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Evening Telegram

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Friday, February 22, 1924.

The Quickenings Into Life of the Body Politic.

The lively interest that de-
velops have aroused both in St.
John's and in several of the
other towns and settlements in
the Island is as significant as it
is gratifying. Most of the pro-
grammes of the debating societies
include subjects of a social,
political or economical nature,
which clearly indicates the trend
of thought to-day and an awak-
ening interest in the vital prob-
lems of our public affairs.

There is but one conclusion
that can be drawn from this
movement which shows every
indication of becoming general:
the public who have the welfare
of the country at heart are weary
and impatient with the specious
arguments advanced by the poli-
tician who would convince them
that the deplorable state of af-
fairs is due to unavoidable cir-
cumstances, and they are deter-
mined to effect a change. They
have looked in vain to their lead-
ers to find the trail; now they
have decided to grope towards
their goal, trusting to their own
initiative.

No better method of learning
the truth or of becoming fami-
liar with public affairs could have
been devised than that of the de-
bating society. The naked truth
is revealed and the arguments
are based on fundamental facts.

History every now and again
repeats itself. In the 17th cen-
tury when the people of England
were striving to gain political
freedom and to purge the court
of depravity and licence, the Caf-
fee Houses sprang into existence,
and there ardent patriots gather-
ed and discussed affairs of state
which could not be voiced in the
Parliament. Attempts were
made to suppress this rising
spirit, but in spite of all opposi-
tion it grew until at last even
the walls of the House of Com-
mons re-echoed the demands for
reforms. Those who resisted the
popular movement, or were re-
sponsible for the existing grie-
vances were swept from the stage
and others took their places, even
though they knew little or no-
thing of statecraft.

Turn back the pages in your
history to the years when dis-
aster threatened England owing
to the bungling of Lord North,
and to his obsequious pandering
to the unfortunate Sovereign
who in his madness attempted to
usurp the rights and privileges
of the Commons. Listen to the
demands of Philip Jennings
Clerke, that contractors should
be excluded from the House;
read the reforms proposed by
Burke; take the statement made
by Dunning "that the influence
of the Crown has increased, is
increasing, and ought to be
diminished," and apply it to
those who hold ministerial of-
fice in these days. Can it be said
that the privileges of democracy
gained by such men and by those
who came after them are being
maintained, or does it not appear
that under the guise of democ-
racy, the governing body to-day
are abusing the offices with which
they have been entrusted and are

assuming powers that they have
no right to exercise?

Knowledge of our resources,
confidence in ourselves, a deter-
mination not to allow political
leanings to becloud our vision,
a sinking of differences of all kinds
in order to present a united front
and to confound the professional
politician who prefers dissension—
these are the factors that will
restore the country to political
and economical sanity and a
quick return to prosperity.

It is useless to look for re-
forms from within; the impel-
ling force must come from with-
out, and it must be such that
those in authority will not dare
to treat it lightly. We have the
inherent love of our ancestors
for law and order, and we have
also learnt from them how to
enforce our wishes without re-
sorting to violence, which has
but too frequently accompanied
popular movements in foreign
countries. Our power lies in the
franchise of which we have not
yet learnt the value. The vote is
of little worth if the moral
tone of the people has been low-
ered, and if it is looked upon as
something to be bartered for a
mess of pottage. It has been
secured by sacrifice, it is the
strongest weapon of offence
and defence that we possess, and it
must be kept clean and unsullied.

Cause and Effect.

Last year a ton of rock pro-
duced by relief work cost the
country \$24.00. This year it is
estimated that it will work out
at about \$6.00. Last year there
was an election on the cards, but
—perish the thought!

Picture the radiant smile that
would replace the look of worry
on every household's face if the
price of anthracite took such a
drop. Imagine his consterna-
tion if, because of the impending
election in America, it boun-
ced up 300 per cent!

Buddy Dobbin and Madeline Kar-
nagh are the Jewish-Irish lovers in
Able's Irish Rose, and they start a
race-riot that takes three long acts
to quell.

Rev. G. O. Lighthour

TO LEAVE BY ROSALIND.

We learn that Rev. G. O. Light-
hour, who, for the past year has
rendered invaluable service as Curate
at St. Thomas' intends to leave by
the Rosalind next week for his new
scene of activities, London, Ont. As
previously stated, he will undertake
work in St. Paul's Cathedral, under
the Very Rev. Norman Tucker, Dean
of Huron. Mr. Lighthour's depar-
ture will be a great loss to the Parish
generally and to the Dunfield Club and
Sunday School in particular, in both
of which organizations he has been
an indefatigable worker and has won
the regard of all. He carries with
him the good will of the congrega-
tion and their best wishes for his
success and every happiness in his
new work.

