

ON THE SPOT.

One (1) Car of Bright Whole Corn
—AT—
Good Prices.

J. J. ROSSITER
Real Estate Agent

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE."



("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

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Editor and Business Manager
JOHN J. ST. JOHN

ST. JOHN'S NFDL., NOV. 11th, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

YESTERDAY'S VERDICT

THE new trial granted by the Supreme Court in the matter of Kean vs. Publishing Co. and W. F. Coaker, Editor of The Fishermen's Advocate, took place yesterday before Judge Johnson, and resulted in a verdict of \$100 in favour of Kean.

It will be remembered that this case was tried before Judge Johnson and a Special Jury about a month ago, when the Judge charged the Jury so strongly against the Publishing Co. as to compel Mr. Morine to file 18 protests against the charge; that trial gave Kean \$1800.

The stand taken for freedom of the Press and for fair play for Coaker and the F.P.U. before the Courts and Juries, have resulted in an attainment of that object, for the Supreme Court set aside the first verdict on the grounds that Judge Johnson misdirected the Jury, and yesterday's Jury swept into oblivion the \$1800 verdict rendered by the first Jury.

Yesterday's Jury apparently took the view of the sane men and repudiated the idea that governed the majority of the first Jury which aimed at soaking the Publishing Co. and inflicting unfair damages upon the fishermen's paper.

The people will feel like congratulating the Jury that heard this case yesterday upon their fair and reasonable conduct.

Every effort was made by Kean's counsel to clean off every juror in sympathy with Coakerism—and one man was taken out of the spectators in Court to make up the full panel.

Abram must feel somewhat small after yesterday's verdict, for the Jury was not more than fifteen minutes out before it returned with a verdict. Mr. George Neal being the Foreman of the Jury.

It is indeed a victory for the freedom of the Press, and an eye-opener to the Judge who charged the first Jury so strongly against Coaker.

It is a snubbing administered to Abram, and if he possess an ounce of sense, will enable him in future to bow to the will of the people. Those doses of Abram's bitterness are now over and Kean finds himself in no better position than he was in April, 1914.

The Country still strongly support the stand Coaker took in reference to the disaster, and it is now apparent that nine St. John's men were satisfied after the matter had been thrashed out completely; that there were some reasons to justify the strong stand taken by this paper in the Disaster matter.

Abram will not telegraph his few friends in Bonavista Bay about yesterday's result, and had he allowed the promptings of common sense to prevail he would not have been so jubilant over the \$1800 verdict.

LABRADOR SOFT FISH

THE Government have forbidden the export of fish to Greece, and prices declined to \$5.50 to-day.

Very few fishermen hold soft Labrador fish; but those holding such fish should not rush it off because the price has declined owing to the embargo placed on the Greek market. This trouble may be adjusted in a few days; but if much soft fish is rushed here, prices will unduly decline.

It would be well for those with soft fish to dispose off to await results for a few days. There is nothing to be gained by rushing off what is held.

Italy will take large quantities of soft fish; England also requires a considerable supply; and France will take all available if arrangements can be made with the French Government in connection with a remission of the duty.

The Premier should at once take up the matter with Mr. Bonar Law and secure entrance for our Labrador fish into France. If there is one spark of ability existing amongst Executive Council members, this should be arranged satisfactory. If they don't move, they can't expect anyone else to do so. It is the Government's duty to satisfactory adjust this matter.

NOTRE DAME BAY SERVICE

WE learn that the freight congestion at Lewisporte now amount to two loads of the Clyde. This serious condition of affairs have been caused by taking off the second steamer and placing her on the Straits route. Green Bay require two Bay steamers to handle freight after October, and the Reid Nfld. Co. should have arranged to place a second steamer on the Bay after October 1st in order to meet the pressing demands of trade.

We ask the Government to take action at once and compel the Company to place another steamer on the route for the remainder of the season. If this is not done scores of people will be left without necessary winter supplies.

The Clyde has done good work this fall, and there is no complaint about her movements; she cannot do the work of two steamers, and nothing better can be done, one of the sealing steamers might be chartered for two months in order to relieve the freight congestion.

It is strange that Green Bay should be the only Bay to suffer by the sale of the Bruce and Lintrose. Surely the Reids have been given sufficient time to provide a substitute for the Home? It is now four months since the Home was taken off the Green Bay route. It is eight months since the Company knew the Bruce and Lintrose would be sent to Russia.

Why have not provision been made by the Company for observing its obligations to Green Bay people? Is the most independent and prosperous Bay in the Colony to have its interests injured and its trade demoralized because a public contractor wished to grow rich quick by the sale of steamers built and operated in order to fulfill public obligations?

Come, Mr. Reid, live up to your public undertakings and place without delay another steamer on the Green Bay service.

POLITICAL MICAWBERS

THAT this Country is overriden by Government hangers-on is quite evident; but that there are numerous political Micawbers in our midst is perhaps not quite so apparent. Yet this is perfectly true; and the number of these is quite large. We have them even in polite circles, and we have them lower down.

