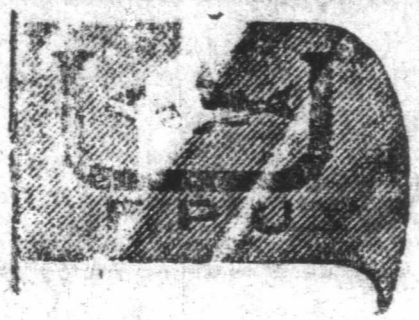


Our Motto: "Suum Cuique."



("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

Issued every day from the office of publication, 167 Water Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, Union Publishing Company Limited, Proprietors.

Editor and Business Manager: JOHN J. ST. JOHN.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., MARCH 15, 1916

DEMORALIZED

ST. JOHN'S possess a squad of detectives that would be a credit to a city twice as large; they are devoted to their duties and exceedingly successful in detecting crime.

During the past five years criminals have been manufactured in this city to such a degree as to cause citizens considerable uneasiness. Day after day the police send to the court for punishment an ever increasing list of young rascals that is amazing to those who study such matters. The past winter every day new acts of robbery are discovered and often half a dozen cases are handled by the police in one day. Nothing is safe from the young band of robbers now operating in this city.

Recently two of them—aged 12 and 16 years—undertook in broad daylight to board the F.P.U. motor boat moored at Franklin's wharf and having broken their way to the engine room, stripped the engines of all the copper attachments and even stripped the port lights of thumb screw fastenings. They took their booty to a junk dealer up town, who purchased it without question and gave the boys the value of old brass. The matter was reported to our office and Detective Tobin soon had the young rascals rounded up. Both had been in court before for robberies and had been discharged on a suspended sentence.

The question brought to the front by such rascality would suggest to the ordinary mind the query as to why the greater rascal who purchased this stolen goods was not arrested and sent to jail for a year or two, to teach all who purchase stolen goods what the law provides for such conduct. The Crown authorities will have to explain in Parliament why such punishment was not administered to the receiver of those goods.

Strong action must be taken by the Crown to kill out this alarming danger confronting this city. No soft hearted magistrate can deal with such a situation; no half measures will cure this disease; no 10 days sentence to the Penitentiary will make those boys honest or keep others from indulging in similar transactions.

We are convinced that the tame administration of the criminal laws in this city during the past five years is the cause of the alarming increase of criminals. To place acting men on the magistrates' bench from month to month or day to day, as is done at present, is nothing short of placing a premium on crime.

An iron hand is required to restore our city to its proper moral condition. The city has been demoralized by the exigencies of political consideration. The wonder is that the citizens of St. John's are so devoid of moral strength as to permit such a crime to be committed in regard to the Magistrates' Court as that which has been inflicted upon it during the past five years by order of the Government.

When the Timewell outrage was exposed the citizens of St. John's sprang like giants at the Govern-

ment's throat because this stranger had been allowed to grab a \$4000 job while many St. John's boys more fitted were overlooked; but when it comes to protecting the morality of their city they are as mute as doves and wink complacently at what they know full well is the most serious effort to demoralize the city that has been attempted for a quarter of a century.

The late Judge Conroy should have been pensioned five years before he died; but he was not pensioned, because of political exigencies. The late Judge Knight was acting judge for two or three years and was permitted to possess the shadow of a magistrate's power, doing what he was ordered by the Justice Department. Then a greater wrong was committed—again in the interest of political exigencies—when the late Mr. Devine was appointed to perform legal duties he was utterly unfitted for.

Then came the disgraceful tampering with the morality of the city by the appointment of three acting magistrates—Messrs. F. Morris, H. Knight and C. Hutchings, the Deputy Minister of Justice.

No one is responsible for the good behaviour of the city or the administering of the criminal laws, for no acting judge cares two straws about the responsibilities affecting the future well being of the city, as the job is temporary and may go to another next week or month.

We have again and again protested against these outrages against the morality of the city; but owing to the lack of proper interest on the part of the citizens, the Government has again and again played with the well being of the city in order to play their game of political self aggrandizement and the giving of jobs to their worn out supporters in the House. They have kept several important positions vacant in order to give them to members of the Assembly who in 1917 dare not face their districts.

