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From Our New York Correspondent

Dear Mr. Coaker.—Since last week we have had nothing but discussions and meetings regarding the food question; and nearly all our dailies are filled to repletion with communications wise and otherwise.

Perhaps the most spectacular event of the week was the insistence by Commissioner Dillon of the carrying out of the regulations relating to the Cold Storage Egg Supply; and The Sun to-day has a big header "Egg Stammers in a Scramble: Ninety Per Cent. of New York Dealers Obey Dillon's Orders." By the way Mr. Dillon is very much interested in Newfoundland, and he has discussed several phases of the Colony's business and attractive features with the writer. He spent some time in St. John's a year or two ago; and he has ever since been very enthusiastic about your interesting country.

The Commissioner is one of the most valuable officials we have ever had, and he is no respecter of persons. On Monday his orders that each and every egg of the refrigerated variety after leaving its original package shall

be stamped with the significant words "cold storage" in letters one-eighth of an inch high went into effect. It produced a variety of scrambled emotions, most of them turbulent in the egg trade.

The order gave many wholesalers and retailers the fidgets when it was issued on Friday last. Some of the interested parties said they did not please it was legal; and a few complained to Mr. Dillon that the extra labor of stamping each egg would add considerably to the cost per dozen by the time the consumer got them. Yet Mr. Dillon was inexorable, and he says that this labor should not cost more than a small fraction of a cent per dozen to the holder of cold storage produce. It is estimated that fully 2,500,000 eggs were stamped.

The Commissioner says that the stamping of the cold storage eggs will eventuate in creating a larger demand for the strictly fresh variety. He says further that in future the cold storage egg will be sold as such. He adds that cold storage eggs are perfectly reliable articles; but he insists that the people should get what they are paying for.

This presumably should be a good thing for your Food Commissioner to adopt in the City of St. John's if such an official is on your pay-roll. It will protect your housewives from being imposed upon.

The immediate consequence of the banning of the cold storage products was a drop in the price of eggs. This was helped doubtless by the State-wide boycott of the egg dealers, now in progress. It is quite possible that organization will be directed along other lines of food supplies, and we believe that the cold storage man will in future be made to sit up and take notice. As an illustration of the imposition practiced by these worthies, one egg dealer says he made a clean million of eggs alone in the last two years. Possibly there will be a governmental investigation as to the place of origin of some of these eggs: there is a feeling abroad that many of them were imported, from Heaven knows where.

Herring and Cod Market

If there were a boycott of the fish dealers, it might have the effect of helping out your fish markets.

The last trip of the "Florizel" surprised New York when she arrived some days ago with a big cargo of herring, codfish and cod-oil for reports had it that she had come to grief in some Newfoundland port or had gone down as did her sistership the "Stephano." Her arrival did not change the fish situation as regards herring. Her cargo was, so we are informed, sold to arrive. The cargo was entirely of spring pack, and according to operators it brought an average price of \$11 per barrel. Few sales have been made during

the week, and prices have been maintained at quoted levels; specially well packed herring sold up to \$14 and even \$16 was realized for fancy goods. There is a feeling abroad here that this season's catch will be small. The failure of the herring fishery in Nova Scotia and the poor results in Maine are given as a criterion. New York operators are prepared to handle large quantities of Newfoundland herring, so we are credibly informed, and packers shipping direct to handlers will likely fare better than formerly. At present the market is at its lowest point. The aggregate supply on the spot, so we are informed, is less than 4,000 barrels of all kinds. With the clearing up of foreign herring in New York and elsewhere throughout the country there is certain to be a big demand for Newfoundland herring; and it is not improbable, so a reputable dealer assures me, that your herring may touch a level of \$18 to \$19 within the next couple of months.

I strongly advise your fish editor to get after the packers and make it plain to them that they must put up the best possible quality of goods and the packages must be strong, pickle-tight, and made as attractive as possible. I have missed for some time the

interesting "Harvest of the Sea" column in The Mail and Advocate; we hope that you will make an effort to continue it, as it is a very interesting feature of your paper.

Regarding dry fish, there is a lull at the moment; and little activity is looked for until after the holidays. Codfish, however, is in fair demand; and in some of the West India markets there is good demand for alewives; I am not aware that you handle this line in any quantity. The Porto Rico markets quotes from \$36 to \$38. Package fish is in fair demand, and cartoons of boneless are selling well. American fishballs are in good demand on account of the scarcity of Norwegian products. These, by the way, are your most formidable competitors in this market; and several Norwegian fish dealers have progressive branches in this city and elsewhere throughout the Eastern United States.

I have often wondered why you cannot get in touch with some of the markets supplied by us. We are actually sending some of your products abroad.

The following statistics may prove interesting:—

Exports from New York:—

Nov. 14—To Greece, 66,640 lbs. dried codfish; to Costa Rica, 3,400 lbs. codfish; to Cuba, 9,000 lbs.; to Jamaica, 9,800 lbs.; to Colombia, 1,095 lbs. canned salmon.

Nov. 15—To England, 70,000 lbs. cd. salmon; to France, \$450 worth cd. fish.

Nov. 16—To Greece, 119,600 lbs. dried cod; French West Indies, 93,600 lbs. dried herring; Greece, 2,400 lbs. cd. salmon; England, 726,000 lbs. cd. salmon; Italy, 5,000 galls. fish oil.

