

Candid Chats Concerning Crisco



The modern woman has been glad to stop cooking with excessive butter, animal lard, and their inadequate substitutes. And so, the nation's cook book has been hauled out and revised. Upon thousands of pages, the word "lard" and "butter" have been crossed out and the word "CRISCO" written in their place. Crisco stands the most severe tests, and is highly recommended by all dietitians. Ask your grocer for CRISCO.

Ernest S. Doyle

DISTRIBUTOR

No. 4.—This is one of a series of twenty ads. which began in this paper on April 1st under the heading "Candid Chats Concerning Crisco." A different ad. will appear every day for twenty days. If you save them all and send to GERALD S. DOYLE, you will receive a full pound can of Crisco FREE. This offer applies to only one member of any family. If you have missed any of the previous ads, look up the back papers since April 1st.

The Walker Report

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

THE WALKER REPORT—When I addressed the M.C.L.L. a fortnight ago on "What's the Matter? What's the Cure?" I had neither read the Walker report nor had knowledge of its contents, for it was not made public until the next day, but I had attended very assiduously the early days of the Enquiry, and had read all the evidence, so that I anticipated many of the problems it would give rise to. The remarks I am now about to make are, therefore, somewhat in the nature of a supplement to that address, and should be considered in connection with it.

Speaking approvingly of the arguments and opinions expressed by me on that occasion, the "Mail" newspaper expressed doubt as to my personal sincerity, and impugned my record when in office. That was an attempt to distract attention from the important matters now agitating the public, which I shall not assist by defending myself. The soundness of the sermon, not the consistency of the preacher, is the more important matter; and if my doctrines are good somebody else can carry them out if I fall short of the standard I set up. At the proper time I shall know how to defend my record. I am not now a candidate for public office, and my efforts on the public platform are my offering to the public good. I have neither hatred to gratify nor ambition to serve. I speak "with malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives me to see the right." I may properly add, I hope, that I have given more of time and effort to the public and put more of my best into the work, with less reward in pay or honours, than any other man in this Colony now before the people.

POLITICAL—I dislike the sense in which the word "political" is commonly used in this country. When "party" or "partisan" is really meant "political" is the word generally used. All questions concerning government are political, and as citizens it is not only our privilege but our duty to discuss and consider them, but free from party or partisan prejudice. There are questions which are both party and political yet should be considered in a non-partisan manner. Why should I, who belong to no party, be suspected of partisanship? I am an independent (an outlaw, existing parties call me, I suppose) and I speak my real opinions for the good of this country, with neither hope nor desire for personal gain thereby. I no longer desire public office at the people's hand. Except he were content to be a sacrifice for the public good, no sane and honest man would accept it. In office, he would have to be cruel to be kind, suffer the loss of friends, to make many enemies, to be hated for the good he did, to be misunderstood by the public he served. If he worthily grappled with the gigantic evils which beset this country.

Now, my remarks to-night shall not be personal or partisan in any improper degree, but they will be political in the highest and best sense of that word, in that they will deal with matters of great moment to the people of this Colony concerning its government. It is our duty to discuss public affairs in order that we may the better exercise the franchise conferred upon us, and he is the real partisan who condemns fair discussion of such matters as I shall speak about. The man who would stifle free discussion is a grosser partisan frequently than he who exercises a Briton's right of free speech. It is a patriot's sacred duty to talk at this

time of the evils which menace the country. If in what I say I speak harshly of the government, it is not because the administration in office was under Squires, or is now under Warren, but because it was and is the one and only responsible governing body we have at this time. Its name is of no importance. The future is the only vital consideration.

THE COMMISSIONER—In the selection of a Commissioner, the Colony was most fortunate. Mr. Walker is a man of exceptional ability. With a most retentive memory and keen perception, as a cross-examiner he was a terror to evasive witnesses. An able lawyer and experienced judge, his wit was flashing and his humour contagious. The sun is not without spots, the Commissioner was mortal, and sometimes he made remarks that tended to annoy by certain implications they conveyed, but to take him all in, the Colony has not seen his equal, perhaps, and he deserves and will be paid the respect and gratitude of Newfoundlanders for his good work here.

Before the Enquiry began, I expressed the opinion that if it were openly conducted and the evidence published, there were competent local men who could preside as satisfactorily as any stranger. I confess my mistakes. No man in the Colony could have obtained the confidence of the public in the measure according to Mr. Walker.

He was assisted in the Enquiry by Counsel from New York State and the Province of Nova Scotia, and by members of the local bar, and all discharged efficiently their difficult and unusual tasks, but without question, it was the brilliant Commissioner who attracted audiences which filled the Legislative Council for many days and gave piquancy to the published reports of the proceedings.

