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The Walker Report

Address Delivered by Mr. A. B. Morine, K. C., Before Llewellyn Club--The Sores Laid Bare and the Treatment Prescribed

(Concluded.)

suppliers and civil servants respect- it destroys us?

LAWLESSNESS-The report refers honesty got root and spread amongst Campbell as unduly great, not be- "I accept Dr. Campbell's statement sembly, that the former are servants to wood stealing, to shirking, to ex- us, what will be the result unless it cause I would minimize their offences, " that no new move was made with- and the latter masters; that the Astortion, to misappropriation, as ram- be eradicated root and branch, and but because to centre attention upon "out consultation with his colleagues sembly is the real seat of power, and pant amongst fishermen, laborers, what may be done to destroy it before them may draw proper attention from "in the Council."

the responsibility of their colleagues. ively. It is a terrible indictment It were vain for me to discuss at The labors of their lawyers, the eviconcerning the immorality of our this time the cause or causes for the dence of their witnesses, have repeople, and it stands confessed. They moral laxity which creates or permits sulted in a Report which is a most all with one accord, can make ex- the crimes, I am speaking of, though crushing, most unasswerable, indictcuse. The wood-stealer says the I believe it is in the main due to the ment of those colleagues jointly with wood was cut off the three mile limit loss of religion, but I do with cer- Squires and Campbell. A true Bill reserved for his class. The supplier tainty point to the lax enforcement has been found against them for besays he only got a part of the polit- of law by the Crown Law officers ing accessory both before and after ical patronage which is "the custom during recent years as one of the the fact to high crimes and misdeamof the country." The civil servant instrumentalities for the spread of ours. What the public knew all says he worked overtime, and his im- lawlessness, and with equal confid- along about the conduct of the Liquor mediate superiors helped him in the ence I declare my opinion that lawless | Control department, they were well misappropriation. In all these ex- practices, amongst the "higher aware of. The improper use in eleccuses, there is an element of truth, ups" in the government, has permittions of liquors purloined from that and yet no justification from either ted and encouraged the lawlessness department-a scandal known to the legal or the moral point of view. visible on every side. Every frank many-some of them must have been The wood on the three mile limit man will admit that if the first woodought to have been preserved for the stealer has been punished, there them must have heard about it. That fishermen—for whom the limit was would have been no other. It will as Meaney was in the constant receipt created, in 1898. The "unemployed" frankly be admitted that if the first of secret commissions was so well "asked for them, poured out money when not apparently a silent partner, ought to have been put at jobs the "shirkers" had been dismissed, and known that even members of the govpublic utility of which would have not allowed to return, shirking would ernment must have heard of it. That "check, and accounted for the pheno- tary capacity there has been no sign. should not be arbitrators nor impressed on them the determination have ended. Grafters were tempted, a physical audit was necessary, they ment a physical audit was necessary, they ployed as solicitors or barristers. Act- cise of the francise. It is your wish to demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work. The duties encouraged, aided by unlawful exto demand honest work are to demand the demand honest work are to demand honest work. The duties encouraged are to demand honest work are ought to have been bought by tender flagrantly practiced illegality. It and contract. All were law-break- made its own wishes a law unto iters, and the quality of their crimes self, impudently brushed the Legisdiffered little. The shirker received lature aside, and by unlawful regumoney under false pretenses, the lations confiscated and destroyed priwood-stealer committed larceny, tali- vate property. "Moonshiners" were ing property he did not own; the not punished, but the Magistrates who supplier received money without re- interfered with them were deported. turning good value, just as though The government intentionally emhe had used false weights; and the barked on "boot-legging," to make civil servant, knowingly violating money for the Colony by selling spiritthe law which he was directly em- uous liquors as a beverage, in violaployed to maintain, was just as guilty tion of the Prohibition Act. Incidenas a watchman would be who desert- tally, they used a portion of the mo-

as a watchman would be who described tally, they used a portion of the liquor, to elect why has this terrible epidemic of distribution and new, and much of the liquor, to elect speaking of the government as a corporate body in a condemnatory sense.

AS INDIVIDUALS—I have been speaking of the government as a corporate body in a condemnatory sense. It is rank treason to our duty out confrol! All these abominations practiced, and yet no adequate proporate body in a condemnatory sense. It is rank treason to our duty out confrol! All these abominations practiced, and yet no adequate proporate body in a condemnatory sense. It is rank treason to our duty out confrol! All these abominations really represent the government as citizens to permit our public affects. White the proporation of the liquor, to elect as citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects. White the proporate body in a condemnatory sense. It is rank treason to our duty out confrol! All these abominations are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects. White are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects. White are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects. White are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects. White are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects. White are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects. White are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to permit our public affects. White are citizens to permit our public affects are citizens to pe amongst them. But their ablest business man professes no statescraft. Their man most experienced in public life exerts no energy. The he and I amicably co-operated in Union affairs, and he was always reasonable. The truth is, the audacious Squires, the virile Campbell, the impudsixe Coaker were dynamic forces in the government, and the remainder were as ready to follow them whither they led as they would have been to follow wiser counsels. They "didn't know where they were going, but were on the way", in those days, and now with the dynamic forces abated, the government is like to be "as idle as a painted ship upon a painted ocean," adrift without compass, and without rudder with the breakers on