Randall Jeans as the rabbi and Gus
Neary the priest settle religious dif-
ferences, as well as Able's Irish Rose
that it might be a good idea to send
them abroad as missionaries.

Kyle Nearing North Sydney

MAILS COMING BY ROSALIND.

The S.E. snow storm, which pre-
vailed over the western portion of the
Island yesterday, abated sufficiently
for the Kyle to leave for North Syd-
ney, at 1.40 this morning. At 10 a.m.
the ship was 6 miles off Low Point,
making good progress, with condi-
tions favorable. The foreign mails,
which were awaiting the arrival of
the Kyle at North Sydney have been
transferred to Halifax and will be
forwarded by the Rosalind.

When Billy Wallace as Isaac Cohen
and Mrs. Button, his "appendix-less"
wife go out in the kitchen to watch
the ham, the fat is in the fire, in
Able's Irish Rose.

Personal.

Miss Stick will leave by S.S. Rosalind
on Wednesday next for New
York.

Mr. Andrew Clouston left by yester-
day's express for the Humber,
where he has accepted a position
with the Armstrong, Whitworth Co.

NEW RETURNING FROM HUN-
DERMOUTH—A special train with
upwards of 300 men who have been
employed with the Armstrong, Whit-
worth Company, at Deer Lake, left
Hundermouth this morning to re-
turn to their homes.

PUBLIC LIFE.

Editor Evening Telegram:

Dear Sir—In the Editorial column
of yesterday's Daily News a truth was
very plainly stated in the following
words:

"One of the greatest curses ever in-
flicted upon our own country was
the 'thundering with Carter's Purge,' it
was the opening nail thrust in the
'dam through which corruption first
trickled. That trickle appears to
have become a stream and unless that
'breach is remedied the results must
'prove disastrous beyond recovery.'"

But in my opinion, the Editor hard-
ly went far enough for he left the
superintendent of the crime unsolved.
Who inflicted that "curse" upon our
country? It is only fair to some of
our former leaders in public life that
the question be answered, and at once.
It you will permit me to shed light on
the matter I will do so by quoting
from the back files of the Evening
Telegram, and the Official Reports of
the House of Assembly published
therein. The crime was committed in
the year 1910 by Sir E. P. Morris, and
his supporters, who elected to power
in the ever memorable General Election
of 1909 found it necessary, in or-
der to retain power, to so amend the
"Election Act, 1888" as to enable the
Prime Minister to give positions of
emolument to his supporters in the
House of Assembly without their
coming under the penalties provided
by the Election Act of 1888. The then
leader of the Opposition, the Right
Honourable Sir Robert Bond, very
strongly condemned the proposed
amendment to the Election Act, as
"calculated to destroy the independ-
ence of Parliament, and lead to the
complete demoralization of the pub-
lic life of our country." The "curse"
bill was, however, passed by a straight
party vote; it served the end for
which it was introduced, and, during
the past ten years, it has steadily
worked towards the condition of
things that is now unfolding under
the able and careful direction of Mr.
Walker, K.C., Royal Commissioner; a
condition of things, that must, I think,
make every decent Newfoundland-
er lower his head with shame. Up to the
date of that enactment no taint of
scandal ever attached to our House
of Assembly; but it is not true that since
that date it has become parasitic on
the community, and the Government
in control thereof a mere "egregious
bureaucracy" which exists mainly to
extort and squander the fruits of
productive toil." In his last Manifesto
to the Electors of this country, pub-
lished in the Evening Telegram, Oc-
tober 3rd, 1913, Sir Robert Bond again
dealt with the amendment to the Elec-
tion Act of 1888 as follows:—

"Demoralization in the public
service was not confined to the
public departments. Even the high
Court of Parliament was despoiled
of the safeguard to its independ-
ence in order to meet party ex-
igencies. There was on our Statute
Book an Act to safeguard the purity
and independence of the House of
Assembly. That Act was amended
by the present Government in or-
der that they might pay over money
from the public Treasury to their
supporters in the House of As-
sembly without bringing them un-
der the penalty provided by law. As
a result of this shameful transac-
tion, during the past four
years districts represented on the
Government side of the House
were deprived of that free and in-
dependent representation that they
expected from their representa-
tives when they returned them to
the polls.

