

Audi Alteram Partem.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—As I am the "glorified" man to whom Mr. Morine refers in his letter on the Fishery Supplies Act, perhaps I may be permitted, like my biblical predecessor, to speak in my own defence. On that occasion, you will remember, the act did not altogether have the worst of it.

In the first place, no one knows better than Mr. Morine himself how unfair it is to tax the draftsman of an Act with all its defects. He has to take his instructions and follow them whatever his own opinion may be. In this particular case I had to take his instructions, not only from the Government but, apparently, from the whole country, with its most vociferous spokesmen on the Opposition side of the House of Assembly. The whole mercantile community has been insisting for weeks past that if the Government did not take this step, it would be "passing out into the street" to help the situation, there would be no supplying done this year; and everyone knows that in bringing in this Bill, and adopting the principle of guaranteeing the payment of the fishermen's accounts, the Government have yielded to the demands of Mr. Morine's political friends. It is plain, for instance, that he does not view the Bill in the same light as the "News," which has not yet seen anything persuasive in it.

All of Mr. Morine's strictures, which are most of them sound enough, must be read in the light of this fact. This is an extraordinary measure to meet an extraordinary emergency. The Government being, then, pledged to the principle of this guarantee, how could it have better defended itself and the public funds (because that is the real purpose of the Bill)? And what do Mr. Morine's objections amount to? Let us consider them in order.

His argument about the unfair distinction made between the "guaranteed" and "non-guaranteed" supplier is perfectly correct, but it is also perfectly obvious. Sir John Crosbie, if I remember correctly, pointed it out in the House, and I myself pointed it out as soon as I was asked to draft the Bill. It is plain that the merchant who will finance his own supplying is doing the country a far better service than the one who demands a guarantee, but the object of the measure is not to emphasize moral differences but merely to ensure the Government getting a square deal in respect of the money it is putting at stake. After all, the unguaranteed merchant has a fair measure of protection in the insolvency law, and, except in one respect, is in no worse position than under the existing law.

That respect is thus strongly described by Mr. Morine: "The very fish caught by aid of the supplies given by the unguaranteed man are mortgaged to the guaranteed supplier. Was there ever such a travesty, etc." Now that can only happen where the

same man is supplied by both kinds of supplies; and how many such cases will there be? Very few, I should imagine. I write subject to correction, but I believe that this year the great majority of fishermen are going, each of them, to one supplier only. Even if such a contingency does occur, it only means that the unguaranteed man is postponed to the other, with whom he would have to share in any case under the law as it stands. I think we can trust the business acumen of our merchants to avoid much trouble on this particular score.

Mr. Morine next makes light of the possibility of fraud on the part of the debtor, and wastes indignance over the suggestion that the fishermen cannot be trusted. Let us pass over the absurdity of the insinuation here that to take a businesslike precaution is to impute dishonest tendencies to the other side. A man does not suggest that another is a rogue when he requires a receipt for money paid him; but he shows himself, to use a polite expression, a "glorified ass" if he does not. But is this danger such a slight thing to hang on the subject of? I do not know how many clients he has represented among the unfortunate "crops of insolventcies we have to supply more to say on the subject." I can give him an instance typical of many. A large firm on the West Coast became insolvent at the time when the fish was being turned in. Immediately all the men who had received supplies from it, and who regularly sold it their fish, turned to no supplier but to a competitor. The total value of about \$30,000. Mr. Morine may consider that a small matter, but it was not so regarded by that firm's creditors. Finally, one aspect of the same question, that concerned with warehouse receipts, has been thought of sufficient importance to be fully discussed at a meeting in the Board of Trade Rooms.

But Mr. Morine reaches the height of his argument when he proves that no one will buy "guaranteed" fish. He says: "Before any person, therefore, can safely buy fish caught this year, he must assure himself that the fishermen who caught it has received no supplies from a guaranteed supplier, or that such supplier has been paid in full. Who will buy fish under such conditions? This means, in effect, that no one will buy fish mortgaged property, for that is what such fish will be. Coming from a layman, such an argument would be startling enough; from a lawyer, it is inexplicable. What is there to prevent anyone from buying such fish? The position is simply this: If the supplier wants the fish, he can buy it, but he must credit the fisherman at not less than the market price. If he does not want it, or will not give a receipt on an outside bar, the latter will have no difficulty in getting

it. The only difference from past years is this, that he will in such case buy from the real owner of the fish, the supplier, and that he can help the latter, and the whole country, by seeing that the money goes into the pocket where it belongs. Most merchants, I think, will agree that that is a consummation devoutly to be wished. I can see, in fact, only one trouble confronting such a buyer—he will have to inquire from his would-be seller whether or not his debt has been guaranteed. If Mr. Morine thinks it necessary, it would be an easy matter to add a section heavily penalizing any fisherman who gave false information in that respect.

