

DUE TODAY
1 Car of
CORN MEAL
and
YELLOW CORN
Prices Right
J. J. ROSSITER
Real Estate Agent



The Mail and Advocate
Issued every day from the office of
publication, 167 Water Street, St.
John's, Newfoundland, Union Pub-
lishing Co. Ltd., Proprietors.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., MARCH, 30, 1915.

OUR POINT OF VIEW
Education the Need

WE understand that at the coming session of the Legislature a petition will be presented asking for an extension of time when it will be permissible to export pig prows. The plea being put forward that the one year allowed is not enough to warrant men going into the business.

The introduction of such a plea is just what was expected, for having introduced the thin end of the wedge, the grabbing crew think they can drive it in to the head.

A dangerous precedent was established when permission was granted to export timber for a short time. Let us not commit the blunder of allowing any extension of time. We must put a stop to the destructive practice, and furthermore there must be no more timber limits leased, until we will have made a thorough survey of all that appertains to our forest areas, and wherever possible all licenses must be annulled.

It is high time now that we take hold of our affairs with a firm hand, and it is time that scientific methods be made to take the place of the slip shod practices that up to now have obtained.

It is a shame and we blush when we think of it, that we are drifting in an imbecile way, whilst other and younger countries have adopted the methods of educated men. Such countries have had statesmen, whilst we have had party politicians. And whilst we have, without any real knowledge been shouting of mineral and forest wealth that we possess, other countries have been applying knowledge, and carefully investigating their natural wealth.

It is positively revolting to take up some of those empty and optimistic reports which from time to time meet our eye, and to read of the vast mineral wealth of Newfoundland, when you enquire the particulars respecting those wonderful deposits or ask the silly vaporing writer to tell you where the great mines are, he is unable to tell you. He does not know. He cannot know because they have never been discovered or investigated if found.

What applies to mines applies also to timber areas. We know nothing of them, except in a vague sort of way. We have never had a survey of our forests made, or any enquiry made regarding them that a sensible people would have made long ago. The same with our water powers, our peat or our other natural resources.

Oh, it is fine to get up and to spout of our great mineral wealth, but it would be finer still and much more intelligent and to the purpose to be able to lay before us some facts based on exact knowledge.

For years we have been urging the need of reform, a casting off of the old unintelligent ways, and the adoption of more modern methods, but without avail.

We have been lacking in men—men of intellect and love of country. We have drifted, drifted for

generations, till today we find ourselves Britain's oldest but at the same time one of the most backward of colonies.

Politicians have from time to time promised reform but none have been forthcoming.

Sir Edward Morris fairly carried the country off its feet by a regular cyclone of promises, and indeed doings. But his doings lacked that intelligent direction which should have guided them.

A more stupid and foolish policy than his agricultural policy it is hard to find, and the same may be said of all his endeavours. He spent hundreds of thousands of the people's dollars on that pet policy of his and to what avail?

Go ask of the winds, in vain to search us for a proof that that agricultural policy has been any thing but a gigantic fraud.

The farmer knows that to raise a crop of anything he must prepare the ground carefully and sow good seed after.

Morris might have taken a lesson from this, and before he attempted to force agriculture he should have by a campaign of education first prepared the ground.

'Apropos of all this, we have before us the fourth interim report of the Royal Commission, kindly sent to us by the Colonial Secretary, and a more disappointing document you cannot find.

In a sense though it does not disappoint us, for to tell the truth it contains no more than we expected.

Those men composing that Commission even if qualified to make independent research had not time to do so. They merely had time to ask questions, and questions of whom: men who have perpetuated the very backwardness of which we make complaint. The report is then but a reflex of all that we have been so long accustomed to.

Respecting agriculture, to take just one head as an example, we find under the title of sheep raising, the old, silly assertion, that if you kill out the dogs, sheep will multiply very greatly. In fact the dog is the great hindrance to sheep raising in this country.

We will say no more. Comment is unnecessary, and indeed, it would be putting ourselves on a par with the mental sterility of the perpetrators of that outrageous folly.

That Royal Commission might just as well have remained a home, for all the good it has done. Whatever good it recommends we have long ago written and spoken on, and as for the follies, well we have often exposed them, and the recommendations have become monotonous.

Forestry's Place In Warfare

The fighting in Europe has drawn attention to the possible place which forestry may have in warfare. Recently, the United States War Department has asked the Department of Agriculture to make working plans for planting screens of trees near the principal coast defenses of the East.

Experts of the United States Forest Service have already completed plans for artificial forests that will screen the coast defense batteries which have been installed for the protection of New York harbour, Long Island sound, Boston harbour and Pensacola, Fla. Congress has not yet made appropriations for the planting work, but it is believed that this will be done at the coming session, now that the value of forests has been demonstrated by the European war.

Army officers point out that the retention by France of certain forests along the eastern border has a profound influence upon the movement of troops, the placing of batteries and the concealing of war manoeuvres in general. The planting of forests in France has been carried on so as to make the result appear as much as possible like a natural forest, without any attempt whatsoever to place the trees at regular spaces apart. The forests of Germany are parklike and while they offer many advantages in lumbering operations, they would not give the same concealment to army manoeuvres as the French forests.

