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The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., JAN. 9, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Our Soldiers Abroad

WE learn from some of the Newfoundland Volunteer Regiment now in Scotland that they are being badly treated in respect to socks and boots. They understood they were to be supplied with clothing free. They were given two pairs of socks and one pair of boots since enlisting. Their boots have long ago been worn out and they have to buy socks continually. Two pairs of socks are of little use to men marching in heavy boots 10 to 20 miles daily. At least six pairs each should have been supplied or the supply of two pairs first given should be augmented monthly.

The ladies here should see that our own boys are well supplied with clothing. The Committee should see that boots are supplied them. Some of them have had to purchase boots and socks from their slender income of \$3 per week.

These brave boys have gone to distant lands to aid the King in fighting his enemies, and defending the Empire, and the least this Colony can do is to see that they are not compelled to wear socks with the heels and toes tattered, with the soles gone.

It is true the Colony is poor, but not poor enough to be made a show in the supplies of clothing issued the gallant lads that have gone hither to defend the old flag.

Again we notice that very few of the new Volunteers have been supplied with suits. Some of those who enlisted on the first or second night are still without their suits. If one clothing factory could not supply 300 suits in two months, surely half of the order might have been allotted to the other up-to-date factory in this city.

Sealing Industry

THE News' Editor is exercised over the question of Norway participating in our seal fishery, and regards the question as a very difficult one to deal with, and over the mere rumor of a Norwegian steamship, the Njord, being in our waters for the purpose of preparing for the seal fishery in the Gulf dikes at some length, in his columns of this morning.

Now if brother Robinson can take his eyes for a minute off the Imperial problem to glance at our sealing industry, it is a bit surprising that he has not seen that aspect of it which

is of much greater moment to us than a rumor of a Norwegian being in the Gulf.

We refer now to the sealing disaster of last Spring. But as there are "none so blind as those who will not see," we are compelled to think that brother Robinson has purposely closed his eyes to the fact that through culpable ignorance or indifference or both, 78 of our brave sealers lost their lives on the ice floes last April.

We should like to hear from brother Robinson whether he holds that the great sacrifice, were directly the fault of Abraham Kean, Wes. Kean, Geo. Tuff, or whether he thinks the men themselves were to blame, or whether he regards the terrible loss of life, as purely an act of Divine Will.

There are some points in these premises that The News might take up, without in any way doing violence to his great ability as a journalist. The advent of a foreign ship into our sealing industry furnishes of course, a legitimate topic for a local journalist, but when we find that same journalist silent on a far more important phase of the question, then we must express surprise, that he has the temerity, the consummate cheek, to speak to an atom of importance, and to try to raise an insignificant question into one of great gravity.

We say, that were it not for the great overshadowing and burning question of the loss of human life attached to a discussion of our sealing industry, the coming of the Njord might form a timely topic, but as it is, it has no place to-day, especially in the columns of a newspaper, that refrains from reviewing the more weighty points at issue.

The coming of the Njord need not worry us. We have all the great natural advantages, as far as our sealing goes, and Norway, has a great sealing industry of her own, and more nearly at her own door than in the St. Lawrence.

If we cannot hold our own, when all the advantages are on our side, then it is only proper that better men come in and take our places, but of this we have but little fear. It lies to our steamship owners. They have the ships, and as to men, well, they have no better, even in Norway.

The Dundee ships tried to compete with our ships and failed. Halifax ships were compelled to clear under our laws and sail from Newfoundland ports. There need be little worry occasioned by the introduction of even half a dozen Norwegian ships into the Gulf seal fishery.

They won't return many years if they venture to compete. Will the News answer the burning question now upon the lips of all the people, as to whether the seventy-eight of the Newfoundland's crew would have died on the icefloes during the blizzard of March 31st and April 1st last had Ab. Kean been in White Bay or St. John's.

Austro-German Loss Estimated At 3,500,000 Men

Correspondent Estimates the German Total at 2,000,000 From Latest List.

Copenhagen, Jan. 6.—Prussian casualty lists, numbered 101 to 108, have been received here. They contain the names of 35,883 killed, wounded, and missing officers and men, bringing the total Prussian losses up to 753,202.

To these are to be added 80 Saxon lists, 82 Wurttemberg, 125 Bavarian, and 13 navy lists. The Bavarian losses are so heavy that it may be calculated that nearly half their army is out of action.

The Prussian losses up to date, including those not yet published, may be set down as about 250,000 dead, 400,000 missing, and 850,000 wounded, bringing the total up to about one and a half million. With the Saxons, Wurttemberg, Bavarian, and navy losses, the German losses altogether must be about 2,000,000.

About 25,000 officers have been killed and 25,000 officers wounded, but only 4,000 officers are missing. According to information from Vienna the Austro-Hungarian casualties are calculated at about one and a half million officers and men killed, wounded, and missing.

NOTICE

All Local Councils in Trinity District who haven't yet sent in their district assessment, will please do so before the end of the month to the treasurer, George Fowlow, of Philip, Trinity East. J. G. STONE, P.C. Dec. 10, 1914.

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TO THE EDITOR

Can't Do Without Fishermen's Paper

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—I am enclosing Fifty Cents to renew for the year my subscription to the Mail and Advocate (Weekly Edition). I have been a subscriber for the past three years and cannot do very well without the Fishermen's Eye-Opener. It contains all the news that is beneficial to the fisherman and its motto is equal rights to all and special privileges to none.