Mr. Morine lastly scores the Bill heavily for a provision which is no longer in it and only got there more or less accidentally. There was nothing in my draft giving the debt due the Government from a supplier preference over debts secured by mortgage, etc. Those words were hurriedly inserted, I think in the course of debate. Even so they were practically harmless. Mr. Morine has forgotten his law here and got indignant over nothing. For the Bill merely said that the Crown debt should be paid out of the assets of the estate of such supplier before the mortgage debt. Now if any of the supplier's property has been mortgaged to another, it does not form part of his estate, or come into the trustee's hands at all, unless the creditor chooses to surrender it! The words, therefore, as they stood were practically meaningless and Mr. Morine's remarks are beside the point. If he had taken the trouble to go to the right source for the Bill, he would have found that this feature is altered. The section now makes void, as against the Crown, and no further, all mortgages, charges, etc. of the suppliers' assets made subsequently to the advance by the Government. In other words, the property mortgaged to another, if necessary, to pay the Crown debt; after that is done the mortgage stands. Has Mr. Morine any objection to this?

If I have taken up more space than I intended, the importance of the subject and, to some extent, the compliment offered myself must be my excuse. In conclusion, I should like it to be understood that I am neither attacking nor defending the principle of the Bill; that is a matter on which there will be many opinions; I have merely been defending the manner in which it endeavours to put that principle into effect. I am afraid I cannot agree with Mr. Morine's criticism. It is easy enough to mount oneself on academic stilts, but in this particular case I should prefer to have the opinion of our best business men, delivered from the humble level of us all.

Yours truly,
HARRY A. WINTER.
June 16th, 1921.

Legislative Council.

THURSDAY, June 16.
The session opened at 2 p.m. A Bill to amend the Law Society Act was read a second time and referred to a Committee.

Hon. Mr. E. Gibbs informed the House that only 3 or 4 persons would receive any advantage under the Act, but it was introduced in conformity with like measures introduced throughout the Empire.

Sir Patrick McGrath desired to see an exception made of those who had been conscripted as they were not entitled to the same privilege as a volunteer.

An Act further respecting the Cutting and Exportation of Timber, and an Act to amend the War Measures Act were given a second reading. In moving the Bill to Committee, Hon. George Shea said that both sides of the House would be glad to see the Act taken from the Statute Book.

The Dairy Exploration Co., Ltd. Agreement was given a first reading. The bill is in charge of Hon. M. P. Gibbs.

Hon. George Shea moved the first reading of the Salt Codfish Exportation Repeal Act. The Bill will be read a second time to-morrow.

Adjournment was taken until to-day.

Dominion Sports.

BIG ATHLETIC MEET.
At a meeting of the C.L.B. Athletic Association held on Wednesday night arrangements were practically finalized for the great annual Dominion Sports which will be held July 8th, in St. George's Field. An excellent programme was drawn up, which in addition to the Championship Races similar to those of last year, includes a ten mile open race which will probably start inside of Donovan's and end in St. George's Field. It is expected that a large number of entries will be made for the various open events. The preliminaries in the football five will be played off at the earliest opportunity. Amongst the C.L.B. events are an Inter Co. Relay Race and Football Sixes. It is probable that teams from the Bell Island and Heart's Content Companies will compete. An exhibition which will prove most interesting will be that given by the Brigade Pyramid Squad under C.S.M. Rendell. A splendid array of prizes for the various events have been recently imported from H.Q. England, and will make fitting rewards for the victors. The C.L.B. Band will be present during the afternoon and will render appropriate music in their usual splendid manner.

With the Rod.

Two English sportsmen at Forks Pool, Grand River, landed four salmon last Wednesday.

E. Milten and party are at Overall Pool, Grand River, and are doing well with salmon.

D. Dunn and S. H. Clapp who spent few days on the Grand River, found they were a little early, went last week to Burnt Island Brook.

J. L. and Mrs. France had come good salmon fishing on Robinson's River last week. They are now camped at Harry's Brook having moved there on Sunday.

At Crabbes River over twenty salmon have been taken—all by local fishermen. Allen McIsaac landed a ten pounder on Wednesday and he reports quite a number of salmon entering the river.—Western Star.

Minard's Lignum Lumberman's Friend.