every hand. Responsibility for Fish Regulations. Buying and Bounties, for Salt scandals and Road scandals, for waste on pitprops and all forms of relief frauds, lies as clearly and undeniably upon the Squires government as for Liquer. Control scandals. Every member of it knew of these things, and shared in them, by commission or omission. They endured them, they profited by them, they assented to them or failed to oppose them, and they have not even the defence that they ever believed in the honesty, propriety or necessity of the things that were being done. The degree of moral turpitude on the part of various members of the government may have varied, but "they all like sheep have gone astray", and the most charitable thing that can honestly be said of all or any of them is that they neglected the high duties of their positions. Hear D. D. D. for Eczema

elections. When I have regard to

the carnival of crime by the governthe offences of the governed, nor do

I find in myself much heart to con-

demn these poor victims of demoraliz-

ation in high places. I am convinced

through and through that there will

be no general or lasting improvement

in the moral tone of this Colony, no

obedience to law, no safety for credit or property, until a cleaning of the

stable has commenced by the estab-

lishment of better government, and

until justice has ceased to be blind

only, or blind in one eye only, and

WHAT THE CAUSE-When con-

sideration is given to the Fishery

Regulations of 1920, the fish buying

and loss of 1921, the scandalous waste

upon roads from the railway line to

Halls Bay and Bonne Bay, to railway

expenditures and losses for several

years, one feels that the revelations

by the Walker Enquiry and Report

are but part of a nightmare of Waste

and Corruption under which the Col-

ony had been suffering for years

and the questions (1) What has caus-

ed this saturnalia of crime against

the state, (2) Why has it been per-

mitted to continue, and (3) What is

the cure, demand solution. A cor

rupt and servile Assembly, have

been the instrumentalities through

which all this wrongdoing has taken

place, and the people of the Colony

represented by them, and whom they have in a large degree corrupted,

must soon answer the question

has unbared the sword.

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to carry on their destructive work point:-

RESPONSIBILITY-I deprecate the "it." importance placed upon the personal (2) "In my view money was lavish- stitute an Executive Committee recharges against Messrs. Squires and "ly and often recklessly poured out. sponsible to the members of the As-

personally cognizant of, and all of

ly gave Meaney a full appointment as Controller, and conspired to sup- What a terrible indictment that is! ities they have witnessed. The prinpress the fact until the general elec- How dare we leave the control of pub- ciple of responsible government for tion was over. And it is undeniable lic affairs with these men! Acquit which the Liberal Party fought so that the government itself, with the some of them, if you will, of all wil- hard scarce three-quarters of a cenacquiescence of every member of it, ful wrong-doing. Acquit some of tury ago destroyed by an Autocracy! allowed Meaney to violate the Pro- them, if your charity extends so far, The representative institutions for hibition Act for the profit of the of ignorance of the riotous miscon- which the forefathers of this colony Treasury, by permitting the unlawful duct amongst them. Yet you cannot went to the foot of the throne itself sale of liquors as a beverage and of acquit all of them on either ground, replaced by a representation of one that the annual estimates submitted and none of them of negligence and man's will! Economic heresies put to the Legislature, and the open and incompetency, of unfitness for the in force by lawlers methods! Corrupunpunished evasions of the law, are high positions they occupy, and for tion rampant, inefficiency in the sadthe great responsibility they daily dle; taxation beyond endurance with- represent the people, they wil them as individuals that they are aver- years. What guarantee have we that The Assembly is, of course,

State in their hands?

Mrs. Quillon Tells How Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Saved Her from an Operation



any relief at all, they saidatlast that me my case and I should had heard of Lydia table Compound and

t would do for me, and before I had

whether they will permit the guilty what the Commissioner says on this vide that henceforth the members of the Executive Council should retain until the Colony has lost its inde- (1) "Generosity to those in need of the confidence of the House of Aspendence, and passes into the hands of "relief did not necessarily exclude sembly." The theory of responsible "justice to those who had to pay for government is, then, that the members of the government in effect conthe government only its agent.

