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may 7, 3m

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

Issued every day from the office of publication, 167 Water Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, Union Publishing Co. Ltd., Proprietors.

Subscription Rates.
By mail The Daily to any part of Newfoundland and Canada, \$2.00 per year.

To the United States of America, \$3.50 per year.
The Weekly issue to any part of Newfoundland and Canada, 60c. per year
To the United States of America, \$1.10 per year.

All correspondence for publication should be addressed to the Editor of The Mail and Advocate.

Letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only and the real name of the author should be attached. This will not be used unless consent be given in the communication.

The publication of any letter does not signify that the Editor thereby shows his agreement with the opinions there expressed.

All business communications should be addressed to the Union Publishing Co., Ltd.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., AUG. 19, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Open The Legislature

A GAIN WE DEMAND that action be taken by the Government to meet the financial condition of the Colony. The run on the Banks must not be permitted to strangle the financial condition of the Colony.

Gold must not be hoarded away. Provision dealers who have demanded \$7 for flour that cost \$5.20 should be compelled to give over their grab to the Treasury if impossible to return it to the owners.

Those who purchased flour before the advance should be compelled to sell at reasonable profits, say 50c. per barrel.

Merchants now on the brink of bankruptcy must be aided for a few months in order to secure the produce of this season's voyage.

Provision must be made for the construction of the remaining branch railways and for necessary local public works in the districts that have come short of a catch of fish.

THE OFFERING of 1,000 reservists and a land regiment was a mistake as there was no real need of so doing at the time it was made.

If the need arise thousands will volunteer, but at the present time, according to the number—20,000—offered by Canada, with a population of 3,000,000, we would be doing as good had we offered 500 men all told.

We have offered to raise and equip 1,500 men which would mean 48,000 for Canada at the same rate of population. Why should the Government attempt to outdo Canada? Is it to make a big show at the fishermen's expense and scoop in a few more blue ribbons for a few Government officials, or is it intended to hasten the blue ruin which the Government so strongly desire, should overtake Newfoundland as a self governing Colony?

We repeat that when the need of men is apparent Newfoundland will stand by the Mother Country and shed the blood of her bravest sons in defence of British liberties and freedom, but there was no genuine reason for offering 1,500 men when 500 could well serve the same purpose.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Popularity, Patriotism, Partisanship.

IF THIS COUNTRY had not ere this learnt that Sir Edward Morris is not capable of rising to the need of any great emergency that humiliating lesson has been well taught by the present war crisis.

This is the occasion in which Sir Edward might have shown that able statesmanship that knows how "to take occasion by the hand," and have conferred immense benefits on a sorely tried people.

Not only has he failed to do this—he has shown that his neglect of duty has been deliberate and in his case as in the Biblical instance, knowing the right and failing to do it, he shall be punished by the electorate of Newfoundland many times over.

WHAT IS THE SITUATION that confronts us at present?

Our shore fishery is an absolute failure and reports from the Labrador are none too bright. It is plain, therefore, that even under normal circumstances, our fishermen would find it difficult to make provision for the winter.

But the present circumstances are abnormal. Not only is there no advance in price as a result of the short catch of fish, but fishermen cannot even obtain the prices that have ruled for the past couple of years; still worse, they are forced to sell at three dollars per quintal below the price paid them last year. It is useless, therefore, to expect the ordinary toiler of this country to live for the next twelve months off the proceeds of this season's catch.

Then what are our people to do? Go to Bell Island?

There is no work there, for the Companies have already paid off all their men.

Start for Sydney for the steel plant or coal mines?

That would be useless, because almost every day scores of men are now returning home from Nova Scotia finding it impossible to get employment there.

Work on the railroads?

This avenue of employment is also virtually closed to them, because railroad construction is practically stopped for the season.

Our toiler, then, is up against a stone wall, no matter in what direction he may decide to turn for employment to earn enough to make provision for the winter.