C. L. B. CADETS.



The C.L.B. Cadets are all busy as usual with their events. All ranks are going strong like Johnny Walker! The Officer's Mess last week held the usual routine meeting. Camp will be held on July 28 to July 29th this year—a bit earlier than usual. Lieut. Moty will be "Food Controller."

He was a great success last year and will be better this. Capt. Frank Miles was officially presented by Lt. Col. R. F. Goodridge, O.C., on behalf of his brother officers with a wedding gift in the shape of a solid mahogany cased clock—on the front of which was an engraved silver plate. Capt. Miles is a popular officer and all ranks wish him the best of luck!

A presentation to Major Riley, M. C., formerly Adjutant, was made last night in the Mess. A formally signed address accompanied by a suitable gift—something useful for his future professional life in the Army. The address was composed by Capt. Fletcher and signed all the officers expressing their high appreciation of Major Riley's herculean work in increasing the morale and Brigade discipline generally. Major Riley is being by the Furze Line Derby to join his Regiment, which proceeds to India and all ranks wish him good luck.

Wednesday morning Lt.-Col. Goodridge and staff, consisting of Lt. F. Reid and P. B. Rendell, visited Bell Island for the purpose of inspection of J. Co. for the unveiling of the War Memorial subscribed by the public spirited citizens of Bell Island to their gallant leader who had "passed out into the Golden West," and whose memories are dear in the breasts of those whom they left behind. At 11 a.m. a special steamer, "Otha," brought His Excellency the Governor and suite with the C.L.B. Cadets officers to the island. The unveiling was at noon. Accompanying the Brigade were the Hon. Mr. Regt. Sergt-Major Peckham, President of the Old Comrades C.L.B. The Brigade paraded at 11 a.m. and marched to the transept and then to the route. J. Co. was headed by their great brass band under Sergt. Martin and under the direct command of Major William. The Memorial is in the form of an obelisk of native granite—some twenty feet high and contains the names of all Bell Island men who have made the Supreme Sacrifice. The Committee of Bell Island citizens were in charge. Magistrate Power was Chairman, and Fred Jarling, Esq., J.P., Secretary. Speeches were made by Capt. Murphy for Bell Island citizens, Mr. J. Higgins for the G. W. Veterans, and Lt. Col. Walter Rendell, O.B.E., for the Royal Nfld. Regt. His Excellency unveiled the monument after a graceful speech. Wreaths were laid upon the memorial, including one from the Church Lads Brigade Cadets—a magnificent work of the florists art—in red, yellow and blue colours of the Brigade. The Band played the Dead March in Saul, three volleys were fired by the firing party and with the notes of the bugles sounding the Last Post, Bell Island citizens had done their duty. We to be congratulated, Iron Islanders, in completing the work, an example to St. John's. The Governor and visitors were then entertained at lunch in the Knights of Columbus Room at the Star of the Sea Hall, magnificently catered by the ladies of the Women's Patriotic Association of Wabana. During the afternoon His Excellency visited the public buildings and prominent features of Bell Island life, and at 5 p.m. held a reception in the fine C.L.B. Armoury, after which the Brigade officers were royally entertained by Major Lindsay and Capt. Miller and their ladies and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. At 7 p.m. Col. Goodridge inspected J. Co. and was delighted with the progress of the lads. The drill was excellent and the gymnastic marching of the lads under Lieut. Gower magnificent. Major Lindsay's work and that of the Chaplain, Rev. John Lead, Rector of St. Boniface Church, Grand Falls, in showing the Company's Brigade interests are well looked after. After the inspection most of the city visitors attended the annual session of the newly elected officers of Cliff Masonic Lodge in Wabana's Masonic Temple at 8 p.m. Amongst city visitors were Hon. J. A. Cliff, W. J. Edgar, H. E. Cowan, W. N. Gray, Fred E. Rabbits, W. MacNelly, Rev. Canon Bolt, M.A., Mr. James Ayre, Thelwynly installed master, Wor. Bro. J. Reid, Provost and his officers afterwards entertained the lads at a banquet, where a few pleasant hours were spent in company. We congratulate the citizens of Bell Island on their enterprise and public spirit, wish all ranks of J. Co. every success and the Masonic brethren long life, health and prosperity.

Splendid Railroad Engineering Feat.

