

AMBASSADOR GOT IN WRONG

Page Was a Little too Free in his Expressions of Opinion of the Policy of the U.S. in Relation to European Nations and Senate Calls Him to Task.

London, March 12.—Speaking at a dinner of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, U. S. Ambassador Page assured the diners that the States had no intention to interfere with British investments in Central America. "I would like," he said, "to correct the impression held by a part of the British press, regarding the attitude of the States Government, concerning the investment of Britain's colossal earnings in Central American States. "I have sometimes read of the States entering upon a policy to discourage foreign investors, but what the States was anxious to prevent, was the investors who put their money in these countries, should not get control of them. "The Monroe doctrine simply meant that the United States would prefer that no European government should gain more land in the New World. "Amid laughter Mr. Page declared that he would not say that the United States had constructed the Panama Canal for Great Britain, but that it had added greatly to the pleasure of building that great work to know that the British would profit most by its use.

Washington, March 12.—A resolution calling upon United States Ambassador Page for an explanation of the Panama Canal speech which he delivered last night before the Associated Chamber of Commerce in London, was adopted to-day by the Senate.

Pacific Dominions Won't Stand Delay

Sydney, March 13.—A correspondent cables that the effect of the announcement that constitutional amendments in Canada have been postponed, deferring indefinitely the naval proposals, is regarded in Australia as an additional reason for holding a Naval Defence Conference at the earliest possible date, with a view of placing on a permanent coordinated basis the naval forces of the Mother Country, Australia and New Zealand in the Pacific. The Sydney Morning Herald says that Canada is at liberty to take as long as it likes to reach a decision but that Australia and New Zealand have decided that they cannot consent to remain three or four years in the dark regarding the imperial policy in the Pacific.

Nfld. Oilfield Ltd. Reorganized

London, March 13.—The reconstruction of the Newfoundland Oil Fields Company Ltd., interested in Parson's Pond, Newfoundland, was approved at a meeting yesterday. The proposal is for a new syndicate with a capital of £24,000 in shares of one shilling each, arrangements being made providing that the existing shareholders shall preserve a proportionate interest in the new company.

FOUR THOUSAND PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE BIG F.P.U SEALERS' MASS MEETING

PROCEEDINGS MARKED BY GREAT ENTHUSIASM

Fres. Coaker, Mr. J. W. Kent, Dr. Lloyd, Mr. H. E. Cowan and Mr. Geo. F. Grimes Deliver Rattling Good Speeches. — Thunderous Applause Given the Many Hits Scored off the Policy and Bungles of the Morris Party.

The spacious C.L.B. Armoury, ground floor and galleries, which provide accommodation for upwards of five thousand people, was crowded to capacity last night for the third annual sealers' mass meeting held under the auspices of the Fishermen's Protective Union.

On the platform with President Coaker, were Mr. J. G. Stone, M.H.A., who acted as Chairman; Mr. J. M. Kent, M.H.A.; Dr. W. F. Lloyd, M.H.A.; Mr. Geo. F. Grimes, M.H.A.; Mr. W. W. Halfyard, M.H.A.; Mr. W. M. Clapp, M.H.A.; Capt. Eli Dawe and Mr. H. E. Cowan.

President Coaker's appearance on



J. G. STONE, M.H.A. Chairman of Last Night's Big Mass Meeting.

the platform was the signal for a wonderful outburst of applause from the great audience, and this enthusiastic demonstration was repeated when the Chairman called upon him to deliver the opening address of the meeting. Cheers, hand clapping and shouts of encouragement were kept up for a considerable time, the continued rounds of applause testifying in wonderful fashion to the popularity and to the influence of Mr. Coaker.

Wonderful Applause.

The speech of the Leader of the Union party was received with wonderful applause. The speaker was cheered to the echo as he pointed out in eloquent terms the misdeeds of the present Government. The speech was a masterpiece; it was delivered in a style that pleased the auditors, and with a force that carried conviction to the minds of the thousands who literally hung upon his words.

Carried away by their enthusiasm scores of the audience shouted out encouragement as Mr. Coaker waxed

forcefully eloquent in handling his subject. "Give it to 'em," shouted one delighted man! "Let 'em have it," was the form in which another handed out his encouragement to the President.

Tickled the Audience. The speech fairly bristled with sarcastic hits; with forcible, well-pointed arguments and with bright witty sallies that appealed to the humor of the audience.

Altogether, on account of the man, on account of his record, and because of the style and shape in which it was delivered, Mr. Coaker's address was undoubtedly the hit of the evening.

Mr. Kent was well received and was given an excellent hearing. The big audience by repeated applause showed their appreciation of the many hits scored, at the expense of the present Government.

Dr. Lloyd made a rattling good speech. In forceful language he tore in pieces the pretensions of the Government, exposed their misdeeds and their bungles, and got off some very good humorous hits in dealing with the new tariff arrangements.

The Best Yet.

Mr. Cowan was the third speaker and his witty interesting remarks were much appreciated by the big meeting.

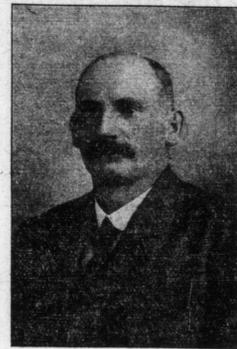
During the evening the C.L.B. Band under Bandmaster Cake, rendered some splendid music, and greatly enjoyed the proceedings.

At the close of the meeting a vote of thanks to the Chairman and speakers was moved by Mr. R. Callahan. Mr. G. Grimes, M.H.A., seconded the vote of thanks, and referred to the splendid majority rolled up by Mr. Stone and incidentally to the extravagance and waste referred to by previous speakers.

He dwelt on the monopoly conferred by the Legislature on the United Towns Electric Co., of the water power and the electrical development in Conception Bay for the next fifty years, and its exemption from taxation for the same period. He showed how that in that time a fisherman whose income amounted to \$4000 years, \$120 of which he pays into the revenue for the same time, would amount in fifty years to \$6,000; while the United Towns Electric Company, who pays \$4,000 a year in dividends and place a good amount to reserves for the same period, does not pay a single cent for the upkeep of the Government under whose aid and protection it earns its wealth.

This, said Mr. Coaker, is the third event of this kind held in St. John's under the auspices of the F.P.U. Each year we have filled the hall engaged and have had to go in succeeding years to larger quarters and still they are filled to overflowing. On previous occasions we have had to keep out many of the citizens of St. John's, because of lack of accommodation. This year, however, we have been fortunate enough to secure a hall big enough to admit a large number of our non-

union friends. We are glad of this, because we want our sympathisers and our critics here in St. John's to learn of our aims and our objects and I really do believe that the majority of the people of this city have got away from the idea that I wear horns



W. F. COAKER, M.H.A.

and a cloven hoof as well.

What are the objects of the F.P.U.? Our organisation aims to further the interests of the fisherman; this class of toiler constitutes the greatest proportion of the men who earn their living by the sweat of their brows. These are the great producers of our wealth; it is through their exertions that our Country progresses, that its trade increases and is stabilised and I am therefore quite right in claiming that through the efforts of the F.P.U. the general interests of this Country will be conserved and advanced.

Dissatisfied.

All over the world the toilers are becoming dissatisfied with ancient conditions. The common men are discontented—they must have a better show. No longer will they consent to be ignored; to be neglected, to be oppressed. The old saying, "What was good enough for our fathers is good enough for us," is no longer agreed to. A change is demanded; an uplift and it is the purpose of the F.P.U. to bring this about.

Newfoundland is feeling the influence of this world movement and is gradually falling into line with it. And our Country deserves the best show it is possible to give it. Our wealth is great; it is inexhaustible. The ocean that laps our shores is as great a producer as it was centuries ago when its wonderful wealth was first tapped. There are wonderful possibilities in our mines and in our forests. Every man in this Country should be well fixed; should be happy and contented—every Newfoundland-er should possess all that is necessary to make life thoroughly enjoyable.

What Can Be Done.

What can be done to improve the condition of our people? Much. Practically nothing has been done so far. Just what can be accomplished is shown by conditions in New Zealand where there is a Government favorable to Unions; a Government that fosters public ownership and that has by this means greatly improved the general condition of the people. And

WONDERFUL OVATION GIVEN PRES. W. COAKER.

as in New Zealand, so can it be in Newfoundland. We want the same progressive ideals enforced here; the same objects kept in view in the Government of the people, and these are, the administration of public affairs in such a way that the interests of the great majority may be properly conserved, protected and advanced.

Change Must Come.

But before this can happen in Newfoundland present conditions must be altered; the old ideas of governing for a small number must be abolished. There must be an end put to waste and to extravagance. Nobody at all benefits by the thoughtless flinging away of public moneys and the end must inevitably be ruin and disaster.

In the case of the present moneys, our affairs have been administered without system and without economy and as a result we now have to face an increase in general taxation to the extent of three quarters of a million dollars.

This must be changed—waste must give place to careful expenditure; extravagance must cease; economy is the first step on the highroad to prosperity.

Union Record.