And Sir Edward Morris says there is nothing in that situation to justify the Government in taking any action.

A Warning

THE PRICES of the necessaries of life have been steadily mounting up until some of the commodities were at famine prices, says an English paper. This was a quite unnecessary hardship imposed on the public by the dealers who, without having had to pay a single penny more for their produce, have with their stocks in hand been able to obtain enhanced prices.

The situation had become so serious by Wednesday that the Government took the matter in hand and purpose dealing stringently with exporters. The Board of Trade have issued a warning that every member of the public who discovers that any tradesman is charged increased prices for food is requested to forward his name and address to the Commercial Department, Board of Trade Offices, Gwydyr House, Whitehall, S.W., when drastic steps will be taken by the Government against them.

THERE IS ABUNDANCE of food in the country, and the overseas supplies continue to come in without interruption. There is a supply of wheat in the country which will last for four months, and there is no conceivable circumstance in which a wheat famine will arise.

Meat is plentiful, there being, in addition to large home supplies, heavy consignments of foreign meat in cold storage. The supplies from the Argentine and from the Colonies are not in any way menaced, and fears of scarcity are groundless.

The same bright story may be told of potatoes and vegetables, and with all these foodstuffs at our disposal there is no need for panic.

British Common Sense
IN the British House of Commons Mr. Runciman introduced a one clause Bill to deal with the unreasonable withholding of foodstuffs. He said that while the process of cornering was not in general application, many cases had already oc-

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A MID-WEEK BILL THAT IS A WINNER.

him, by playing on the deepest, most sacred feelings of the people of Newfoundland.

SIR EDWARD MORRIS, Premier of Newfoundland, has failed the Empire and has disappointed his own people in a contingency when both required him worst.

Why was not the Legislature called together, as the Opposition requested?

Because Sir Edward Morris realised his weakness in the Assembly and feared that such a step might lose him the Government.

Why did he ignore the Opposition in drafting the Resolutions presented to the Public Meeting?

Because he evidently decided that it would be good politics to keep the matter partisan and thus be in a position to claim for his administration all the credit for any steps that might be taken.

AN OTHER REASONS for his failure, or rather his refusal to convene the Assembly and legislate relief for the business men of this Colony?

Well, to relieve one business would be to relieve all, and who would expect the leader of the present Government to afford relief to the Trading Company, even by accident. Fortunately the Trading Company needs no legislative relief, but it has been stated that the Premier hoped that the present financial stringency afforded him a chance to drive the Company to the wall and kill it and Coaker's influence together.

It is plain, therefore, that Sir Edward Morris has played on patriotism in an attempt to regain popularity and that he has made his patriotism second to partisanship.

He figures as the greatest failure of all our political experiences.

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curred of great hardship on the poorer classes owing to the panic and greed of the better-to-do people, who had already disgraced themselves (hear, hear).

They had placed queues of motors at stores, and carried off as much provisions as the stores would sell. The panic was over, and he hoped they had seen the last of it (hear, hear).

There would, of course, be a rise in the price of foodstuffs, but that would mean that there would be a larger importation, and, as a matter of fact, things were coming in better than had been anticipated.

IF THE BOARD OF TRADE enforced the same powers for the requisition of foodstuffs as the Naval and Military authorities had, it would have a steadying effect on the public.

The powers would not be used unless there was deliberate and unreasonable withholding of supplies.

The greatest of the wholesalers and of the retailers had shown a ready willingness to fall in with such arrangements as would prevent exploitation.

He hoped the arrangements which had been made would enable them to dispense altogether with any exercise of the powers they now sought.

Lord R. Cecil wanted the Government to consider the possibility of some provision to prevent the hoarding of food by private individuals.

The Bill passed through all its stages.

Britain's Inspiration

THE news of the landing of British regiments at Calais and Ostend and of their hastening towards Namur to join the French forces calls to mind many an inspiring page of history bearing the record of British heroism in times past. All that region of Belgium, the Brabant of old, has again and again in history been the scene of great battles in which British valor prevailed, battles that have been decisive turning points in history.

