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ST. JOHN'S —N. F.—

Nothing New Under the Sun.

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The high cost of living has been the subject of governmental investigations since the earliest existence of governments. It is interesting to note what results some of those investigations brought, and what measures, if any, were taken to alleviate the sufferings of the multitudes. Sixteen hundred years ago the Roman Emperor Julian sent out a committee to investigate the enormous expense of existence, and upon, in his "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," reports these things as follows: "It is an unequal contest in which the price of the land is claimed by the party as his exclusive property, used by another as a lucrative ob-

ject of trade, and is required by a third for the daily and necessary support of life. All the profits of the intermediate agents are accumulated on the lands of defenceless consumers. The hardships of their situation were exaggerated and increased by their own impatience and anxiety; and the apprehension of a scarcity gradually produced (because of hoarding) the appearance of a famine."

Six hundred years before that, Chi-hoang-ti of the dynasty of Tsin, the builder of the Great Wall of China, had already sought to devise protection against the high cost of living.

"Intermediaries were exacting from the people a greater share for their non-productive occupation, than the producer was given for his labor; more than the title of the priest, and still more than the All-High One ever demanded in qualities as payment for eternal bliss." (Rech. Asiat. 2d. ser.)

The cry against intermediaries was so strong in old Palestine that the Talmudists devote page after page protesting against them. The prophets too, hurled more than one dart against them.

Price-fixing by governments is an old remedy resorted to in times of stress. Julian had already done it. Gibbon says about it:

"When the luxurious citizens of Antioch complained of the high price of poultry and fish, Julian publicly declared that a frugal city ought to be satisfied with a regular supply of

wine, oil and bread; but he acknowledged that it was the duty of a sovereign to provide for the subsistence of his people. With this salutary view the emperor ventured on a very dangerous and doubtful step, that of fixing, by legal authority, the value of corn. He enacted that in a time of scarcity it should be sold at a price of which had seldom been known in the most plentiful years; and that his own example might strengthen his laws, he sent into the market four hundred and twenty-two thousand modii, or measures, which were drawn by his order from the granaries of Hierapolis, of Chalcedon, and even of Egypt. The consequences might have been foreseen, and were soon felt. The Imperial wheat was purchased by the rich merchants; the proprietors of land, or of corn, withheld from the city the accustomed supply; and the small quantities that appeared in the market were secretly sold at an advanced and illegal price. Julian still continued to applaud his own policy, treated the complaints of the people

as a vain and ungrateful murmur, and convinced Antioch that he had inherited the obstinacy, though not the cruelty, of his brother Gallus. The remonstrances of the Municipal Senate served only to exasperate his inflexible mind. He was persuaded, perhaps with truth, that the senators of Antioch who possessed lands, or were concerned in trade, had themselves contributed to the calamities of their country; and he imputed the disrespectful boldness which they assumed, to the sense, not of public duty, but of private interest. The whole body, consisting of two hundred of the most noble and wealthy citizens, were sent, under a guard, from the palace to the prison."

Price-fixing had been resorted to much before that. We read in the Bible (II. Kings vi.): "And there was a great famine in Samaria— an ass's head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab (about a pint) of doves' dung for five pieces of silver."

"Then Elisha said, Hear ye the word of the Lord. Thus said the Lord, 'To-morrow about this time shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria.' A measure was a little more than one-third of a bushel."

Ataxerxes Mnemon had already tried price-fixing long before. Plutarch tells us that it resulted in hoarding, and that during the reign of Artaxerxes Mnemon, an ass's head fetched sixty silver pieces. (Plut. Vit. Artich. 24.)

It was also tried in Sparta (Hom. Iliad. 24. 100). Ler Wert and Preis XI), and fell into disuse in a short time after its enactment. But in the British Isles it was still urged as a remedy in the sixteenth century.

"The price of wheat against which the populace had risen had become standardized. The price of barley had gone up somewhat to meet, half way,

the new price. But the accumulated riches augmented dangerously. They set a higher standard of living to the sons and daughters of merchants; a standard which could only be met by a further increase in profits, which could only be obtained either by lowering the price of labor or by raising the cost of the necessities of life. (Bach. Hist. of Money.)