What are we as an organisation doing on behalf of our Country and of our people in general? We have given a good account of ourselves all through the present session. Our Union members have not been second to even the oldest and most experienced legislator in the House. They have done very well in Debate; they have set an example in general conduct, in decorum, in sound common sense that is bound to exert a tremendous uplifting influence upon our public life in general.

And if, as greenhorns, we have acquitted ourselves so well in such a short space of time I think that you will admit that we win, by the end of our four years' term, succeed in effecting a wonderful change—a wonderful improvement in our public ideals and in the conduct of the administration of Newfoundland. For one thing, I think, you will find that the Government, if they last that long, will be securing far better returns for money expended than they do now. By straight criticism, by watchful care of the public accounts we will force them to abandon the wasteful policy that has characterised them ever since they came into power. And I am confident that by the time we come to you again to give an account of our stewardship and to seek a reelection you will find that the man who receives one dollar from the public funds will have to send in returns showing the careful expenditure of the whole of the money he receives and not of a bare half of it as so often happens as things are now conducted.

Extra Taxation.

And to-day, because of lack of care in expending our public funds, we find the revenue away behind actual expenditure. The result is that taxation has had to be increased by \$750,000.

Was in Great Form Last Night and Made a Splendid Speech Outlining the Aims, the Record and the Ideals of the F.P.U.—Carried the Big Audience With Him as He Criticized the Morris Party.

What for? Not to pay old-age pensions; not to improve our fisheries; not to open up new markets but to benefit men who already get large salaries. As for the toiler; the common man; the only consideration he gets is that of figuring out just how much they can get out of him for their own selfish purposes.

Gentlemen, many successes have been ours since we met together at last year's Sealers' Mass Meeting. The elections have been fought and great good, for nine has been ours. Who of you anticipated we would be so successful? Who would have predicted last spring that I would be elected in Bonavista District? Well, here I am as the representative of that district



GEO. F. GRIMES, M.H.A.

and it took a turnover of 4,300 votes to put me in the place I gained at the polls.

New Gospel.

This is what the new Gospel of Unionism has accomplished. It was preached in its fulness in the North where it swept the old order out of existence and returned our men to power with the greatest majorities ever piled up in this Country. Yes, the North heard it willingly; the North accepted it; the North is alive with it to-day. And we believe that the same thing will happen in the South as well when the Gospel of the Union is preached there.

And because the Northern voters were clearheaded and far-sighted enough to recognise the advantages of sending Union members to the House of Assembly we are here to-day. Yes, I know we are in opposition, but this I regard as the manifestation of a Special Providence that is shaping and protecting the destinies of the F.P.U. (Continued on page 5.)

\$250,000,000 FOR THE NAVY

Supplementary Naval Estimate Brought into the British House of Commons Amounts to £2,740,000.—Crews to be Increased by 5000 Men.—Building Programme Includes Twenty New Ships.

London, March 13.—High water mark in naval expenditure has been reached in the estimates for 1914-1915, as brought forward in the Commons last night, causing keen disappointment and concern to Liberal economists and pacifists on this account.

For the year just ending there is a supplementary vote of £2,740,000, bringing up the new estimates to a figure of £51,550,000, and not only more money but demanded also more men, the human increase to be 5,000, while the building programme will be composed of four battleships, four light cruisers and twelve destroyers.

This programme is not more than what will adequately maintain the sixty per cent. standard of superiority.

The Telegraph, editorially, says Great Britain is called upon to pay a heavy price for her naval supremacy; but we are convinced that the nation will not shrink from bearing the burden.

Germans to Visit South America

Berlin, March 12.—Efforts to spread a German propaganda throughout South America, were extended to-day, when the announcement was made that a party of German agriculturists would leave for those countries on a study trip, next year.

Men Had to Give \$25,000 Sureties

New York, March 12.—What the District Attorney described as material for at least fifty indictments, alleging fraud against Henry Siegel and Frank E. Vogel, president and vice-president respectively of the Siegel Stores Corporation, was placed in the hands of the Grand Jury to-day. The men were arrested and released on \$25,000 bonds for each.

Observations to Assist Aviators

New York, March 12.—Efforts will be made to obtain from the Government at Washington and from the Canadian authorities, the assistance of meteorologists, in making observations from aeroplanes, which will be flown off the coast of Newfoundland during the coming summer, for the purpose of determining the force and direction of air-currents at various altitudes, at the starting point of the proposed flight across the Atlantic by the Wanamaker aeroplane.

Johnson Had To Clear Out

Stockholm, March 13.—Jack Johnson, pugilist, was forced to leave Sweden owing to hostile demonstrations against him.

Mutt Has Another Think Coming.

By "Bud" Fisher