Namur itself, now a formidably fortified stronghold, has been the scene of many sieges and battles, in which the British bore their part. Thirteen miles northeastward from it is Ramilies, where Marlborough won his famous victory in 1706. About the same distance northwestward is Quatre Bras where the British won the important victory that preceded by three days the battle of Waterloo, fought some ten miles further on the way from Namur to Brussels; and, to name one more famous battle in that region, there is the one Marlborough wrote of as "the very murdering battle" of Malplaquet, won in September, 1709, by the armies commanded by Marlborough and Prince Eugene, the last and greatest pitched battle of that war. Malplaquet is twenty-five miles west from Namur.

THE region northward and westward for 25 miles from the junction of the river Sambre and Mense at Namur, upon which the attention of the world is now centred, has seen British valor give proof of its quality many times the last being

when, in the words of Tennyson's noble ode on the death of Wellington, "One that sought but Duty's iron crown On that loud Sabbath shook the spoiler down;

A day of onsets and despair! Dashed on every rocky square, Their surging changes foamed themselves away.

And down we swept and charged and overthrew,

So great a soldier taught us there What long-enduring hearts could do, In that great world-earthquake, Waterloo!"

It is all historic ground where every British soldier will tread in the footsteps of British soldiers, whose spirits will inspire him to acquire himself in a manner worthy of the most glorious traditions of his race in this war, in which every soldier of Great Britain, France and Belgium is thrice-armed in the justice of his case.

THE British regiments in Belgium thus have a like inspiration with that which thrill every man on every ship of the British fleet:

"The spirits of your fathers Shall start from every wave."

The meteor flag of Britain will be upheld now, as in the past, by the men on land and the men on sea, whose inspiration from the past, felt by every living soul in the Empire, finds such fine expression in Browning's "Home Thoughts from the Sea."

"Nobly, nobly Cape St. Vincent to the northwest died away: Sunset ran one glorious blood-red reeking into Cadiz Bay; Blush 'mid the burning waters, full in face Trafalgar lay; In the dimmest northeast distance dawn'd Gibraltar, grand and gray;

Here, and here did England help me How can I help England!"—say, Whoso turns as I, this evening, turn to god to praise and pray.

While Jove's planet rises yonder, silent over Africa."

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

WAR POEMS THAT WILL STIR THE EMPIRE.

London, Aug. 10.—Alfred Noyes, whose recent campaign in the United States will be remembered, contributes a poem to the Daily Mail entitled, "The United Front." In the introduction Noyes says that the Kaiser, in reply to Belgium, has placed definitely on record for all future ages, that the destiny of the German depends upon his right to violate guarantees, tear up treaties and dishonor his word. Two verses follow:

Thus only should it have come, if come it must, Not with a riot of flags or a mob-born cry, But with a noble faith, a conscience high, And pure and proud as heaven, wherein we trust, We who have fought for peace have dared the thrust Of calumny for peace and watched her die, Her 'scutcheon rent from sky and outraged sky By felon hands, and trampled into dust.

It is God's answer. Though for many a year This land forgot the faith that made her great, Now, as her fleets cast off the North Sea foam, Casting aside all faction and all fear, Thrice armed in all the majesty of her fate, Britain remembers, and her sword strikes home.

William Watson contributes to the London Times a sonnet to "The Troubles of World." It begins: At last we know you, war lord. You that flung The gauntlet down, fling down the mask you wore, Publish your heart and let its pent hate pour— You that had God forever on your tongue.

The sonnet ends: And not by earth shall he be soon forgiven Who sets the fire accursed that flames today.

Tremendous Issue

MOST TREMENDOUS are the issues to be decided by trial of arms in the present titanic struggle on the European Continent.