The effect of the war on the forests of Europe is, of course, destructive. Trees have been cut without reference to further needs, in order to form fortifications and protective works of various sorts, to build bridges and to make corduroy roads through boggy places. Many trees have been cut down for firewood to be used in camps, and even the rifle and artillery fire has resulted in tree destruction. In some cases also, forests have been burned intentionally, in order to drive out the enemy. It will undoubtedly take many years to repair the havoc wrought by war in the forests of Europe. "Conservation"

**Disastrous Sealing Voyage—
The Main Patch Missed**

**Ships Passed Inside Main Herd
No Judgment Used in the Matter—Captains Rely on Telegraphic Reports**

THE die is cast and March 30th has come, finding the northern sealing fleet without seals, deluded by the cry of seals at Cape John which has been flashed from shore to ship daily since they left port. Had there been no telegraphic communication with LaSoc or Tilt Cove, and the captains were depending solely upon their own resources and reasoning they would not have been jammed all the spring at Cape John.

The large body of seals passed south by Gull Island March 6th and 7th and when the fleet passed Fogo the whitecoats were east from them in abundance. They left the big body of seals outside of them when they rounded Cape Fogo and passed into Green Bay to be jammed because a few thousand seals split by the Horse Islands had sheered inside of the Horse Islands and became jammed by Gull Island.

Had the ships proceeded to the Funks and held on there as the steamers formerly did—as Capt. Sam Blandford in the Neptune did when he secured his big trip—they would have found seals around them in abundance by March 20th. Last year observations taught us that the ice traveled south at the rate of 12 miles per day, forced along by the Arctic current.

The ice that the ships entered on March 18th last year when the seals were struck had drifted to Trinity Bay on March 30th. We know this from the fact that the ice in the ice which contained the carcasses of seals pelted at Belle Isle.

The body of seals this year pupped on the inside ice along the French Shore where a little water existed during the last few days of February and the first three days of March. The N.E. and N. winds which prevailed from March 17th to the time the ships sailed forced the ice which was off Cape Bauld and the lower French shore along south and pressed it against the Horse Islands.

The ice passed south outside of the Grois Islands. Horse Island brought up the floe. Green Bay being packed with ice, the main body sheared and drove with the unning ice south propelled by the northwest and north wind and the current.

The seals did not pass south until they rounded Fogo, and he nearest ship to the main patch today is the Neptune. The Bloodhound also must have been very near the main patch. Had the lead ships struck off north or northeast from Cape Fogo in the stead of rushing across Green Bay at the behest of the telegraph messages the history of the seal-fishery of 1915 would read success and not the worse failure in the whole history of the seal-fishery.

Last year the Stephano led on Mar. 17th and 18th and the other ships in the fleet followed. On the 18th the four ships—Stephano, Nascope, Bethoic and the Bell—sped along the French Shore from Grois Island in clear water. The Stephano, Bethoic and Bellaventre were together—being a few miles ahead of the Nascope—and went on north to Cape Bauld. The Stephano sent ashore to the light-house to learn where the seals were. They were told the seals had passed south of Belle Isle.

The three ships had passed the seals going north about 10 o'clock that morning. The ships turned and went back over the same ground they had passed over. The Nascope seeing the three steamers returning, guessed the reason and steamed east and reached a spot south of Belle Isle, about five miles, and was the first ship to strike the whitecoats. The other three ships passed west of the Nascope and steered S.E. and entered the Nascope.

Had there been no daily message stating seals were passing Belle Isle in thousands for several days, the ships would probably have steamed north or northeast on the 17th or the morning of the 18th and struck the southern end of the main patch.

**Sergeant O'Leary
How He Won V.C.**

(From Harper's Weekly.)
Sergeant Michael O'Leary is the hero of the British Empire to-day. For his exploits at Cuinchy, France, he won the Victoria Cross and was promoted from lance corporal to sergeant on the field. The terse official report of the Irishman's bravery follows: "For conspicuous bravery—When forming one of the storming party which advanced against the enemy's barricade, O'Leary rushed to the front and himself killed five Germans who were holding the first barricade, after which he attacked the second barricade, about sixty yards further on, which he captured after killing three of the enemy and making prisoners of two more." O'Leary was formerly in the Canadian Northwest Mounted Police.

You may talk of the Rebels of Ulster
And the shindy we had to chime;
But we don't give a rap for a family
amuck.
When the Prooshuns is running
Did you hear how Lance Corporal
O'Leary,
Mike O'Leary of the Guards,
Wid his own two mits, tore a fortress
to bits
Like a blissed contraption of
cards.

He'd a shmile, had Mike, that 'ud span
a dyke,
And a fist that 'ud fell a horse,
And he ripped through the mire of
blood and barbed wire,
Like a bull through a bunch of
gorse.

When he waded in, sure 'twas a sin,
The way that he bashed and bruk
'em;
He dropped on thim Huns like forty
tons,
And they niver knew what had
struck 'em.

