

# YESTERDAY AT THE HOUSE.

House met at 3 p.m. last evening. A most noticeable feature of the proceedings was the Premier's apparent willingness to fall in line with proposals of the Opposition. Sir Edward is improving in this respect, but still deplorably slow to grapple with matters of paramount public importance on his own initiative. The Opposition numbers, however, are quite competent of refreshing the Premier's mind wherever the public interests are concerned.

Several petitions were presented. One from the member for Fortune Bay on fishery matters.

**MR. JENNINGS** presented a number from the District of Twillingate, protesting against cutting pit props on the three-mile limit.

**MR. CLIFT** supported the prayer of these petitions and told the House of some of the alleged injustices practised by contractors, where 134 feet were often demanded instead of the regular 128 feet which lawfully constitutes a cord.

**MR. COAKER** asked the Government to move at once and save the small portion of green timber which still remained, and not to longer sacrifice the fishermen's heritage for the sake of a few greedy contractors.

**THE PREMIER** promised to take action at once but tried to excuse the Government on the plea of generosity to the poor in these sections, and hoped their blunder had not caused too much damage.

**MR. CLAPP**—Petitions followed from Mr. Clapp asking for ferry for Crook Hill, District St. Barbe, also that Rocky Hill, Bonne Bay, be made a port of call and be provided with telegraph communications.

**MR. DOWNEY** presented petitions. One for a sum of money to repair the public wharf at Lark Harbor; and the other to provide Port au Port with a fog alarm.

**MR. HALFYARD** presented petitions. One on the subject of prohibiting cutting of pit props and logging timber, and others from Carmanville and Island Hill, asking that the latter place be made a port of call by the Fogota and other subsidized steamers.

**MR. HALFYARD** made a strong appeal on behalf of petitioners and requested the Government not to forget that Island Hr. was on the map.

**MR. COAKER** supported the prayer of the Island Harbor petition and suggested that the Colonial Secretary take up the matter with Mr. Crosbie and arrange to have the Fogota call there, as it would not entail more than one or two hours delay per trip. He then the opportunity to thank the Col. Sect'y for the way in which he responded to the request for improvement in Green Bay service last year.

**MR. TARGETT** presented a petition from the residents of the important settlement of Winterton, asking for better Postal and Telegraph arrangements and showed the present condition of the office there was far from satisfactory. He made a strong plea for improvement and was supported by Mr. Stone and Dr. Lloyd.

**MR. CLAPP** then asked the Government to arrange for the S. S. Prospero to call at Grois Islands, as the same was very important.

**THE COLONIAL SECT'Y** promised to answer Mr. Abbott's question tomorrow, as to why, and by what authority Mr. Christopher Haynes of James Town, B.E., who formerly carried the mail from Lethbridge to Winter Brook, was replaced by Mr. Thomas Blunden; also all correspondence in connection with the transaction on the address in reply.

**MR. CLIFT** opened the debate by making sympathetic reference to the lamented demise of the late Hon. Jno. Harris, Mr. Justice Emerson and Mr. Furlong, K.C. Taking up the first paragraph of the Governor's speech, which referred to the great conflict in Europe, Mr. Clift, briefly outlined the situation confronting the Empire. He was optimistic of victory, but pointed out the need of this country, as well as other sections of the Empire, making still greater efforts to assure a glorious and successful issue. He had every confidence that if properly appealed to, our young men would rally round the old flag for King and Country's sake.

It is gratifying, said Mr. Clift, to learn that our boys gone forth have nobly done their duty in the face of stern conflict.

Mr. Clift's words should have a profound impression upon the country, for he has given two gallant soldier boys to do or die for Britain. In connection with our financial position

he was glad to learn that our revenue exceeded expenditure so far, and thought that before any additional taxation would be attempted a system of retrenchment should take place, and thought that if certain useless officials rendering the country no service were abolished we could then do justice by increasing salaries in deserving cases and still have a more economical and efficient service.

He referred in suitable terms to the high dignity conferred upon Mr. Kent, paid a grand tribute to his high and unblemished character, as well as his great ability to gracefully adorn the high office conferred upon him. Mr. Clift took occasion to inform the House that he had no intention of accepting the position of Leader of the Opposition made vacant by the retirement of Mr. Kent, should the honour be conferred upon him. He said he had all he could do to attend to his business affairs, and would be unable to accept the position.

In conclusion Mr. Clift extended to Judge Kent the hearty good wishes of his side of the House.