A win for Germany would involve changes so general and so far-reaching in their effects that it is difficult for the mind of the average man to grasp them and, on the whole, most of us are not fully cognisant of the significance of the war between the dual alliance on the one side and Great Britain and her allies on the other.

The present war is in itself significant of the differing missions of the nations involved. On the one hand we see Germany and Austria, autocratic and military-mad both of them, thrusting, by dishonorable tactics general hostilities upon nations whose glory is that national issues are decided by the general people and not by some unscrupulous, self-willed despot.

It is plain, therefore, that if Great Britain and her allies can crush Germany and rehabilitate its Government so that the people and not the Kaiser control national affairs, they will render an enormous service to mankind. Too long has Germany been allowed to menace the peace of the world; now she must be so reformed that she will take her place in the van of the march of democratic progress even as she has in things scientific and industrial.

For the citizen who is allowed the Divine Right of thinking and acting for himself recognises that there is a great community of interests between the civilised nations of the world and that any widespread war must inevitably be disastrous—directly or indirectly—to all affected.

BUT GERMANY is not democratic—she is autocratic and the ambitions of a military and despotic class rather than considerations of the general public well inspire her actions and dictate her foreign policy. She gained her present political standing amongst the other nations of Europe by preying on nations either too weak or utterly unprepared to resist her attacks. And that she is still prepared to secure expansion by following the same policy is

proven by the great army she has created and by her possession of a navy of a strength utterly unnecessary if intended solely for legitimate protection of her sea-borne commerce.

And her course in the present war strikingly resembles that which she has followed on more than one historic occasion. Almost half a century ago she suddenly made war on Austria, her present ally, and the Battle of Sadowa added much new territory to her domains. In the same way she flched the Provinces of Schleswig and Holstein from Denmark, at a time when the Danes neither anticipated nor were prepared for hostilities. In the War of 1870-71 she descended on France at a time when the French Army was half-disbanded and, by force of arms, annexed the Provinces of Alsace and Lorraine.

GERMANY HAS expanded through success in war and that success has usually been achieved by lulling her neighbors into a sense of security and then suddenly disturbing their peaceful dreaming by armed invasion. Time and again have the predatory instincts of Germany led her to disturb the peace of the Continent of Europe and now the nations generally recognise that neither sense of national honor nor treaty obligation, however binding, can be depended on to cause the Germany of the last generation or so to keep the sword sheathed when she decides that to draw it would be to secure material advantages for herself.

The people of Germany deserve and possess the admiration of the whole world for the great progressive strides they have made in many departments of science and industry. With them Britons have no quarrel. But the German people are not the deciding factors in a crisis such as that which recently plunged the Great Powers in war. The autocrats decide issues such as these and the German commonality must bleed and suffer and die that their insensate ambition might perchance be gratified.

SO THE PRESENT WAR is not only a war to relieve Europe particularly and the World generally of the German menace it is also a war to free the people of that great Empire from the shackles of military despotism and secure for them a place in the grand brotherhood of democratic nations.

Germany dominant would mean the turning of the feet of progress backward and a consequent general retrogression toward autocracy and oppression.

Germany crushed would mean the death of iron-heeled rule and the rehabilitation of a nation that deserves a better fate than that of being tyrannised over by a self-willed, irresponsible despot and a military class who have all the instincts of the common highwayman and none of the desirable attributes that make for true greatness in any class or people.

"Your Son Has Fallen On The Field of Honor."

London, Aug. 16.—The Daily Mail's Paris correspondent comments on the rigor of the censorship prevailing in France, which has thrown an impenetrable veil of mystery over the operations on the French frontier, with the result that the French public is more ignorant of what is happening than it was when Napoleon was fighting the front.

When the soldiers now depart for the front, says the correspondent, they leave no trace; their relatives have no means of knowing they are in the fighting line and are obliged to entrust letters for them to the Ministry of War, and perhaps receive the statement from the Minister of War:

"Your son has fallen on the field of honor."

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE