

Continued.—A List of the HOLLOWAY STUDIO, Ltd., Landscape and Seascape Photographs.

No. 16—TROUT POOL, LITTLE CODROY.
No. 17—CODROY TRESTLE—UPRIGHT.
No. 18—CODROY TRESTLE—LONG.
No. 19—SALMONIER FALLS.
No. 20—COLNET CASCADE.

No. 21—MORETON'S HR. POND.
No. 22—ST JOHN'S FROM SOUTH SIDE.
No. 23—"SQUIDDING" AT BURIN.
No. 24—"SQUIDDING" AT BURIN.
No. 25—ICEBERG NEAR BATTLE HR., LABRADOR.

No. 26—"WING-AND-WING," LABRADOR.
No. 27—GROUP—OPENING GRAND FALLS MILLS.
No. 28—KILBRIDE, SHOWING RIVER.
No. 29—A SHADY NOOK, HUMBER RIVER.
No. 30—CANYON OF HUMBER RIVER—LONG.
(To be continued.)

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BEAVER BOARD
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At the House

Petitions were presented by Mr. Downey from St. George's for a public wharf and freight shed, and for a road at Codroy; by Mr. Jennings, from Port Ansen, for a road; by Mr. Clapp from LaSalle, asking for \$1,000 to complete the public wharf; by Mr. Devereaux from Long Harbor, for telegraph extension; by Mr. Currie, from Lawn, for electric road boards, and by Mr. Abbott, from Bonavista, for a road.

The Colonial Secretary tabled the reports on railway contract and the reports of the Government Engineer, as asked for by Mr. Kent, some time ago.

IN A DRAWER

The Prime Minister informed Mr. Kent that the report from the Agriculture and Mines Department were tabled on Jan. 28th. Yet it was not produced when asked for frequently by Mr. Kent within the past week it was in the Clerk's drawer, but no reason was given as to why the report was stored there.

The Bill for the Inspection of Foods passed the third reading and was ordered to be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

NO ANSWER FORTHCOMING.

Mr. Clapp referred to a question he gave notice of a fortnight ago, asking the Minister of Marine and Fisheries if any special grants had been allocated in the District of St. Barbe. So far no answer was forthcoming, no reason advanced. This he (Mr. Clapp) thought was parallel to other cases in which he had asked for information concerning the District he represented and was refused.

The House went into Committee on the Postal Service estimates.

NO LETTERS DELIVERED.

Mr. Jennings pointed out the rough some mismanagement of the Post Office, he had been doing an injustice. He had made arrangements for all letters that came from him to Moreton's Harbor, addressed to him, to be delivered at a certain place. He was now in the city one month and so far was not in receipt of a single letter.

The Prime Minister asked Mr. Jennings for fuller particulars of the case and he would have an enquiry made by the Postmaster General.

THE SYDNEY POSTAL OFFICIAL.

Mr. Kent—He had learned that there were only three mail officers actually engaged in the Post Office at Sydney, and not four as stated in the estimates. He heard that Messrs. Shano, Emberley and Dutot were doing duty there, but that Mr. Gush was engaged almost all the time at the Port aux Basques side. The work of the office was very heavy in the handling, arranging and forwarding of the mails, but he understood that the accommodation was inadequate for the work required to be done. The office had justified its existence but outlived its usefulness practically the whole mail of the colony going from this side of the Atlantic, passed through the North Sydney office, therefore facilities should be provided in the way of enlarged accommodation to cope with the service. Besides he learned that the staff there, the three men mentioned, are excellent and competent officials, but the work was too much for them and additional help was necessary. He suggested that an enquiry be made and if extra machinery was needed there to have it supplied. It was one of the most important channels in the colony, the majority of Canadian, American and European mails came through there and for this reason he hoped that the complaints heard of would be remedied.

The Colonial Secretary—All the reports heard were not in accordance with the facts. He had been assured from Mr. Shano, the clerk in charge of the North Sydney Post Office, that the mail passing through there was increasing continuously, but that the staff were able to cope with it, except under extraordinary conditions. He said that provision would be made to meet the growing demands of the service.

WORTH \$100 SALARY.

Mr. Clapp—He observed that the Postmaster at Flower's Cove, one of the principal distributing centres in the District of St. Barbe, did not get her salary increased. Her yearly stipend was \$40. This was only for her work, but she was not given any compensation for fuel and rent, as the post office is in a part of her house. The Postmistress was worth, at least, \$100 a year for her services, and he hoped that an increase would be granted in the supplementary vote. He also referred to the Bonne Bay Post Office, a very important centre, where the Postmaster, who held the post for many years was paid \$200 a year. This he (Mr. C.) considered very small for the amount of work he performed and he hoped the Government would give it consideration.

UNFAIR DISTRIBUTION OF SALARIES.

Mr. Kent—No person reading the estimates can get away from the fact that salaries are very unfairly distributed. This is a matter that touches a principal which is most important. The Finance Minister in explaining the estimates, stated that 50 salaries in outport post offices were increased since the last session of the House. He said it was difficult to understand on what principle the increases were based and why discrimination was made. Some post office keepers in the outports got increases while others in neighboring settlements were ignored. Was it that the person who was most aggressive or whether it was through political pull the increases were given. The estimates showed that the salaries in the outports varied from \$10 a year to \$500, and it was difficult to conceive how one keeper in a small office received a stipend of \$10 and another doing the same amount of work at \$80. Similar proportions applied to the larger offices. Take for instance the man in charge of the Post Office at Torbay, one of the larger settlements in the Colony. The office in charge is competent and efficient, having performed the duty for a number of years, handles a large amount of mail every day, his place is a constant resort for the people of the settlement, yet he receives the paltry sum of \$50 annually. If the \$50 in connection with Torbay, I scarcely would while for a man in an outport disturbing his wife and family for a miserable \$10 a year. I believe the postal work was expected to be done thoroughly and by reliable people, salaries should be paid commensurate with the service performed. He noticed frequent complaints year after year from the different constituencies with reference to the same matter and he advocated that some system of classification be adopted to overcome the difficulty.

The Col. Secretary—He agreed with the leader of the Opposition, as in many cases the pay to post office keepers was very small indeed, but—the old

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hardy annual cry—it was not the fault of this Government.

Mr. Kent—it doesn't matter what Government so long as a remedy is effected.

The Col. Secretary—When you were on this side of the House the same condition of things existed. Mr. Kent—if you will turn up the records of the House you will find that when I was a member of the Executive Council, the Postmaster at Torbay only had \$30 and I got it increased to \$50 which was the best I could do under the prevailing circumstances, but the work of the office at Torbay has largely increased since.

The Col. Secretary—Continuing, he thought that the whole service needed readjustment. He said that he had in his Department endorsements of some hundreds of people recommending increases of salaries for Postmasters and Postmistresses, the latter, he was strongly of the opinion were not at all paid for their services. He intimated that no increase, as far as he was aware, were given for political reasons.

Mr. Clapp—He endorsed a readjustment of the service and thought thorough investigation should be held to bring about the necessary reform. He was going to speak for his own district and fight for it. It was not fair to make fish of one and feed of another. He noticed that the Postmaster at Burin got an increase of \$100 to his salary, yet the Postmistress at Flower's Cove, who had fulfilled her duties faithfully and part of her home occupied for the office, could only be allowed \$40 all told.

NO DISCRIMINATION.

The Prime Minister—He said there was a great deal in the suggestions of the leader of the Opposition, as it was apparent that the salaries paid were very small, and not sufficient to compensate people who give their time and attention to this branch of the service. The Government had had this matter in view for some time and endeavored as far as possible to increase the small salaries, and he could candidly say that there was no discrimination used as all who applied for increases got them. In order to classify the offices it would be necessary to have an enquiry made and a detailed report from the Postmaster in relation to all the aspects of each post office, such as the quantity of work done in each place so that each office would be judged on its merits.

