building Fund. The Hall was filled with people, all of whom appreciated the concert very much and applauded each performer. Those who gave vocal and other selections were Mrs. C. J. Cahill, Misses Strang, Emily Mare, K. Howley and M. Ryan; Messrs. T. H. O'Neill, A. Bulley, C. J. Fox, C. Hutton, J. Sullivan and J. Williams. The proceeds were up to expectations. During the evening teas were served by the ladies who promoted the affair.

Thy brother folks from thee,  
And you, the Isle of Newfoundland,  
The oldest jewel fair,  
Ocean hemmed and lake be-  
gemmed,  
God hold you in His care!  
—Sir Conan A. Doyle.

**REVEILLE  
BY CALCAR**

THE time has at last arrived when, not alone those directly responsible for the proper running of the Government machinery, but every man with a brain to think is wondering how we are to keep up our political activities (the term political is here used in its broader sense) in other words how we are to continue as an independent people.

That the Government's follies for the past seven years, and their extravagances have landed this country deep in the financial morass is quite evident. That the burden of taxation has about reached the limit under which it is possible for the country to stagger is also a patent and very evident, painfully evident fact.

The Government has about exhausted the capabilities of the country to withstand taxation. What will be their next financial scheme? Surely they will not attempt to further increase taxation, which will be the lifting of the last straw to the camel's back which straw breaks the animal's back.

This country is in a poor state to-day, never was in a more deplorable condition in fact, and how to find a way out of the labyrinth is a problem to vex the soul of a greater financial genius than the honorable, the Premier.

The census returns show that we are little more than holding our own in respect to population even now, and it will not be surprising to see the population dwindle to considerably below the rate of reproduction within the next few years.

And who are those who will go away to seek in a foreign land the employment denied them at home? Not the aged and the maimed surely but our young men and our young women. Even now the exodus is on, and a tide of emigration has set in that unless checked must soon drain this country of that class of young people on whom we are depending for the up-keep of future population.

It will not surprise us any to see nothing but old men and old women left in Newfoundland to keep the company of the physically unfit and the mentally unfit too among whom we ought to reckon the gentlemen (?) who control at present the destinies of this poor country.

With an increasing burden of taxation and a decreasing population the future which confronts Newfoundland is not a very encouraging one.

This is a very gloomy picture, but it depicts things not as we imagine them but as they really are. It is a drawing aside of the veil with which we try in vain to hide the ugly vision from ourselves.

It is best that we realize fully our position in order that the manhood of the country may brace itself for the ordeal ahead. Let the spirit of Newfoundland

land's sons be once aroused and you will see wonders performed. We have every confidence in the ability of our country to rise from as she has risen in times past this terribly depressing state just from tribulations almost as severe. This confidence which we feel in our native sons induces us to put the ugly state of affairs before them in their true colors. We are full of the belief that the courage is there to resist to the last trench or go over the parapet in a glorious charge that will crown them with victory.

"Peace hath its victories no less renowned than war." There is a great battle to be fought out right here, that is to demand the best that is in us. And we are fit and ready for the task.

Our own native land needs vindication. She is in need of men to carry her through the trying times ahead. We will not shrink, be the task what it may.

Brains and heart and integrity are the munitions needed for this great battle that is coming. We have them in abundance. It is only a matter of mobilizing them and using them to the best of our ability to achieve that victory which is to lift our country from the "slough of despond" into which political corruption and incapability have landed her. We have great natural resources it is said. Then let us muster our courage for a development of these resources, for on these our future must depend.

Morris made much hubbub over these resources (supposed to exist) but further than making political "razzle-dazzle" over them he has done nothing. During his tenure of office not one new development has taken place, and it is safe to say that the same inactivity would exist till the blowing of Gabriel's horn puts an end to all earthly activity, were he allowed to continue in office that long. Morris is no political chicken, he has been in active political life upwards of forty years, still as far as statesmanship goes he is the merest tyro. If thirty odd years are not sufficient to develop a man's capacity for honest statescraft then it is safe to say that he has none to develop.

Do not trust Morris, he is not the one to help this country regain the feet that he himself has knocked from under her. This is a time for doing and not for bluster. Give us the man who does things.

**THIS DATE  
IN HISTORY**

DECEMBER 16  
New Moon—24th.

Days Past—349. To Come—15.  
Beethoven born 1770. Great German musician whose works all reach the highest standard of musical imagination.