の意思を

(3) "The work was done in haste, It is right then to ask how the Asone might say in panic, it was at sembly has exercised its power during "tended by looseness, irregularities the nightmare period of five years aland mistakes, which made possible most the Colony has been going impostures from without, and put it through. Has it done its whole duty, in the power of others to steal a and if not, in what respect has it "profit from the turmoil. Its record failed, and what has caused the failis in the main a record of rash bar- ure? It seems to me that the As-"profusion without care and without it against the worst conduct chargeable to the government. No sound (4) "Politics caused the distribution policy has been advocated as an alter-"of contracts for supplies among petty native to the downward course being As I have said elsewhere, for

"profiteers, crowded the rocksheds pursued. The majority supporting "and model farm with shirkers, scat- the government has been lavishly sil-"tered seed potatoes among all who ent, and the minority, in opposition, "tion. Relief was not business, it was bunes of the people must have been hers should be made unlaw

bear. It is rank treason to our duty out control! All these abominations for the people's interest. While

age good citizens, not a bad man they will do better, or be better, or be trolled by a majority, called the Govless weak and incompetent than they ernment Party, composed just now of have been? Can we leave the ship of twenty-two (22) men, and of these 22 nine are members of the govern-HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY-"Upon the ment itself, two others are heads of Bronco Buster" of other days is introduction of responsible govern- departments, and others are in reroped to the affairs of his society, ment, the only definite change in the ceipt of pay otherwise, so that only giving to the few what was meant for royal instructions," says Todd's Par- two of the majority party are not the many. During nearly four years, liamentary Government, "was to pro- known to me to be under pay, though they probably are indirectly in the receipt of emoluments besides their sessional pay. In other words, the masters (?) are in the pay of the servants. The responsibility of the Govrnment is to its own members and

The Opposition is not in the pay of the Government, and an explanation of its ineffectiveness is harder to find. The experience and the ability within its ranks have not been put to the best use when opportunity offered. It has suffered from pernicious anaemia, and, upon the whole I see no other reason for excusing it from the charge of shirking its duty. Its able men have not acquitted themselves to the full extent of their ability.

CARTER'S PURGE-In the Consolidated Statutes, 1872, you will find a Chapter concerning Legislative Disoften saw it adver-tised in different pa-land purge") which provided, in short, that no members of the Assembly except just as I did and got well and strong again by taking the Vegerable Compound. I decided to see what ernment. The severity of that law it would do for me, and before I had finished the fourth bottle I was much better, the weakness stopped and the severe pains in my sides left me. I am now much stronger and do my own work and work in the factory besides. I am still taking the Vegetable Compound and give it all the praise. "—Mrs. NELLIE and give it all the praise."—Mrs. NELLIE with the praise of the control of th QUILLON, 17 Morris St., Muskegon, Mich. held for a shorter period than six Women should heed such warning months. The result is, in truth, that which I have referred to, that all trouble, and a persistent and faithful use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will seldem fail to help.

government supporters are in the pay of those who should be their servants; their independence is sapped:

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ved fim the circulation, gradu These secretions if no ally form poisons which and allow other diseases orate he condition of the blood in a pre ready entrance to the system. In the effort of to row off these impurities nunclesetc., appear, and it is ne Waing of Nature. wise to respond promptly

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"gains, rendered disastrous by the sembly has never in the history of the of their duty to the people is clogged on the sco of their own fitness, their "condition of the times and the colony exhibited such incapacity as by the money obtained by taxes from personal quifications will be enquir-"temper of the people, and of pub- throughout that period. No clear the very people whose vital interests ed into mee fully than when they "lic money poured out in alarming note of protest has been sounded in are sacrificed by them. The spirit of are merely he delegates of a society. "Carter's Purge," must be re-enacted, Experience, ability, education, specand the number of paid men who may ial training, all these will be looked sit in the Assembly rigidly 1

and these should be the only me

be masters, not servants, of th

be that group a class or creed. should be chosen by "free and pendent" electors. A free selec representatives will certainly in the choice of persons bette fied than those who are elected ly because they represent a

ed. for in candiates by a people freely at choosing repesentatives. The makmost five) Ministers are sufficient, ing of laws the highest and most nbers difficult to wich men can be called, of the Assembly in public pay. De- and the best vailable men should be and chosen by a paple sincerely concernnbers ed to discharg aright the most sacem- red duty of fremen-the right exershould be an honor accompanied by you choose men to represent a group, easy you will not be well governed. If you choose men dpendent upon public pay, your government will continue to be corrug and bad. A better

standard for government and assembly is dependent uon a better standard for electors. The people, it is said, get as good gwernment as they deserve. That is to ay, the cure is in the people's hands, and if they will not exercise it, theirs is the fault, and the punishment inflicted upon them is deserved. To create butter standards. education-in the broader sense-instruction on the rights and duties of electors, and in public question is essential, and the moral obligations for doing this is upon all those who apr1,3i,eod think that better government is necessary and possible. Ducation is needed in two ways-economic and noral, or financial and religious. What should be done, why should it be

(Continued on page 11.)

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