Mr. Conker—In going through the list he saw that nine post office keepers were paid \$3 a year for their services. He suggested that a Resolution or a Memorial be drafted up immediately and sent to these people as a recognition of their services given to their country. He said the Postmaster at Cat Hr. was granted an increase of \$35. This was the only non-Union man in the place and he got rewarded for his faithfulness to the Government. After all he (Mr. C.) had no objection to this official getting an increase as he was over

70 years old and hoped that he would get a further increase. He agreed that the Postal Service needed an investigation in that direction.

Mr. Grimes—He showed that the Postal officer at Cupids who had 1,500 inhabitants to serve only had the scanty sum of \$20 a year or 6 cents a day. The Government which has posed to be one of "progress" put up the convenient argument that it was following the footsteps of other Governments. He took it that the present Government were punishing the District of Port de Grave because it did not return a Government candidate.

ASKS FOR EXPLANATION.

Mr. Store effectively cited a case in which a man was dismissed from the postal service who happened to be a member of the F.P.U. This official, whose name was Gardner, carried the mails from British Harbor to Ireland's Eye, in Trinity Bay, and the man appointed to take his place was one Cooper, who supported the present Government in the elections. This, he thought, warranted an explanation.

Mr. Lloyd—He said it was evident that the protest made by Mr. Stone was being ignored. He suggested that this particular section be deferred and no vote taken until the Colonial Secretary is in a position to explain or furnish information to justify the dismissal of Gardner and the appointment of Cooper. He then pointed out that the Postmaster at Shool Harbour, which was the distributing centre to Smith's Sound, was receiving \$100 a year until the Bonavista Bay branch railway was opened up, and because of that his salary was reduced to \$20. Subsequently the man found that instead of his work being less, he had more work to do, and that he was called upon to perform more duties than before for a fifth of the pay. He protested to the Postmaster General and refused \$5 a quarter with the result that he was offered \$40. Again he was not satisfied, he saw the Colonial Secretary (Mr. Watson), and got his pay raised to \$60, so that he is now getting \$40 less for doing more work than he was doing 18 months ago. He also had a risk of oil sent him for heating and lighting the office, but this was also stopped 12 months ago. It was desirable that the post office should be cleared of the suspicion of partisanship. It was a most important business agency and everything should be done to make it a non-partisan service.

THE TELEPHONE QUESTION.

Mr. Kent—He said a vote was taken here a few years ago with reference to Telephones, and he would like to know as to whether the Government had come to any decision in the matter of the installation of telephones throughout the Colony. The Government authorized in the House for that purpose was \$150,000. The system is unsatisfactory. You cannot use it at all for any kind of private business. In any other country of the size of St. John's, you can hold uninterrupted conversation with any person on any matter without fear of being eared on other wires or being interrupted. There are constant complaints from our business community in particular.

BEHIND THE TIMES.

Mr. Hickman—He rose to support Mr. Kent and to say that our telephone system was the worst on the surface of the earth. It was impossible to use our telephones without interruption. The Board of Trade formed a committee a few years ago and discussed with the Government the necessity of an improved telephone service. The Government said they were in negotiations with the Anglo-American Telegraph Co., who control the telephone service and who has had a monopoly for the past 10 years, during which period they established throughout the country 20 telegraph stations whereas the Postal Telegraphs established 200. The result is that that Company has left a generation behind the times. There are lots of people who would invest their money in getting an improved service if the franchise was given them. The Board of Trade brought an expert from Montreal who estimated that it would cost \$50,000 or an up to date service. The annual income of the present corporation is \$28,000 or more than half what it would cost for a first class service.

The Colonial Secretary—He said the Government Engineer had been sent abroad to find out the systems in other cities and as soon as he arrives at a decision the Government would take the matter up.