H. W. BURDEN. Black Head, Jan. 6, 1915.

Port Blandford Council Officers

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—On Jan. 1st the Local Council of Port Blandford elected the following officers: Wm. H. Dalley, Chairman, re-elected. Wm. Harris, Deputy Chairman, re-elected. Geo. R. Ploughman, Secretary, re-elected. Clement Harris, Treasurer, re-elected. Geo. Hapgood, Tyler, elected. WM. H. DALLEY. Port Blandford, Jan. 2, 15.

Burnt Head L.O.A. Hold Anniversary

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—Thursday, Dec. 31st, proved to be a red letter day for the Loyal Orange Association at Burnt Head. It was the first anniversary of the above named place, and the day being beautiful, all the members, together with those of the Mother Lodge, united at 9.30 a.m., (and after a few short addresses from the members of the Mother Lodge) fell in their respective places, marched as far as Job's Cove Church and back again to Burnt Point Church, where a very able and interesting sermon was preached by Rev. C. R. Blount, Pastor of the Circuit, from the words "Quit ye like men; be strong." A lengthy program was prepared for a concert at night and long before the hour of opening the hall was filled.

ed to its utter capacity; and after the various items were performed, the hall was given to the young people for games of various kinds, which were enjoyed by all.

We wish the Loyal Orange Association a very prosperous year in all their undertakings. —MEMBER.

Spaniard's Bay Council Officers

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—We had an election of officers for the ensuing year and the names of those elected are as follows: Chairman, Kennel Gosse, re-elected. Deputy Chairman, William Gosse, re-elected. Secretary, Nathaniel Gosse, elected. Treasurer, Job Gosse, re-elected. Door Guard, Alex. Noseworthy, elected. Wishing the Union every success and a prosperous year. —KENNETH GOSSE. Spaniard's Bay, Dec. 26, '14.

Postal Officials A Bit Careless

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—I am subscribing for The Advocate again this year. I would not wish to be without it, although the paper have come to this office for me and I haven't got it, one in particular—The Xmas Number.

I'd like for those agents to be called to their duty and when they deliver any one's mail to another I trust they will have brains enough to know who they are giving it to, so that the owners may get their papers or letters when they are due to them.

Mr. Editor, the time is fast approaching when those agents will have to be up to their duty or get out and not to allow four or five rich persons in the office where he has his work to do and if a poor toiler come in to ask a question he haven't got time for anything, for the shutter is closed in his face. It's time for us poor toilers to have a little fair play. —UNION MAN.

Salmonier Starts New Local Council

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—The F.P.U. Local Council here with a view to taking action in co-operation with the general work-

ing of the organization, met at the residence of a member recently. A unanimous vote in favor of establishing the Council resulted and the self-evident necessity of a Union Hall took precedence in the discussion that followed.

The question was further discussed later, and the following plans were formulated for building the hall: Taking over a site previously considered. Each man cutting three sticks and giving free labor at the building. A member present being a lumber dealer supplying lumber. Work on the building to commence the following day.

We expect to finish the hall by the last of this month by which time we hope to be established in co-operation with the headquarters of the Union. The hall will be in the hands of the F.P.U. Amusement Committee and will be open probably two nights a week for reading and amusement when Union business does not interfere. Work is progressing quickly. —P. J. TREMLETT, Chairman.

Bay of Islands Charges Neglect By the Government

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—I am again writing in regard to our mail service, how we people are treated by neglect of the Bay boat. I say it's a shame and disgrace to our little Bay.

We have a boat supposed to land the mail twice a week, but it would be far better if they would give this money to the poor fishermen of this Bay to build bridges or roads so that a team can get around.

We are again, as usual, with no bridge to cross Clark's Brook. The money came two years ago, something like three hundred dollars, to cut wood a few weeks before the elections, just for an election bait, but still no bridge or sign of it, only wood cut, to rot on the place. They cannot find money to make this bridge but they can find money for this boat running in our Bay, which is no use to the place. A sail or a row boat can do better; anyway they could not do worse.

I think this Government should try to do better here. They have the duty put on everything again, they are only sucking the blood out of the poor man and taking their bit of earnings out of their pockets.

I wish you to put this in The Advocate to let people see how this West Coast is treated. They can find money to keep those men with brass buttons walking around doing nothing. What is there in Bay of Islands for so many of those Grabbal men to do? What is there to do in the winter when navigation is closed? We have about twenty in this little Bay getting big salaries for doing nothing. I think two or three would do as well as twenty, and then we could get money for the bridges and roads. We are just the same to-day as we were 40 years ago, and will be so long as this Grabbal Government stays in power.

I hope the day is fast approaching when they will have to go to the fishery and give some honest fishermen a chance in their place. —A UNION MAN.

Bay of Islds., Dec. 22, '14.

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NOTICE TO F.P.U. COUNCILS

A Meeting of the Officers of the Local Council of the F.P.U., operating in the Districts of Harbor Main, Port de Grave, Harbor Grace and Carbonear, will be held at Coley's Point on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday, the 13th instant, to consider the advisability of combining the Councils embraced in the above Districts into one District Council of the F.P.U., and to consider matters affecting the welfare of the Fishermen of Conception Bay who prosecute the Labrador Shore Fishery.

By order, W. F. COAKER, President F.P.U. St. John's, Jany. 6th, 1915.

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