During the whole period of Par-
liament three of the Government
members have been drawing an-
nual salaries not inferior to au-
thorized Ministers of the Crown,
while a number of others have been
receiving large amounts of money
as Railway Arbitrators, Solicitors,
Commissioners and special service
men. It is no exaggeration, it is
simple truth, to say that every
member on the Government side of
the House, during the past four
years, has directly or indirectly,
been receiving money from the
public Treasury. This idea that
the public Treasury is legitimate
spoils must be warded out. It is a
rank infectious growth that is
rapidly strangling all that is good
in representative Government. The
safety of public interests depend
upon the independence of the Rep-
resentatives in Parliament, and if
a Government may with impunity
purchase party allegiance by pay-
ment from the public Treasury,
the high Court of Parliament is at
once changed into an Assembly
where an unscrupulous or despotic
Government may wreck public in-
terests, and bring irreparable in-
jury upon the country. If my party
is returned to power, the House of
Assembly shall immediately have
its safeguard restored, so as to
ensure the complete independence
of the people's Representatives."

Unfortunately, for this country, Sir
Robert Bond's party was not returned
to power (owing to the influence of a
Government Contractor), and the
supply of dollars, as admitted by one
of the firms of contractors over his
own signature in the press, and sub-
sequently sworn to as correct), and
consequently the iniquitous act to
which the Daily News has now drawn
attention remains on our Statute
Book in full force.

I entirely agree with the Editor of
the Daily News when he asserts that
"unless the breach (in the Election
Act) is remedied the results must
prove disastrous beyond recovery." And
I think he will agree with me, that
as soon as the Legislature meets the
Election Act should be further
amended by the insertion of a clause
making it an "illegal practice" for
any person or persons having con-
tractual obligations to the Govern-
ment of this Colony to contribute to
political party funds, or to expend
money in the interest of any political
party at a time of election. For each
offence I think no penalty could be
too severe. In the course of proceed-
ings before Mr. Walker, K.C., I ob-
served that one of the witnesses de-
clared upon oath that if receiving
contributions for "Party Funds" from
those having contractual obligations
to the Government were made an of-
fence under the law, then no election
could be carried out in Newfoundland.
It was an amazing statement, and it
was no wonder that Mr. Walker, K.
C., exclaimed that "it took him cold".
I rejoice to know that the witness
was entirely in error, and that it is
possible to contest a General Election
in this Colony without the assistance
monetary or otherwise, of such in-
dividuals. The witness' experience in
public affairs, as regards the cost,
legitimate cost, of political contests
has been very slight, mine on the
other hand extends over many years.

Under the Law of England a maxi-
mum amount is named for the contest
of a borough, and "no sum shall be
paid nor expenses incurred by a can-
didate or his election agent, whether
before, during, or after an election, on
account of, or in respect of, the con-
duct or management of an election in
excess of the maximum named in the
schedule of the Election Act." The
amount permitted to be expended is
based upon the number of electors
residing within the borough. If a
candidate expends or incurs expendi-
ture exceeding the amount allowed, it
voids his election. If a like provision
were to govern Elections in this coun-
try the cost of a political contest
would be a comparatively small
amount. The cost now, unless ac-
companied by gross bribery, is not
large as I know by experience.

Yours truly,
AN OLD LIBERAL.
Feb. 20th, 1924.

McMurdo's Store News.

For The Toilet.

We have all the necessities and lux-
uries. The daily bath is beneficial
when only good soap is used.
The condition of the teeth depends
upon good dentifrices.

We can supply you with the best of
Toilet Articles

Bath Soaps, Bath Salts, Toilet Waters,
Sponges, Tooth Brushes, Tooth Pow-
der & Paste, Hair Brushes, Combs
and Hand Mirrors. We have a large
and complete stock.

Friday and Saturday
at our Candy Stall you will always
find a delicious selection of Chocolates
and Candies, fresh every week at
special week end prices.

This Week End
we are featuring Molli's Fine Cocoa-
nated Assorted Bon Bons, Chocolate
Mintwafers, Milk Chocolate Creams,
Stuffed Dates, Whipped Creams,
Creamed Buttertarts. All fresh, de-
licious and wholesome.

And Our Week End Special
Butter Scotch Lumps . . . 45c. lb.
Italian Mixture . . . 35c. lb.
Chocolate Creams . . . 35c. lb.

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Feb. 20th, 1924.

While encouraging reports have
been received regarding the restora-
tion of normal conditions in Bavaria
Palestine it is reported from Fir-
masen, that the local French Com-
mander has issued a proclamation
saying that with a view to preventing
a repetition of the blood bath of
February twelfth or any reprisals,
a list of one hundred hostages had been
drawn up. The report adds that these
hostages will be immediately arrest-
ed if there are any further outrages,
and also that the populace will be
required to bear the consequences of
such outrages.

A PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE.
LONDON, Feb. 22.