She Says They Are Surely Splendid.

MRS. HILL SPEAKS OUT CONCERNING DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

She Tells Suffering Women If They Use Dodd's Kidney Pills According to Directions They Will Find Relief.

Hatchley, Ont., Feb. 16th. (Special.)—That Dodd's Kidney Pills are the remedy suffering women are looking for is evidenced by the statement of Mrs. William S. Hill, well known and highly respected here.

"Dodd's Kidney Pills are certainly splendid," Mrs. Hill says. "There is nothing better for female trouble and a run-down system."

"If women will follow the directions and rules Dodd's Kidney Pills will help them."

Mrs. Hill speaks out of a full heart and from her own experience. She suffered and found relief in Dodd's Kidney Pills. The kidneys were the cause of all her trouble. The kidneys are the cause of nine-tenths of the troubles of the women of Canada.

"Dodd's Kidney Pills are purely and simply a kidney remedy. By strengthening the kidneys they remove the cause of the trouble. That's why Dodd's Kidney Pills are known as suffering women's best friend. Ask your neighbors about them."

Canadians Interested in the Cup Race

AND WILL TRY IF LIPTON FAILS.

New York, Feb. 2.—A good deal of interest has been aroused among Canadian yachtsmen by the coming contest for the America's Cup. The yachtsmen of the Great Lakes are keeping a weather eye on the Cup race developments. Should Sir Thomas Lipton fail in his coming effort to lift the great yachting emblem, it would not be surprising to learn that the Canadians would be the next in line with a challenge. Probably only the older yachtsmen in these waters recall the Cup races sailed against the Canadian challengers of years ago. These contests took place in 1876 and 1881 respectively.

Canadian Suggestions Adopted.

The attempts of the Canadians to capture the coveted mug were of particular interest, and each race developed new conditions as far as the actual contest was concerned. In the series of 1876, in which the Canadian schooner Countess of Dufferin was defeated by the American schooner Madeleine, the race was limited to two contestants for the first time.

The second race against the Countess of Dufferin was interesting from a historic point of view, as it marked the last appearance in a Cup race of the famous America. Although over a quarter of a century old, the America still had speed, and beat the Countess of Dufferin to the outer mark a thrush to windward of twenty miles. The America in turn was led by the Madeleine.

It was at the request of Vice-Commodore Gifford of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club that the pre-race choice of a defender was made, and this was afterward followed. The

second Canadian challenge came from the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club of Belleville, Ont., and resulted in another innovation, which was also to become a rule.

First Race Between Sloops.

For the first time the race for the America's Cup was between sloop yachts. This challenge was received in May, and the races did not take place until early November. The Canadians built the sloop Atlanta—a centreboard vessel, 70 feet over all and 64 feet long on the water line. The mischief, a crack sloop of her day, was sent against the Canadian single stickler by the America's Cup committee of that time.

With smarter handling and benefited by a superior knowledge of conditions, the Mischief administered two decisive defeats to the Canadian vessel. These races started, as was the rule in those days off the yacht club station at Stapleton, S.I., thence down the Narrows, out past Sandy Hook and return.

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Painless Extraction 50c.
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M. S. POWER, D.D.S.

(Graduate of Philadelphia Dental College, Garretson Hospital of Oral Surgery, and Philadelphia General Hospital.)

176 WATER STREET.

(Opp. M. Chaplin's.)

Jan 13, 1920, 11 a.m.

PARADE RINK—A Carnival will be held Tuesday night, Feb. 17th. Four prizes each for ladies and gentlemen for best costume. General admission 20c. Tickets will not admit. General skating from 9 to 10.30 o'clock. Terra Nova Band—soloist.



DON'T PUT OFF

It's the neglected cold, cough, tender throat or tonsils, that debilitate and leave the body disposed to serious germ diseases.

SCOTT'S EMULSION

should be taken at the first sign of lowered resistance, cold or cough. The energizing virtues of Scott's bring essential nourishment and help to the weakened system. Give Scott's a trial.

Scott & Bowne, Toronto, Ont.

"Reg'lar Fellers"

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By Gene Byrnes