This is just a partial list of exports which, it seems to me, you might have taken care of. It seems somewhat singular that we should be supplying the English market when you have abundance of products which seem to be going a-begging. What is your Bureau of Fisheries doing? They certainly must be "laying down on the job."

Now our list of fish imports is more suggestive still; and I quote you just a few items:—

Cured Herring—From Iceland, 440 lbs.; Holland, 587,000 lbs.; England, 189,500 lbs.; Scotland, 1,099,075 lbs.; Ireland, 159,375 lbs.; Canada, 171,600 lbs.; and we find only 195,600 pounds from Newfoundland.

In the cured fish list we find that while Norway supplied us to the value of \$18,000, Spain, 37,000; England, \$15,000; Scotland, \$17,000; Newfoundland has supplied fish to the value of FIFTY DOLLARS.

What is your Board of Trade doing? Or have you such an institution in your city? If so they must have been doing the Rip Van Winkle act.

In a recent issue of the "Fishing Gazette" I notice the following which should be of interest to you: "The trade in New York is crying for split herring, and offering to pay in advance for it, in some cases. The packers in Newfoundland who have not shipped slits to New York in the past ought to know that this is the time for action. Delays are likely to be dangerous, especially as the Scotch-cured market is beginning to become active in advance of the winter fishery."

Rev. Canon Colley Welcomed Home by Community Club.

A very pleasing event took place at a meeting of the members of Kelligrews Community Club on Thursday night, when the following address of welcome was presented to the Rev. Canon Colley who has recently returned from New York where he underwent a very serious operation for internal trouble, which we are glad to say resulted in his complete restoration to health.

To Rev. Canon Colley, Member of Community Club, Kelligrews.

Rev. Sir and Brother,—The members of the Community Club extend fraternal greeting and hearty welcome to you back again to the old historic town of Kelligrews. We have been looking forward to this event with a great deal of pleasure, and will assure you of our hearty co-operation in your labours.

We have much cause for thankfulness in that our Club, being such a large one, the Reaper Death has visited us but seldom. During the year past we have had to mourn the loss of but one brother.

Rev. Sir, our pleasure in welcoming you must be tempered with sorrow, because of the terrific struggle in which our Empire is now engaged, but we remember that the principles for which our soldiers and sailors are shedding their blood are similar

to those for which our ancestors fought, bled, died and conquered, and we believe that God will give us the victory now as he did then.

Rev. Sir, we welcome you as a brother, being a member of this club from its earliest infancy, and we hasten to assure you that we are pleased to have you with us again; kind Providence has restored you to your former health; may you long be spared to carry on your good work with the consciousness of a duty well performed.

Rev. Sir, we welcome you as our Rector, knowing that your work during the years you have spent with us has been of a most pleasing character (especially the visitation of the sick), your voice is the finger post on our road, the rudder on our ship, the beacon light to our harbor, and the voice of love, urging us to prepare for the land that is not very far off, where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest.

Rev. Sir, may you have Divine guidance in all your deliberations, and may the Supreme Master of the universe direct and control your decisions for the highest good, and we trust that we shall all be endued with those principles of "Love and Friendship" which are the mainstay of our Club, and may he whose eye and ear fall not, guide you in all your undertakings and be with you in all your years of activities.

Rev. Sir, we would also like, on this occasion, to assure Mrs. Colley, who has taken such enthusiastic interest in the work of this club, that we are one with her, in the joy which is now hers; may every good attend rest upon you in all your labours.

In conclusion, Rev. Sir, we again welcome you and hope that our deliberations may be directed and guided, that all we do and say, will be in a spirit of harmony and good will, and for the welfare of our club in future.

Signed on behalf of the Community Club.

SAMUEL J. HYNES, Vice-President.

A beautiful silver mounted walking stick was then presented to the Rev. Gentleman by Mr. Ebenezer Andrews on behalf of the Club.

The Canon replied in suitable terms, thanking the Club for the address and gift and the kind thought which prompted it.

The Club was addressed by the Rev. Canon Bolt, Sergeant Joseph Squires, of the C.E.F. and the popular teacher Llewellyn Colley. Patriotic songs were sung by Mr. Barrett, teacher at Upper Gullies; and Mr. Sandy Snow. A splendid tea was also served by the lady members of the Club, to which all present did full justice. The program, which reflects great credit upon the Kelligrews' Community Club.

The Submarine Menace

There is a great deal of uneasiness in shipping and commercial circles over the rumor (well-founded, too) that German submarines are operating around the Gulf and Mexico and the northern section of South America. It is stated that a base exists at a port that is known to the United States authorities. The object presumably of German activities in this section is to hamper the transportation of petroleum which the British are getting in large quantities from Mexico, and to cut off the South American supplies. Just what action we shall take in this matter is still doubtful.

Congress is now in session; and possibly something will be heard from the learned body of legislators within the next few days. There is being freely circulated in our press these days a great deal of German buncombe, with the object, presumably, of eliciting the sympathy for Greece which the Kaiser has been instrumental in landing on the political rocks. Germany, of course blames the Allies for the present condition of Greece.

New York, Dec. 6, 1916.



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