**MR. PARSONS** followed in a very earnest and patriotic address dealing principally with the war and the recruiting movement, and quoted some extracts from a letter received from his daughter, who has nobly gone East to nurse our boys, if need be.

Mr. Parsons has also done his part in upholding Britain's cause. He was applauded by House and galleries.

**MR. JENNINGS** was the next speaker and prefaced his remarks with a touching reference to the three deceased gentlemen who have gone before us, and expressed the hope that when our turn comes we shall not be afraid to follow. His remarks upon the recruiting movement had a ring of sincerity and brought forth much applause. Mr. Jennings, after referring to the financial situation, touched upon the Prohibition Question, and expressed surprise that alleged irregularities, based upon legal technicalities, should be found in a plebiscite bill drafted by the Government.

In dealing with the destruction of the fishermen's timber for pit props, Mr. Jennings was glad that the Premier intended to lock the door even after the horse was stolen. He desired to refute the allegation that permission was granted to cut-props, in order to

help destitute persons in Green Bay, and assured the House that 80 per cent of those so far engaged were well to do, and intimated that it was the greedy contractor and not the poor fishermen that misled the Government. It said Mr. Jennings, the British Government required this timber we would give the last stick, but this was not the situation. He then read certain correspondence from the Minister of Agriculture & Mines and told of splendid tracts of forest, which he admired two years ago, where one could cut spars for a 30-ton schooner was now absolutely devastated.

Timber for schooner building cannot now be obtained in these sections, and any poor man who was engaged in cutting this timber was not paid enough by the contractors to support his family while working.

Mr. Jennings's speech was followed closely by the House, and closed amid great applause by the galleries. **THE PREMIER** followed and tried hard to excuse the Government for its disregard of the peoples rights, and promised to be better in future. He found no fault with what the Opposition had said (which was quite an

admission) and congratulated Doctor Lloyd, Mr. Jennings and Mr. Clift upon their speeches, but was apparently sore over the drilling inflicted by President Coaker's speech to bestow any compliments upon the gentlemen. He would like the Opposition to tell him where he could practise retrenchment, and Mr. Coaker volunteered to enlighten him if the Premier would be sincere for once, and put the scheme into effect. But the leader of the Government would not commit himself to anything but his usual consideration and finished by promising Mr. Coaker to have requirements of Opposition rooms attended to.

**DR. LLOYD** and **MR. COAKER** urged the Premier to have the Minister of Justice Department make a more rigid investigation into the recent burglary cases in the city, so that this growing vice may be immediately dealt with.

**THE PREMIER** announced that an invitation was tendered the members of the Legislature by His Excellency to be present at the C. L. B. Armoury this morning at 11 a.m. to inspect the volunteers.

The House then adjourned at 6 o'clock to meet this evening at 3 p.m.

## Exploits Unionists Hold Their Annual Parade--The Spirit of Unionism Greater Than Ever

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—Favour me with a little space in your much esteemed paper to make a few remarks on our Union Parade which was held on Tuesday, March seventh. The day being all that could be desired the members here met at the L. O. A. Hall at 1 p.m. and after deciding where to parade our Chairman read a circular letter, and a short address was given us by Friend Dalton. The greatest of attention was paid while the buying of shares in the Union Export Co. was explained.

Leaving the Hall at 3 p.m. ranks were formed under the colours of our glorious Empire, and the Union followed by a banner bearing the motto "one for all; and all for one," and headed by a band composed of two accordions and the Salvation Army drum. The society paraded around the South Harbour, crossed a neck known as the Otter Bury, around the North Harbour and back to the Hall where we got the surprise of the day.

Two tables, the length of the building covered with everything the appetite could wish had been prepared for us by our good lady friends. Our Chairman then called for three cheers for our President, the Union, our Union women, and for our boys who have gone to the front, which was heartily given.

Mr. Editor, it would do your heart good to see the tables getting cleared

of their good things with appetites well sharpened after the long walk. I wonder what Mosdell would have thought if it had been there. To my mind he would have thought twice and the second thought would be to go home, demolish his printing outfit, close the door and give up as a failure his idea to kill out the Union and Coaker.

As there was nothing arranged for an entertainment before hand some of us thought that was the end, but it did not suit some of the young folks. With the help of the young ladies they soon had a voluntary programme as follows: Address from the Chairman; song, Rule Britannia; address from Friend Dalton; song, "Tenting To-night"; address from Rev. H. Bull; duet, "Family Quarrel"; the programme ending with the National Anthem.