Mr. Conker—He was aware of the

circumstances of the dismissal of Gardner and the appointment of Cooper. The former was a supporter of the F.P.U. and the latter a fanatical opponent. When the affair occurred trouble ensued in British Harbor and for peace and quietness sake a now defeated member for Trinity got Gardner's pay for him from the Government even though he (Gardner) was not at work. He thought the extension of a telephone system in the outports would be a great advantage to the people and a saving in telegraph offices.

Mr. Grimes—He said that the Government should control the telephone system and not by any private corporation. Big profits they were after and the public was only a secondary consideration. He hoped that something definite would be arrived at.

Mr. Jennings thought that an extension of the telephone service would be a great boon to outport people, particularly in summer time when fish were plentiful, fishermen could be informed of it.

Mr. Coaker also favored the extension of the telephone system in the outports.

The Prime Minister in referring to the telephone matter went over the same ground as previous speakers and said that the Government Engineer had made an exhaustive report twelve months ago and the Government were considering the matter. The Committee rose to report progress and the House adjourned till 8 p.m. to-day.

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Yours very truly,
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Here and There.

ENGAGEMENT.—The engagement is announced of Frederick Fitzpatrick Esq., Grocer, and Miss Agnes O'Leary youngest daughter of the late Capt. Joseph O'Leary.

Try a bottle of Stafford's Phoradone Cough Cure if you are suffering from a cough or cold. Price 25c.; postage 5c. extra.—jan22,tf

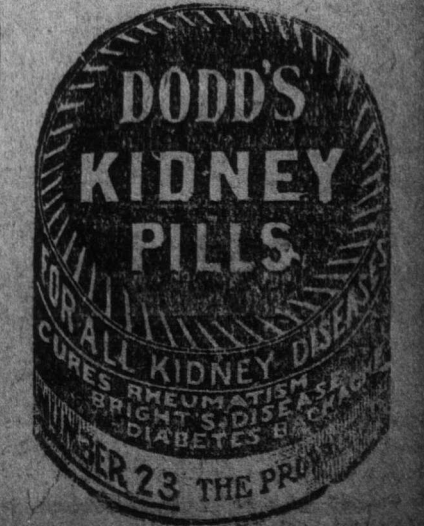
SAILED FOR BAHIA.—The schooner Jean and Geo. B. Cluett sailed yesterday for Bahia fish laden. As the vessels left within a few hours of each other an interesting race is anticipated.

The Eyeglass Beautiful.—Our New Eyeglass Mountings possess the qualities of dignity, grace and beauty, combined with Firmness and Comfort. R. H. TRAPNELL, Eyeglass Specialist.—jan23,tf

MISSING BROTHER.—The following appears in the "Long Lost Relatives" column of Lloyd's London Weekly News: Andrew Butler would be glad to hear from his brother, John Butler, native of Carbonear, who served in Boar War, and was invalided, 1901-1902.—Sydney Record.

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL.—A Carnival for Children under 15 years of age will be held in the Prince's Rink on Saturday, Feb. 21st, at 3 p.m. Admission—Adults, 20c.; Children, 10c. Season tickets will admit. feb12,7f

STORMIEST FOR MANY YEARS.—Milk vendors and others who traverse the country roads daily say that the weather for the past week has been the stormiest experienced for many years. The high winds and bitter frost of the past few days delayed many of them from reaching the city until nearly noon.



Stanfield's Underwear.

Sleeping in the cold and silent clay to-day are many men who should be alive and active—an asset to their country, but they allowed cold after cold to go unremedied for result—Death. Many of these colds were contracted through wearing cotton underwear. There is nothing more dangerous in cold climates. After perspiring freely it is like a cold wet rag round the body, and the fleeces rolls off in little icy knobs. Throw it away. Wear wool, it absorbs all moisture and lessens the chances of catching cold. Stanfield's, from \$1.00 per garment.

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