The Cairo correspondent of the ex-
change telegraph says Tutankhamen's
Tomb will be reopened at two o'clock
to-day by the Director General of
Antiquities. This is for the purpose
of safeguarding the contents.

SASKATCHEWAN LEGISLATURE
WANT HUDSON BAY ROUTE
OPENED.

REGINA, Feb. 22.
A resolution urging upon the Dom-
inion Government and Sir Henry
Thornton President of the Canadian
National Railways the necessity for
immediate completion of the Hudson
Bay route was unanimously adopted
by the Saskatchewan Legislature
yesterday.

CUPS & SAUCERS 10 cents. Ten
Plates 7 cents, Dinner Plates 15 cents.
S. O. STEELE & SONS, LTD., 180
Water Street, opp. Seamen's Institute.

Shipping
Schr. Evelyn has cleared from the
Morris Export Co. for Oporto with
\$774 cts. coffee.

Schr. E. D. Bailey with 4,400
gals. codfish in bulk has sailed from
B. Borrero for Seville.

Schr. Prom has cleared with 4,100
gals. codfish also from Borrero for
Seville.

LUCKY WINNER—Master Jimmy
Bradshaw, a pupil of St. Bonaven-
ture College, is the lucky ticket hold-
er in the number of goals scored in
the League Championship Series, and
wins the prize of \$100.

TO-DAY'S MESSAGES

AN ECHO OF THE CRIME MOST
FOUL.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.
Fifty-seven persons in U.S.A. will
receive approximately \$1,000,000 un-
der the first group of awards by the
mixed claims commission on the
claims growing out of the sinking of
the Lusitania.

CONSERVATIVES SUPPORT LABOR
ON NAVAL POINT.

LONDON, Feb. 21.
The intention of the Labor Govern-
ment to proceed with the laying down
of five cruisers and two destroyers,
which was announced in the House to-
day, was made the subject of debate
this evening. It had an amusing con-
clusion with the Conservatives voting
with the Government after Lord, Col.
L. C. Amery and other Conservatives
had supported the Government against
the Liberals. A Liberal, Wm. M. R.
Pringle, had raised the debate appar-
ently under the misapprehension that
the Government intended to build
cruisers without first seeking the con-
sent of Parliament. This misappre-
hension being satisfactorily explained
by the Prime Minister, the bottom was
knocked out of the Liberal opposition
to the Government's proposals, and
as these were part of the late Govern-
ment's programme they had the sup-
port of the Conservatives. Premier
MacDonald in his explanation of the
building programme stated that the
ships were purely for replacement.
The Government, he said, could not
carry out its disarmament pledges
by allowing the navy to disappear
through wastage from the bottom.

POINCARÉ'S POSITION
NOW SECURE.
PARIS, Feb. 22.

The Poincaré Govt. weathered the
expected crisis in the senate when on
a test vote on the electoral bill Pre-
mier was sustained by vote 180 against
134. His supporters and opponents
alike now say that his battle is won
and there is little probability that he
will fall before the next General
Election.

COKE PRODUCTION TO BE IN-
CREASED.
SYDNEY, Feb. 22.

Coke production at the coke oven
Department of the Steel Co. is to be
increased immediately in view of the
fact that three blast furnaces will be
in operation at end of this week.

U.S. GUNBOAT ORDERED TO
MEXICAN WATERS.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.

The U.S. gunboat Tusca has
been ordered from Galveston to
Mexican waters and is to arrive at
Tuxpan to-day. The despatch of the
Gunboat was ordered by the Navy
Department at the suggestion of
Secretary of State Hughes after the
Department had been advised that
United States citizens at Tuxpan
desired increased protection.

FRENCH LOST HOSTAGES A GUAR-
ANTEE AGAINST DISORDER.
BERLIN, Feb. 22.

While encouraging reports have
been received regarding the restora-
tion of normal conditions in Bavaria
Palestine it is reported from Fir-
masen, that the local French Com-
mander has issued a proclamation
saying that with a view to preventing
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drawn up. The report adds that these
hostages will be immediately arrest-
ed if there are any further outrages,
and also that the populace will be
required to bear the consequences of
such outrages.

IN LOVING MEMORY
of my dear sister, Jane Tucker,
of Burn Point, who died February 22nd,
1923.

This day brings back sad memories,
Of one who has gone to rest,
And those who miss her most to-day
Are those who loved her best.

Thou' cast down, we are not forsaken;
Thou' afflicted, not alone;
Thou' didst give, and thou has taken,
Blessed Lord, thy will be done.
—Inserted by her sister, Beata Car-
rigas.

IN LOVING MEMORY
of Sarah Fiddicombe, who died Feb.
22nd, 1923.