After that had been gone through the tables were again replaced and a supper partaken of, after which all left for their homes, feeling pleased at spending such an enjoyable evening.

The Council wishes through your columns to thank the friends outside the Union who in any way helped to make the evening enjoyable.

Must close now by wishing the Union abundant success and thanking you for space, I am as ever,

UNIONIST  
Exploits, March 11, 1916.

## Change Islands Fisherman Writes on the Bait Question

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—Please allow me space in your esteemed paper for a few words in favor of Mr. M. E. Condon re bait fishes and freezers. This to my view ought to be the main topic of the day.

I, as a fisherman, know of the need of bait, and I firmly concur in all that Mr. Condon says. I firmly believe that herring could be got in traps if they were used for that purpose. Now everyone knows that if there was a plentiful supply of bait the catch of fish would be increased by thousands of quintals and the revenue of our Island Home increased, and there would not be so many men going elsewhere to seek employment, as men will not go fishing when bait is scarce. I have myself these last two summers been fishing at Fogota Islands and have known as many as 20 or 30 boats with not enough bait to go on the ground. Now this is not one day of the summer but day after day I have been ashore, two and three days at a time, waiting to get enough bait to go out with.

Well, some one may say, why don't you get some herring nets. Yes, we had four and five nets out at a time, but what use are herring nets when you get from two to 10 and some mornings none at all and still there was herring there; and I believe if we had one of Mr. Condon's traps we would get all the bait needed for everyone. And again I have seen and have been on the squid jigging round and there seemed to be plenty of squid, but they would not fly. There was the coveted bait to be seen but could not be got, that is, not enough to do any good.

Well now, I think that Mr. Condon has put it before the public in the best possible way and I think that every thing should be done to forward the movement as quick as pos-

sible. Hoping it will have every support on the floors of the House.

I remain,  
FISHERMAN.  
Change Islds., Feb. 4, 1916.

## OBITUARY

### OBADIAH GILL

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—It is with regret that we have to record the death of one of our Union members, Friend Obadiah Gill, who passed peacefully away at Pinchard's Island on March 1st. Deceased has given up work since August, but in fact had been ailing for the past twelve months. In him the Union loses one of its best members, and one who knew what it was to get a livelihood by the sweat of his brow, and one who had his share of suffering.

Deceased leaves a wife, three children, father, mother, three brothers and three sisters and a number of relatives to mourn their sad loss. May his soul rest in peace.

RELATIVE.  
Pinchard's Island, B.B.  
March 9th, 1916.

### ROBERT HURLEY

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir,—We regret to record the death of Robert Hurley of Fogota who, while engaged in hauling coal to his home on March the 4th, dropped dead. To the sorrowing family of the deceased, consisting of five daughters and one son, of nine years, we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

A. S.  
Fogota, March 13, 1916.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

## Corporal John Duff Writes His Mother

Y. M. C. A.,  
with H. M. Forces,  
in Malta,  
February 13, 1916

My Dear Mother,—It is with the greatest of pleasure I am writing you these few lines. Hope it will reach you in good time and in safety. I am writing you now, but can't say when I will end it because its a very busy time with us and I have very little time for myself. I should have written you yesterday, but it was pay day and I wanted to get a little present for you, so I didn't write, and I have the present for you. I was going to get the Xmas box for Alice and Violet which I promised them, but I only got two days' pay (10 bob) and you see I couldn't get them. I am paid by the British army now while I am at the Hospital camps in Malta, but as soon as I get to my own regiment I will get all my pay if I want it; that is if they are not in the trenches.

We never get money in the trenches, its no god to us, but if I had it now and could get anywhere to change it I could send it home, for I know it is needed and could send a few Xmas boxes for the family. But I am sorry I can't get it just at present, but will try my very best before I leave Malta to get it.

This is where the finest and best silks in the world are made. I have seen them making it myself. Its something worth looking at, you bet, and its very cheap. This, what I am sending you, cost three bob, that is seventy-two cents in our money; sorry I can't send more to you, but if I get the chance I will do so.

I don't suppose you know these photos I have in the parcel, but take care of them for me. They are the best friends I had since I left home. I had my home with them while in Scotland, they were more than good to me and always will be when I ever go there. Mother, I hope you will be pleased with this letter and parcel, when you get it, and I hope to be home to see you by next Xmas; I think I will by that time if it is God's will. I think I will soon be going back to my regiment. I hope I will do a little more for my King and Country. I don't hear much about the war now, but I suppose its just about the same. Hope you are not worrying about me, because I am alright here and wherever I go I don't worry, while I have someone to take care of me in storm as well as in the sunshine, when the bullets are flying and the enemy is against us; the Lord can see us safe through it all, if we only trust him. Thank God he has helped me in many ways.