Last Thursday we witnessed the consummation of the ablest piece of railroad engineering that it has been our privilege to witness. Superintendent Keefe, assisted by Roadmasters Keefe and Hanham and a gang of men placed on the main line engine 124 which twenty days previous had gone over the cliff at Crow Gully down into the waters of the Humber. A track had to be built around the cliff for over a quarter of a mile, much of it in the water, and they therefore had to work the tides, and the wrecked engine was hauled by cable attached to engine 62 about a hundred feet up the mountain. The feat was accomplished without the slightest accident and the wrecked engine reached the machine shops at Humbermouth on Thursday evening.—Western Star, June 15th.

SERIOUSLY ILL.—His many friends will be sorry to learn of the serious illness of Mr. Jonas Barter, S.P.G.A. Inspector. For the past couple of days Mr. Barter's condition has been critical, and he has to have the attention of two doctors and a trained nurse. Yesterday morning his condition showed slight signs of improvement.

ECONOMY

Demands that every dollar spent will bring in the maximum amount of value for money expended. With this thought in view we would respectfully ask the buying public to protect their own interests by personally inspecting the MANY UNIQUE AND IN SOME CASES UNPRECEDENTED BARGAINS which we are offering in this

OUR FIRST GREAT SACRIFICE SALE

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We can offer a splendid range from \$12.50 up.

MEN'S TWEED PANTS.

For hard wear, can you beat them? Only \$1.95 per pair.

LADIES' WHITE SHEER and VOILE BLOUSES. Regular value \$1.50. Sale Price 74c.

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LADIES' BLACK and COLORED SATEEN and MOIRE UNDERSKIRTS. Regular Price \$2.50. Now only \$1.39.

Many other bargains we are offering in all departments, and we would advise you to protect your own interests and give us an early call.

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Wedding Bells.

JOHN'S-STEEL.
The home of the bride's parents was the scene of a quiet but pretty wedding on Tuesday evening the 14th inst., at 8 o'clock when Miss Leabel Steele, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Steele, of Mill Road, was united in the bonds of holy matrimony to Mr. M. A. Johns, Manager of the Bank of Montreal at Curling.

The wedding was performed by the Rev. Mr. Morrison, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Grand Falls, in the presence of several immediate friends of the contracting parties and a goodly number of invited guests. The ceremony took place in the drawing room which was beautifully decorated for the occasion, the fair bride who entered the room to the strains of Lohengrin's Bridal Chorus splendidly escorted by Mrs. Little, leaning on the arm of her father taking her place with the groom under a floral bell specially arranged for the happy event.

The bride was gowned in white georgette over satin, embroidered with crystal beads in star design and wore a bridal veil with a coronet of orange blossoms and carried a shower bouquet of white carnations and sweet peas. Miss Fitzgerald was her only attendant dressed in coral pink georgette relieved with helio with a black Tulle Picture Hat. Mr. Lonsdale, Manager Bank of Montreal, Grand Falls, supported the groom.

Following the ceremony refreshments were served during which the health of bride and groom was ably proposed by Mr. Lonsdale while the same office in respect to the bride's parents devolved upon Mr. Harris, Director of the Anglo Newfoundland Development Company Ltd., who very graciously performed the duty.

Many handsome presents were received, notably amongst them being a cabinet of silverware from the guests at the Staff House, where the groom during his residence here was a popular and honored associate and these together with numerous messages of felicitation speak in volumes of the high esteem in which both bride and groom are regarded by a large circle of friends.

The groom's gift to the bride was a necklace of diamonds and pearls, to the bride a Cameo Brooch with pearl settings, and to the groomsmen a Pearl Stick Pin.

Mr. and Mrs. Johns left on the early express train morning for their future home at Curling.

Grand Falls, June 15th, 1921.

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Hocks and Best Quality
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W. J. Murphy,
RAWLINS' CROSS.

That Sounded Fair.

A certain famous pianist was invited to dinner by a wealthy man, who was the owner of a large boot factory, and had been a shoemaker in his time. After the repast, the pianist was requested to play something, and he consented.

Not long afterwards he invited the boot manufacturer to his house, and when dinner was over handed him a pair of old boots.

"What am I to do with these?" inquired the rich man.
With a genial smile the pianist replied:
"Why, the other day after dinner you asked me to make a little music for you, and now I ask you to mend these boots for me. Each to his trade."

J. J. St. John

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BEST CREAMERY BUTTER, 37c. lb.
BEST CREAMERY BUTTER in 10 lb. tubs, \$3.60.
BEST GROCERY MOLASSES, 85c. gall.
BEST HAM BUTT PORK, 20c. lb.
SPARE RIBS, very fine, 19c. lb.
FINEST JAMS, assorted, 2 lb. tins, 70c. tin.
FINEST JAMS in glass, 40 and 50c.
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