Dearest wife and mother, how we miss
you,
Ever since you passed away,
Our thoughts are always with you.
Though we are so far away.

One year has passed, but still we miss
you,
Friends may think the wound is
healed;
But little do they know the sorrow.
That within our hearts is concealed.
—Inserted by her husband and child-
ren.

NOTE OF THANKS—Mr. Alan G.
Belmont and family of Glenview
wish to thank all kind friends who
sent messages of sympathy and
wreaths, and all who helped to light-
en their sorrow in their sad bereave-
ment.—adv.

IN STOCK
BLUE NOSE FRESH
BUTTER
and
STRICTLY FRESH
EGGS.

BAIRD & CO.,
Water Street, East.

Dock Strike

DELAYS DISBY IN HER SAILING.
Messrs. Pursons Withy & Co. have
been notified, from the head office,
Liverpool, that the sailing of the Dis-
by has been delayed by the Dockers
strike, and will be unable to get away
before the 29th. The messages re-
ceived are as follows:—

"Disby held up by strike, will tele-
graph as soon as we can say definit-
ely what is earliest date vessel can
sail."

Latest.
"Strike expected to finish to-night
and if so will despatch Disby, Feb.
26th."

C. L. B. Cadets

OFFICERS' HAVE ANNUAL MEET-
ING.

The annual meeting of the C. L. B.
Officers' Mess was held in the Ar-
mory last night, Capt. House, Vice-
President of the Mess, presiding. The
Paymaster, Capt. Lewis, presented the
Financial Statement for 1923, which
showed a balance of income over ex-
penditure. The report was adopted.
Several routine matters were discus-
sed and disposed of, and the election
of officers for the ensuing year was
conducted, resulting as follows:—

Mess President—Capt. House.
Mess Vice President—Capt. Stek.
Secretary—Lt. Hubert Rendell.

Capt. Morris reported that the Band
intends to have a concert on Easter
Monday night, and was assured of
the support of the Mess in this con-
nection. After the usual congratula-
tory speeches and votes of thanks,
the meeting adjourned.

SLIGHT FIRE SOON EXTINGUISH-
ED.—Last night, about nine o'clock,
Firemen Beggan and Hiseock, of the
Central Fire Station, were called to
the residence of Miss Dyer, Duck-
worth Street, where soot had ignited
in the chimney. The use of a small
hand extinguisher soon quenched the
blaze.

DIED.

Passed peacefully away at 2.30 this
morning, after a long and painful ill-
ness, Violet Edna Burton, aged 39
years, daughter of William and the
late Lily Burton. Funeral will take
place on Sunday, at 2.30 p.m. from her
late residence, 37 Charlton Street.

At 2.30 a.m. to-day, after a long ill-
ness, Gertrude Elizabeth, beloved wife
of James Ryan, and only daughter of
Margaret Butt, leaving a husband,
two children, mother, two brothers,
stepfather and a large number of
friends. Funeral on Sunday, at 2.30
p.m., from her late residence, 15 Al-
len's Square. Friends will please ac-
cept this (the only) intimation.

IN FOND AND LOVING MEMORY
of my dear father, Alfred M. Horwood,
who died February 22nd, 1921.

Oh, shall we meet you yonder,
In the new Jerusalem;
When all is joy and gladness,
And happiness for evermore.
—Inserted by his daughter, Hilda.

IN LOVING MEMORY
of our dear mother, Mrs. Lydia
Thorne, who departed this life on the
22nd day of February, 1921.

Just three years ago to-day, mother,
With broken hearts we watched
you and saw you pass away.
Although we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.

You're not forgotten, mother dear,
Your memory will never fade;
My thoughts are always with you in
the company where you are laid.
Come and see me with regard to this offer—TO-DAY!

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of my dear sister, Jane Tucker,
of Burn Point, who died February 22nd,
1923.

This day brings back sad memories,
Of one who has gone to rest,
And those who miss her most to-day
Are those who loved her best.

Thou' cast down, we are not forsaken;
Thou' afflicted, not alone;
Thou' didst give, and thou has taken,
Blessed Lord, thy will be done.
—Inserted by her sister, Beata Car-
rigas.

IN LOVING MEMORY
of Sarah Fiddicombe, who died Feb.
22nd, 1923.

Dearest wife and mother, how we miss
you,
Ever since you passed away,
Our thoughts are always with you.
Though we are so far away.

One year has passed, but still we miss
you,
Friends may think the wound is
healed;
But little do they know the sorrow.
That within our hearts is concealed.
—Inserted by her husband and child-
ren.

NOTE OF THANKS—Mr. Alan G.
Belmont