There is a persistent rumour that some professional gentlemen are not beyond the charge of "waiting for something to turn up." They certainly either have been unsuccessful in their profession; or, otherwise, they believe that a Government job would afford them a better income or that they would have a better time at the expense of the Country.

We doubt if any country on earth is so official-ridden as is Newfoundland; and our revenues, no matter how large they are, or might be, will be absolutely useless for the promotion of the general welfare, if this extraordinary condition of affairs continues.

By way of illustration, let us take the Labrador Custom's service; two men would be quite sufficient to do the work there, but we find almost a "baker's dozen" drawing salaries for what would be just a decent job for a live officer and an assistant.

Looking into the personnel of the Labrador service, we find that with a single exception, the so-

called officials are men who should be earning their living at their legitimate occupation. If the Government wish to give public charities, let them select some worthy object on which to bestow them. We know that at least one of the Labrador officials runs a business, and that during the season he had several dealers on the coast.

Now this a gross injustice to others who supplied small crews, for the simple reason that the latter could not keep in touch with their dealers, whilst the commercial Government official was constantly on the ground.

We know further that one of the assistants to a sub-collector is a man of considerable means, and that he is quite capable of carrying on the fishery as did his father and, as he did himself until he received the sop from the benevolent member who wished to reward him for his vote.

We insist that such a disgraceful condition of affairs, should no longer be allowed to continue. The hard-wrung taxes of the fishermen should not be squandered in this disgraceful way.

There are several parts of the Island, both South and North where you find two and three Customs officers doing the work of one man; in fact the revenue from the sections which we have in mind does not actually warrant the keeping of one man. We do not think that the funds of the Customs Department are intended as an adjunct to the Department of the Poor Commissioner.

Under the Morris regime, our civil service has become actually prostituted to political, or supposed political service. But, perhaps the Premier is hardly to blame, as it is now being recognized on every hand that he is simply a figure-head, and lacks the necessary backbone, and the Executive is bull-dozed by an upstart coterie who care nothing for the common weal; they are simply bleeding the Colony for all they can get out of it for services which are absolutely worthless.

We say it is time to cry halt!

THE OUTLOOK BRIGHTER

LAST week things looked gloomy in the extreme, and the English press viewed the war situation very pessimistically. We have already alluded to the Beresford performance. This, we believe has caused somewhat of a sensation, and the American press has commented upon it at considerable length.

The following strikes a more optimistic note; it is the utterance of one of the best known observers in the field of journalism in England—J. L. Garvin. He writes to "The Observer":

"Time has been lost, but, thanks mainly to the vigour and insight of France, the Allies are committed to measures which will go far to thwart the enemy's hopes in the East and may yet reverse their whole tableaux, pictured by pro-German expectation. How and where the mighty counter-stroke will be felt cannot yet be said, nor can we say exactly when the main development will occur. It is enough to know that strong exertions will be made.

"Some of the certainties are unquestionably good, and the prospect is full of the possibilities of a decisive drama. There is at least a thorough grasp of the real bearing in the near Eastern factors upon the whole European situation and the clearing up of past misunderstandings on this point between Paris and London is one of the most satisfactory steps yet taken toward a solid co-ordination of the Allies' efforts.

"A strong section of military

opinion in France holds emphatically that the Bulgars can be driven out of both Koprula (Veles) and Uskub, and that the Allies, by bold action, can take King Ferdinand's troops between two fires and establish firm contact with the Serbian army in retreat. This would fetter to the western Balkans a mass of hostile forces, and would thwart the whole German-Bulgar plan for the mastery of a route to Constantinople, and the conquest of Macedonia.

"To win Roumania would settle everything in favour of the Allies. It is said, though not officially confirmed, that bold steps at last are being taken at Bucharest Roumania's claims would be satisfied to the fullest extent. She would get back Bessarabia, Bukovina, the whole of Transylvania, and enough of the Banat to make her future frontier march for a long distance with that of Greater Serbia. With these extensions and the economic facilities which the Allies would also ensure, Greater Roumania would become a kingdom of nearly fourteen million people and would stand at the very head of the secondary powers of Europe.

"We assume, as a matter of course, that every diplomatic inducement is being used to secure from Bucharest either definite intervention or favourable facilities, but diplomacy will not be strong enough. She must know with what force and in what manner the Allies intend to act in the Balkans. If Bucharest could be satisfied on that point, the intervention of Roumania would also determine the action of Greece."

ASQUITH IS CONFIDENT

PREMIER ASQUITH'S pronouncement in the House of Commons a few days ago was worthy of the man and the occasion.

After declaring that his statement had been delayed by circumstances over which he had no control, he said that his pronouncement would likely disappoint many, especially those who thought he ought to appear as a criminal or a penitent in a white sheet.

He declared that it is quite true that some parts of the horizon are overcast, that the moment calls for three things: a proper sense of perspective; a limitless stock of patience, and overflowing reservoirs of courage both active and passive. He referred to the small coterie of professional whimperers which kept our enemies supplied daily with a diet of falsehoods, and said that the Government had no interest in concealing anything, subject to the one overriding consideration that its disclosures would not assist Great Britain's enemies.

