

transfer, and a  
of the Union, old age  
of educational grant  
r destitute places,  
ld storage, steam  
wlers on the Banks.  
l those matters are  
urgent public ne-  
sity and should be  
omplished without  
ch delay. I suggest  
t you appoint a  
egation to wait up-  
the Executive  
ncil to lay those  
ssing matters be-  
the Government,  
must keep ever-  
ing at it until our  
ts are crowned  
success.  
nce our formation  
ard of Trade has  
into existence.  
body will, if it  
rms its duty  
fully regarding  
ne benefits upon  
ched by us. We  
e the fishermen's  
be sworn cullers,  
o set up a stand-  
fish, with this  
e protest of this  
e Government  
esulted in hav-  
owers withheld  
rd in the act of  
To place  
s under the  
de and to em-  
ake rules set-  
dard of cull for  
in my opinion  
calamity, and  
sed by all our  
fluence. We  
to move the  
wards obtain-  
f produce, but  
ave not inti-  
ecision. The  
upon this  
ters will be  
information.  
t indications  
re to receive  
at the hands  
rment, and to  
have the  
fishermen of  
cted, it will  
elect eight  
members for  
sembly, for  
expect fair  
hermen or  
ed by the  
rti politici-  
few sturdy,

practical members of the Fishermen's Protective Union. The spectacle witnessed last Spring of a new Government granting pensions to purse proud officials who should have provided for the evening of life from their life earnings, or by contributions to a Pension Fund, and also the appointment of friends to splendid public positions, without any attempt to economize will not soon be forgotten by the fishermen. I feel justified in saying that to-day the sum of from 50 to 70 thousand dollars could be saved annually by the adoption of business principles and strict economy in the public services. The leaders of the new Government are able men and want of ability to discern the signs of the times, and the evils of the present system of governing, will not be acceptable as excuses at the next general election. Much is expected from the new rulers, we will see what good the next session of the Legislature has in store for the country, and at our next session we will be able to realize what benefits are to flow from the Morris Government during the next three years.

We should adopt a motto for the Union. I beg to suggest the following: "*Suum Cuique*"—Let each man have his own. This is what we are in this fight for, to secure for every man his rights. If we adopt a motto, it should head the Constitution, Instruments of Authority, and letterheads.

The amount payable annually by each member should be fixed so that every candidate would know exactly what the Union is to cost him. I would suggest fixing the assessment at 50 cents a year, one half to go to the Supreme Council and the other half to defray expenses of the District and Local Councils. I also advise establishing next year a Sick Benefit Fund. From this fund assistance should also be given to members who require to purchase artificial limbs. The contributions should be fixed at one dollar and left optional. A Sick Benefit Fund's Board of Trustees should also be annually elected by the Supreme Council, to consist of six members: The President and Secretary of the Supreme Council, with four others from the ranks. This Board should receive the contributions and pay all claims.

A Loan Fund should be established at the next annual meeting of the Supreme Council. It should provide for a payment of a certain amount by each subscribing to the Fund, and should also be entrusted to a Board of Trustees. It will not be possible to confer the greatest commercial benefits upon all members until a Union Store is established at St. John's where members may obtain provisions and heavy articles at the lowest prices. This store would not prevent the importance of certain articles such as flour, salt, molasses, in vessel loads, direct to the different districts. Wonderful savings are

possible by buying and selling in bulk, and a store at headquarters will enable the smaller branches to derive the benefits as well as the larger, and will supply what cannot be imported in large quantities by the districts. I find this Fall the want of such a store, as we cannot confer the benefits we might, because wholesale houses won't sell direct to the consumer, which we could do from our store. Wonderful possibilities are open to combination by our Union in such matters, and hundreds of thousands of dollars can be saved to members by utilizing those advantages.

If a sufficient number of members order salt through the Union, the coming winter, we will import some next spring for the strongest Union sections and try to collect sufficient fish for return cargoes. I have had some corre-

spondence with a Fishermen's Association in Scotland, which will show us what those fishermen are doing regarding the advancement of their affairs.

We must also take a hand in the sale of lobsters canned by members of our Union. We are selling this article to local buyers every year at their own prices, and being combined, what is offered, is far below what ought to be paid. I feel sure we can secure \$20 a case by combining and if necessary exporting our own catch. The price paid the past season—\$12—is ridiculously low. The price of codfish advanced to \$5 and \$6 per qt. during the season—our minimum mark—and every effort must be made to maintain those figures. I regret to report such a small catch of fish this year. The catch throughout will be about 20 qtls. per man against 40 qtls. per man last year. This will leave this season's voyage about 800,000 qtls. of fish short of last season and it will be no surprise to us to find that the price of fish abroad has advanced to a very high figure in consequence. Surely my friends the hand of God may be seen in regard to the output of fish this season. Last year, particularly in the Fall,

fish was a despised article of food, and the manner in which our fishermen were treated by

fish exporters will not soon be forgotten. The lessons taught by 1908 will be remembered in order to secure ourselves against similar conditions and treatment in the future. The Government must be held responsible for a large measure of what happened in 1908, we must exert every ounce of energy we possess to compel the present Government to find new markets for codfish. The present good conditions are causing considerable indifference to these matters by our rulers, but if they don't do all possible respecting this matter of opening new markets it will not be the fault of this Union.

I notice a considerable feeling is astir in favour of utilizing gasolene boats to develop the fisheries. We must not countenance the introduction of motor boats into the



AN OPEN AIR DINNER AT CHANGE ISLANDS.  
PRESIDENT COAKER THE PRINCIPAL GUEST.