Blucher born 1742. The famous Prussian commander who joined forces with Wellington in the final campaign against Napoleon, and materially helped to win the great victory of Waterloo.

George Whitefield born 1714. He was for a time associated with John Wesley at Oxford in the propagation of Methodism, and attracted great attention by his gifts as a preacher. Later he left the Methodists, and preached as an evangelist, expounding Calvinistic doctrines with fervour and eloquence.

Boston Tea Fight 1773. As a protest against the tax on tea a body of Americans, disguised as Red Indians, boarded the English tea ships lying in Boston Harbor and threw some £18,000 worth of tea into the water.

The schr. Edward, belonging to King's Cove, left St. John's this day, bound home, and must have gone down in gale during the night, 1876.

Imperial Government ignored the petition of the people of Newfoundland for Responsible Government, 1851.

Daniel Murphy, J.P., King's Cove, died, 1882.

British Hall, Harbor Grace opened, 1863.

Two boys—Simms and Smallwood—drowned in Quidi Vidi

Lake, 1893.  
Herbert Mundy, Governor's Secretary, buried, 1876.

Steamer Sardinian, from Liverpool—quickest trip since the beginning of Allan contract—arrived, 1878.

**DECEMBER 17**

3rd Sunday in Advent.  
Days Past—350. To Come—14.

John Greenleaf Whittier born 1807. America's Quaker poet was the son of a New England farmer, and for a time followed the trade of a shoemaker. Then after some experience in journalism he published his first book of poems "Legends of New England" (1831), which was warmly received both for the strong abolition sentiment it expressed and for its worth as poetry. His ideals were high, and he lived up to them.

Sir Humphry Davy born 1778. The eminent chemist who began life as an apothecary's apprentice and whose researches and discoveries were of great scientific importance. He invented the safety-lamp.

B. Quaritch died 1899, aged 80. A famous dealer in rare books whose shop in Piccadilly was a storehouse of literary treasures. His knowledge of scarce and valuable books was unique.

Heaviest snow storm for many years, 1876.

Robert S. Munn, Harbor Grace, died, 1894.

Bishop Jones resigned Rectorship of C. E. Cathedral parish, 1833.

Two thousand, five hundred dressmakers out of employment in Boston, 1893.

Influenza very virulent in England, 1893.

**WEATHER REPORT**

Toronto (noon)—Strong winds and gales from East, with snow and rain. Sunday: Wind shifting to S.W. and W. Still unsettled.

**HAD LONG VOYAGE.**

The schr. Winifred, with corkwood, wine and onions, arrived this morning from Oporto, after a run of 60 days. The vessel, commanded by Capt. George Rimsey, had head winds and some very stormy weather all through, and was so long at sea that for some time past the crew were short of certain kinds of "grub" and were for a while placed on an allowance.

Grand Jury urgently stated the need for a boys' reformatory, 1893.

**--JUST IN--**

No. 1 King  
APPLES  
Florida Sweet  
ORANGES  
J. J. ROSSITER.

**Reid-Newfoundland Co.****XMAS and NEW YEAR EXCURSION**

Return Excursion tickets will be sold between all stations and ports of call at

**ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE.**

Good going December 23rd, 24th, and 25th, and good returning up to December 27th; also good going December 30th, 31st and January 1st, and good returning up to January 3rd.

**ONE WAY AND ONE THIRD FIRST CLASS FARE.**

Good going December 21st to January 1st, and good returning up to and including January 4th.

**Reid-Newfoundland Co.****Men's Heavy Dull Finish Rubber Boots,  
Wool Lined, Jersey Brand, \$3.10.****Men's Woonsocket Rubber Boots,**

This Boot is made with the Tap running to Heel and has been the Standard Boot for more than a generation.

**Our Price \$3.70.****MEN'S MALTESE CROSS DULL FINISH BOOTS,**

Red Top, Natural Grey Sole, a good First Grade Boot at a Medium Price. **Only \$4.50.**

**Men's Red and White Patent Pressure Process Rubber Boots,**

These are famed the country over and are made from the finest Gum, specially constructed by skilled workmen.

**Our Price for all Red is \$4.50; for all White \$5.20.****Men's Black Pure Gum Rubber Boots,**

White Sole, Reinforced, Red Foxing, Felt Lined. We recommend it as the Best Fishing Boot made. There is none better.

**Our Price, \$5.25.**

People who have bought this Boot tell us that they get from Twelve to Eighteen months wear out of them.

**GEORGE KNOWLING.**