The legal profession complain severely regarding the manner in which matters in connection with the Magistrates' Court are conducted. They also complain about the manner in which the position of first Clerk of the Supreme Court is being manipulated in order to satisfy the Premier's craze for dumping his worn out political supporters into comfortable positions.

This is a matter that the Judges of the Supreme Court might very profitably give consideration to, and many citizens are wondering why they have so tamely submitted to the game the Government has been playing respecting the filling permanently of that most important vacancy caused by the death of Mr. D. M. Browning.

The position of appointing an Inspector General of Police is another very important matter; the position must be filled by a competent man and without delay. Conditions are serious enough in this city to show that a most vigorous crusade must at once be initiated by the Head of the Police to restore normal moral conditions in this city. A younger man, energetic and iron willed should at once be appointed as Inspector General and a pension provided for Mr. Sullivan who is now entitled to a pension by right of time service, and who is in a poor condition of health.

When one considers that the position of Minister of Justice is filled by a candidate who could not find a district to give him a seat in the House of Assembly and who attained the job by crawling through a back door opened by political demoralization aided and abetted by Premier and Governor, there is little wonder that the morality of St. John's has suffered so alarmingly during the past five years.

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Heaven will protect the working girl, but who is going to entertain her?

PRESIDENT COAKER

APPEALS TO YOUNG MEN TO ENLIST

TO THE YOUNG MEN OF NEWFOUNDLAND:

DEAR FRIENDS.—The time has come for Newfoundland to make another great sacrifice for Right and Freedom. The Empire is now compelled to put forth her mightiest effort, and a British Army of four million men must be ready in six months to strike a crushing blow to the Hunnish ambition to rule the world. England, Scotland and Wales under the Conscriptio Act are calling upon every suitable young man to take his place to defend Britain's glorious heritage. India, Canada, Australia and Newfoundland are increasing their forces for the front by 150 per cent., while South Africa has won an Empire for the British Empire. Newfoundland is endeavouring to double her forces now at the front. Two thousand men are wanted to form another Battalion and provide reserves.

Every young man who is physically fit, should regard it as a great privilege and honor to be able to fight the Hunnish foe in defence of Right, which Britons hold dearer than life. Thousands of our countrymen have already gone forth to do battle on our behalf. They have offered their all in order to protect our rights and to uphold the grand traditions of the British race. They are risking their lives to maintain the rights won for Britain on the seven seas by the Navy under Nelson, Blake and other national heroes. "Britons never will be slaves," and we are now called upon to do our bit in order that Britain will continue Mistress of the Seas.

Our boys have gone, and are going forth therefore to defend their dear ones at home, their dear old native isle, their free and unfettered Constitution which ensures us the Rights of Free Britons. They are gone and are going forth to fight in defence of all that Britons hold dear in life. If the Huns win, our Liberty and Freedom will no longer exist in reality. If the Huns win, Britain and the Anglo-Saxon world as well as France, Belgium, Italy and Russia will exist only as vassals of the cruel, heartless, inhuman Huns. You are called upon to come forward and be trained to do your bit for King and Empire. It is the duty of all young men who are physically fit, to respond to the call of duty. I hope this call will meet with proper response from the young men of the North. Willingate District should come to the front in this mighty struggle to uphold British Freedom and Liberty. If only ten per cent. of the young men will respond the new Battalion will be raised. The young men who can come forward voluntarily in those bloody days, is a noble man, worthy of the greatest honour and will be the glory of our Country in the years to come.

I appeal to the noble amongst our young countrymen to come forward now in the Empire's hour of need, and perform like duties so gloriously shouldered by our British forefathers, and to do their all to keep flying to the breeze the flag that has floated triumphantly over the seven seas for a thousand years. Never must it be said that in the Briton's hour of need the descendants of old Britons in Newfoundland were indifferent to the fate of our Great Empire and the dear old Union Jack. Come boys, be brave, be true; and respond to the call of your King for soldiers, in order that he may hold his Empire intact and our liberties unimpaired, and pass on to his son the noble Crown he inherited from Great King Edward which was then the envy of the civilized world.

Let my appeal not be in vain, boys. I know how serious conditions are and when I ask our young men to come forward to take their places side by side with our brave heroes who went forth last year and in the fall of 1914, I do so ever mindful of the great sacrifice I am asking you to make. Our generation has been called upon to battle against a foe such as no generation in the past ever had to face. It is our destiny. We must meet it with courage and determination, and Victory must surely be ours. I appeal to fathers and mothers to be brave and noble and trust Heaven in this awful crisis. I ask them to place no impediment in the way of their sons coming forth to do their part in this struggle for Liberty, for Righteousness and Humanity.