Mother, when you get this parcel please send and let me know, I will be longing to hear from you. Do you get any letters from me. I write to you very often but don't get any back and when you write again address all my letters to, or in care of G. P. O., London, and I will get them sometime. I think that is the safest way to address them, because I can't say where I will go to yet. I haven't had either letter for a long time, can't say when, but I hope to hear from you soon.

Sorry I can't say anything about Will, because I haven't heard from him since I came away from England, but I think he is still in Scotland, hope you get some news from him. How is father and all the children, give my love to them. How

is grandma, is she still living? Have any more of our boys joined the King's army yet?  
Mother, I often think of home and the way things are going, but it won't always be like it. Times will soon be better and brighter for every one. May God speed the time. Good times and a blessed Sunday to you all, as it is a very dull one here. Good bye, from your true soldier boy.

JOHN.  
Address—350 Corporal John Duff,  
1st. Nfld. Regt., B. Co.,  
88 Brigade, 29 Div.,  
c/o G.P.O., London.

## Dealers! One Moment!

I HAVE the sole agency for Bear Brand Oil Clothing. The fishermen who wore that brand last summer will ask for it again. The material used is of the best, and the oiling is done by a new process. Bear Brand Oil Clothing will withstand an unusually great amount of chafing, and in every respect will be found A. 1. Call to see me when in town, or let me send you a sample.

JOHN B. ORR,  
New Martin Bldg., St. John's,  
mar8.w.th.f

## LADIES' HOSIERY.

Having secured THE SOLE AGENCY for BURSON HOSE we are in a position to offer our patrons UNUSUAL SATISFACTION in this line.

Burson Hose are made for those who want NEAT FITTING HOSIERY. The only hose made in America that is KNIT TO SHAPE.

28c to 80c.

Robert Templeton,

333 Water Street,  
St. John's.

## LARGE LABRADOR CODFISH For Sale.

Get Our Prices.  
SMITH CO. Ltd.

February 22nd, 1916.

Arrived to-day, ex brig. Olinda:

400 Puncheons  
NEW SEASON'S FANCY  
BARBADOES  
MOLLASSES.

LOWEST PRICES

STEER BROS.

## Special Values in Stylish Tweed --Suits for Men--

WE have just opened a splendid lot of MEN'S READYMADE SUITS, that were especially selected for Spring Wear, in a handsome array of Neat, Dark Patterns.

It will pay you to examine them before you buy your next Suit—you'll be able to get the particular Weave, Design, Quality, Style and Fit, in the English, Canadian, or American cut, that will thoroughly please you, from our representative stock. Here are a few prices:—

**MEN'S TWEED SUITS.** A good weighty quality, correctly cut, in neat, dark patterns, splendid value, latest style. Sizes: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Price a Suit.....\$8.00.

**MEN'S TWEED SUITS.** A serviceable quality in dark, neat patterns, that for style, fit, finish and wear is hard to equal at the price. Sizes: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Price a Suit.....\$9.00.

**MEN'S TWEED SUITS.** Splendid English, Brown and Grey mixed tweed—the qualities that most Men like. Correct style, perfect-fitting, finished with a good quality of lining and inter-lining. Sizes: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Price a Suit.....\$10.00.

**MEN'S TWEED SUITS.** Excellent assortment in this bunch to select from. Here you'll find different weaves, in the finer grades of English and Scotch tweeds—in Browns; Greys, etc., in neat and dressy pin-stripes and the striped and checked shadow effects.

Special care taken by the makers to give a correct fit or lay to the collar and extra pains devoted to give a shoulder supremacy not usually found in readymade clothing.

You'll get splendid wear from these high-class suits and above all you are assured a perfect fit, correct style, best linings and inter-linings. Sizes: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Prices a Suit.....\$12.00, \$13.00, \$14.00.

**MEN'S FINE TWILL SERGE SUITS** in Dark Navy Blue—good quality, correct style, perfect-fitting and excellent finish. Sizes: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Prices a Suit: \$10.50, \$12.00, \$13.00, \$14.00, \$16.00, \$18.00.

Every item that goes to make a suit perfect is put into these Special Suits. Come in and examine them?

Anderson's, Water Street, St. John's.