He stated that there had been an enthusiastic response for recruits notably from the Overseas Dominions, that the navy had transported with the greatest success more than two and a half million men as well as 320,000 sick and wounded with a loss of less than one-tenth of one per cent; that the men of the grand fleet, almost unnoticed and unobserved, had cleared the seas of German commerce, and that the German fleet dared not show its face in waters where it could be attacked.

He eulogized the work of British submarines in the Sea of Marmora, and declared that the forces on Gallipoli were holding up 200,000 Turks who otherwise might have been engaged elsewhere. He admitted disappointments in the Balkans, especially with regard to Greece which failed to carry out its treaty agreements.

He stated that the visit of General Joffre to London had resulted

in complete agreement as to the ends and means of assuring Serbia that the Allies would not permit this country to become a prey to the enemy, and that Serbian independence was the essential object of the campaign in the Balkans.

He declared that the condition of the country financially, at present was serious, and the burdens could not be sustained without the strictest economy on behalf of the country and individuals.

We would recommend this utterance especially to our spendthrift Premier Morris who some time ago declared that ECONOMY WAS A CRIME.

In conclusion Premier Asquith said that he fully appreciated the terrible responsibility resting upon him as Prime Minister; but so long as he enjoyed the confidence of his Sovereign and the House of Commons he would not surrender his great work. He was, he declared, as confident as he was fifteen months ago that the Allies would carry their righteous cause to a triumphant conclusion.

RASCALITY

A CASE of serious moment has come under our notice, and we hope that some interested party will see that the affair receives a thorough airing. It is a case which happily occurs but rarely; yet even once is too often. We understand that the perpetrator has had other financial escapades.

A certain trader, who also carries on a small fishing business, when returning from Labrador last fall took from several fishermen, including an Esquimaux who had done fairly well a quantity of fish, oil, and furs, with the understanding that these products would be sold to the best possible advantage and that the proceeds would be remitted at an early date in the spring. Furthermore, the said trader engaged to send down to the coast, or take in his own schooner, a quantity of supplies to the parties from whom he had received the fish, oil, and furs.

No returns had been made to these unfortunate dupes up to the beginning of October, and it is doubtful if any returns will ever be made to them.

We have reason to know that all the details of this case are known to the gentry who were engaged on H.M.S. on the coast during the season, so we think it is their bounden duty to see that justice be done the parties concerned.

Boer General Denies German Charges

BERNE, Oct. 30.—Wolf Agency's excuse for the Edith Cavell murder was that many similar acts have been committed by order of Gen. Kitchener on Boer women and children during the South African War. Gen. Joubert, nephew of the former Boer Commander-in-Chief, who fought against us throughout the South African War, and who now is staying in Berne, has asked the British Legation at Berne to reply to the statement in his behalf that never throughout the Boer War were any atrocities of this description committed by order either of Kitchener or any other British authorities.

If you want the best light, burn "Briteslite" Kerosene. P. H. COWAN, Importer.

NOTICE.

THE SEVENTH Annual Convention of the Supreme Council of the F.P.U. of Newfoundland will be held at ST. JOHN'S on the 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th of NOVEMBER next. All Councils, District and Local are expected to send Delegates.

By order of the President,

W. W. HALFYARD,
Secretary F.P.U.

St. John's, Oct. 25, 1915.

NOTICE.

THE FOURTH Annual Meeting of the Fishermen's Union Trading Co., Ltd., will be held at ST. JOHN'S on THURSDAY, the 25th of NOVEMBER next at 7.30 p.m.

Notice is hereby given that at the said meeting Resolutions will be submitted to increase the authorized capital of the said Company from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

W. W. HALFYARD,
Secretary.

St. John's, Oct. 25, 1915.

NOTICE.

THE First Annual Meeting of the Union Export Co., Ltd., will be held at ST. JOHN'S on the afternoon of the 25th Day of NOVEMBER next.

W. W. HALFYARD,
Acting Secretary.

St. John's, Oct. 25, 1915.

NOTICE.

THE Fourth Annual Meeting of the Union Publishing Co., Ltd., will be held at ST. JOHN'S in the forenoon of the 25th Day of NOVEMBER next.

W. W. HALFYARD,
Secretary.

St. John's, Oct. 25, 1915.

NOTICE.

FOGO DISTRICT COUNCIL of the F.P.U. will hold its Sixth Annual Meeting at ST. JOHN'S during Convention week. All Local Councils will please arrange to send a Delegate.

W. W. HALFYARD,
Chairman.

NOTICE.

BONAVISTA DISTRICT COUNCIL of the F.P.U. will hold its Fifth Annual Meeting at ST. JOHN'S during Convention week. All Local Councils will please arrange to send a Delegate.

R. G. WINSOR,
Chairman.

NOTICE.

TWILLINGATE District Council of the F.P.U. will hold its Sixth Annual Meeting at ST. JOHN'S during Convention week. All Local Councils will please arrange to send a Delegate.

W. B. JENNINGS,
Chairman.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

The S. S. "Glencoe" will sail from Placentia to-morrow, Friday, after the arrival of the morning train from St. John's, for the Western Ports between Placentia and Port aux Basque.