If my life would bring peace to the world I would freely give it. I am debarred from fighting as a soldier, and I hate to ask a man to go where I cannot go, but believe me, my friends, the honour of Terra Nova's good name is involved; and it must never be said in days to come that our Colony did not do its part in upholding the flag in this the darkest hour of England's need; therefore, I appeal to our young men, in order that the true conditions should be plainly placed before them by one who is trusted by many of them and to whom many look for advice. May God soon restore peace to our Empire and give Victory to our cause. May our noble heroes on sea and land win unperishable renown for their native Isle.

I trust this appeal will meet with a fresh response at the hands of the brave sons of Terra Nova, whose courage and bravery have so often been tested and not found wanting.

Sincerely yours,
W. F. COAKER.

The above appeal is copied from The Herald Recruiting Special issued last Saturday.

FISHERMEN, ATTENTION!

FIRST CLASS INVESTMENT.

38 per cent. Dividends in Four Years.

THE new issue of Shares in the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Limited, are now offered to the members of the F.P.U. Those Shares represent the additional Capital of \$150,000 recently authorized. The Shares are \$10 each. The new capital is to be used to extend the Company's business. A dividend of 10 per cent. has been declared for 1915. Thirty-eight per cent. dividends has been paid during the four years the Company has been in operation. The Company also possess a Reserve Fund equal to 40 per cent. of its capital and if it was possible to place the Trading Company's shares on the stock market, one share would easily fetch \$15. No better or safer investment exist in the Colony. Why bank your earnings at 3 per cent. when such a first-class investment is obtainable? Apply to Agents of the Trading Company where stores are operated or to the

Fishermen's Union Trading Co. Ltd.

Water Street, St. John's.

THE STRENGTH OF EMPIRE

It is not the King, 'tis not the Parliament.
Not even the battalions in the field.
That shall compel the enemy to yield.
But you yourself, YOU, strenuously bent
Mind, body, soul, estate and substance spent,
Till vivid Honor sheathes the sword we wield—
Our Empire only and immortal shield.
Is England's sons in federation bent.

Then, Brother, take my hand—peasant or peer.
We stand in brotherhood for something dear:
The holy earth—God keep our homes from wrong!
The death of Despots, and the birth ere long
Of Freedom's heir—man's liberties bursting clear
From blood and tears, imperishably strong!

—J. Gilbert-Denham.

INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS

King Albert recently signed decrees empowering the Belgian Minister of Marine to requisition to the national interest any Belgian ship for the period of the war. Provisions are made for arranging payment to the owners within a fortnight after requisition.

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In order to prevent the spreading of diseases by the scattering of germs from the nasal organs, the health board of Sacramento has issued stickers advising and warning the public to use handkerchiefs when sneezing. The stickers have been widely distributed about the city, in theatres, department stores and other places where they will be read by many people.

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There is no railroad bridge across the Tornea river, which separates Sweden from Finnish Russia; the Swedish line ends at Haparanda and the Russian line at Tornea, opposite. Since the

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

MARCH 15

REV. FATHER SHEEHY, lately assuaged of treason, hanged at Clonmel, Tipperary, 1766. Major Renout died, 1880. Citizens of all denominations began hauling stone for C.E. Cathedral, 1881. S.S. Grand Lake, with broken shaft, put into Harbor, Breton, 1897. Mary Mulrooney, Riverhead, died, aged 105, 1881. W. Beckford (elected for Trinity in place of Mr. Garland, who had been appointed to Council) introduced first pickled fish bill, 1834; also first registration of voters' bill, on same date.

war began, the Czar proposed that the rail gap be closed but, fearing Russian aggression, the Swedish Government refused to consider the matter. All goods passing from one country to the other have to be transhipped by boat in summer and by sleigh over the ice in winter.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY EXCURSION.

Excursion Return Tickets to all Stations between St. John's, Carbonear, Heart's Content, Placentia and Renew's, at

ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE.

Good going Thursday and Friday, March 16th and 17th, and good returning up to Saturday, March 18th.