"Poor dears," says he, "I'm middling
ing well,
All the news they've been told is
lies,
So it's up to me 'ere its kilt they be,
To put the poor devils wise.

"Thim Huns, I'm told, while out-
rageous bold,
Is over a trifle dull,
Sure, it that's a fact, 'tis a friendly
act
To hammer it through their skull.

"So here's for insulting old Erin,
By thinking a thraitor she'd be!
And here's for your imperor sneerin':
'Contemptible army,' says he.

"Here's one for the mothers whose
pleadin'
You stopped with a shot and a
curse,
And one for the girls dead and
bleedin'
And the girls that you spared—for
worse.

"For the churches you shelled and
the priests you felled,
Here's one! And the women, too,
You held for a shield on the battle
field,
And the innocent babes you slew."
When O'Leary had done, there was
silence a one.
Left to tumble to what he said—
Barrin' only ten, which I'm wrong
again,
For eight at the ten was dead.

Paris, March 15.—(Correspondence)—The continual upheaval of earth in the war of trenches is bringing many hidden treasures to light. A French reservist uncovered a package of bonds worth a hundred thousand francs (25,000), which he promptly handed over to his officer. French English and German coins to the value of \$400 were unearthed in a trench near La Basse by an English soldier. Another found a gold carved neckpiece of the seventeenth century.

**A SONG OF
DREADNOUGHTS**

Four superdreadnoughts,
Sailing o'er the sea,
Along came a submarine—
Then there were three.

Three superdreadnoughts,
Spick and span and new,
One shot from a torpedo—
Then there were two.

Two superdreadnoughts,
Cost ten million bones,
Struck against a floating mine—
Gone to Davy Jones.

Fifty million dollars sunk
In the deep, deep sea,
While the little submarine
Puffs on in her glee.

**Great Battle
Opened In Poland**

**Germans Using Illuminating
Shells At Night**

Petrograd, March 22.—Another great battle has opened in Poland on the front extending from Myszenico to Kasidlo, according to reports from the front today. The war office admitted that the Germans had reached Kasidlo, which is only ten miles from the fortress of Ostrolanka, located at the junction of the Narew and Omuleu rivers, but declared that the Russians had halted their foes.

Despatches from Siedlec state that the Germans attacked the Russian positions at Kasidlo with great valor, advancing to the wire entanglements in close formation that enabled the Russians' rapid fire guns to mow them down. The German batteries in this district are firing new shells which illuminate the battlefield at night and this reveals the positions of the defenders.

He dwelt also upon the dramatic change which had come over Great industrial relations, as a result of the war, and the value of confidence between the labor and the state.

The establishment of a labor advisory committee was regarded by Mr. Lloyd George as a step, which may have almost incalculable results. He believed this was the first time such a thing had been done in any country, and said:—

"It amounts to this: There is opening up a great new factor in the history of labor. If labor approaches this thing in a broad and generous spirit, and not in a haggling spirit, this document, which was signed on Friday ought to be a great chapter for labor.

"The next step will be the organization of all our resources for the production of munitions of war and without such an agreement this would have been impossible. This country would inevitably be deprived of victory in the war, if labor had failed us. If by mischance the enemy should win it would be the gloomiest day that ever dawned on labor, and if this experiment fails, I can imagine nothing more fatal to collectivist ideals in the future because the British people are essentially a people, which act on example and experiment rather than on argument."

**Immediate Need
Of Large Output
War Materials**

London, March 22.—David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, placed grave emphasis upon the immediate necessity for a tremendous increase in the output of war material, in an interview granted by him to a representative of the Daily Citizen.

**TALK IS CHEAP—
Advertising is also very cheap, it carried in the right medium. The Mail and Advocate is the Best Lose paper now. Must be true. Everybody's talking. It's not the price you pay but the returns you**

**Your money
back if
Purity
Flour
does not prove entirely
satisfactory in the baking.**

PURITY FLOUR

WESTERN CANADA FLOUR MILLS CO., LIMITED
Mills at Winnipeg, Goderich, Brandon

STEER Brothers

RED CROSS LINE.
INTENDED SAILINGS.

From New York: "Stephano," March 27.
From St. John's: "Stephano," April 3.

Passenger Tickets issued to New York, Halifax and Boston.

FARES INCLUDING MEALS & BERTH ON RED CROSS STEAMERS:

	1st CLASS	2nd CLASS
To New York	\$40.00	\$20.00
To Halifax	20.00	10.00
To Boston (Plant Line)	29.00	15.00
To Boston (D.A.R.)	30.00	18.00

Connections at Halifax for Boston: (1) Plant Line Wednesday at 8 a.m. (2) Dominion Atlantic Railway through the beautiful land of Evangeline to Yarmouth, thence by Boston and Yarmouth S.S. Co., Ltd., Wednesday and Saturday. Luxurious accommodation and excellent cuisine by either route. Full particulars from

HARVEY & COMPANY, Ltd.
Agents Red Cross Line.