THE REPORT—The report is lucid and convincing, excellent in tone, cogent in argument, and definite in findings. Its form is excellent. Each section commences with a clear explanation of the charge to be investigated, continues with the facts and arguments, and ends with the verdict. No evidence seems to be strained to convict, every reasonable excuse is given fair consideration, and the quality of charity is everywhere exhibited. Its composition reminds me of the best examples of judgments given in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, it is so erudite and scholarly. What seem to some to be omissions from the report have challenged attention, but upon examination they appear to be due to the interpretation which the Commissioner gave to the terms of his Commission, or to concern minor matters upon which Crown counsel did not think it necessary to produce complete evidence.

In my pre-enquiry letters to the "Telegram" I said that if the evidence were publicly given, and widely published as taken down, the public would form its own opinions on the evidence alone, and that the Report would not be of major importance. I admit my error, for I am now convinced that the evidence was so lengthy and contradictory as to compel the public to rely almost solely on the report for the verdict. A secret hearing, however, would have been disastrous, and reporting the evidence has been justified. The good the Enquiry and Report will do will justify its cost. It would be ungenerous to the report for the verdict. A secret hearing, however, would have been disastrous, and reporting the evidence has been justified. The good the Enquiry and Report will do will justify its cost. It would be ungenerous to the report for the verdict.

PURELY PERSONAL—It seems to me that undue importance, comparatively, is attached by the public generally to those parts of the report which affect especially Sir Richard Squires and the Hon. Dr. Campbell. It is natural enough that the fate of men who have been heads of Government Departments, and particularly of one who has been Premier, should challenge and receive great attention, but you would not expect of me that I should at this time and on this occasion speak in criticism of these men, with regard to whom, I am confident, we all feel keen regret that so much real talent and abounding energy as was theirs should have been lost to the Colony, when, directed in right ways, it could have been of so much good. Many talents were entrusted to them, and of them much will be required. It is important to consider the responsibility of their colleagues and it is most important of all to consider the causes and the cure of the Colony's wretched conditions. Let us turn away from a finished chapter, as it were, to read the remainder of the book. There is a noticeable tendency to make a political issue by denouncing the Enquiry as the result of a sectarian conspiracy. But it was prosecuted by Protestant lawyers, defended by a Roman Catholic, and tried by a Judge as such a Protestant as Sir Richard Campbell. The four members of the Government who resigned to force Sir Richard out of the Premiership—Hartford, Foster, Barnes and Warren, were all Protestants and so is Sir William Coaker, who jointly with Mr. Warren signed a letter demanding Sir Richard's resignation, prior to the Enquiry. There was no sectarianism about the money got for Meany, or from Besco, and no trace of sectarianism in the conspiracy to obtain it. The report concludes:—

"Nor is it enough to say that the accusations out of which this En-

quiry arose were raked up by political rivals or malcontents. By whatever means the evils which have haunted the past and are threatening the future of Newfoundland have been brought to light, the light has shown that they exist; I have no doubt that it has not yet penetrated all the dark places.

What a reflection upon our intelligence it would be if we were to allow our adherence to a religious creed, to blind us to the enormity of the evils which have been shown to exist, and to distract our attention from the reforms which should be undertaken.

LIQUOR CONTROL—Aside from the matter of payments to Sir Richard's use, the report and the evidence show that Acting-Controller Meany, for a considerable period, (a) practiced the sale of liquor unlawfully; (b) that he made presents of quantities of liquor at public expense; (c) that liquor was used in elections for party purposes without payment; (d) that money actually received for liquor was misappropriated; (e) that the sale or disposition of a very large quantity of liquor is unaccounted for; and (f) that Meany received secret commissions or profits on the purchase of liquors. And beyond the proof of the payments to or for Sir Richard Squires, the really astounding fact about all this is, that it was in fact all very generally known before the Enquiry and permitted to go on. The Walker report is but the seal of certainty upon a common belief. The whole truth has not yet been told; that which is yet unrevealed may be the most startling of all. The promised second enquiry will be awaited with keen interest.

It appeared in evidence that no physical audit of the Liquor Control stock-in-trade has ever been made, though the Auditor General had recommended one to the Government, which alone has power to order it. It also appeared that there is a great shortage in stock or receipts nearly \$200,000 in value. The fact did not appear which we all know that "a roaring trade" in violating the Prohibition Act has been done with the assistance of the Government. It is quite realized that this illicit trade is apparently still going on. Possibly there is not so much drunkenness on our streets as in the days of the open saloon, although many will dispute this, but the legal trade of the open saloon has been replaced by that illegal trade of the rightly called "drug store," and any quantity may be got by "the right sort" without scripts, and with no other sickness than a desire for booze. The blame for to-day's conditions is on the men of to-day.

THE PROHIBITION ACT—It has long been accepted as a fact that the true intent and meaning of the Prohibition Act is "not being enforced." The Assembly years ago accepted and ratified Government estimates of revenue from the use of liquor as a beverage. No real effort is being made to punish breaches of the letter and spirit of the Act. It is an evasion for law-breaking. Its neglect is a fertile teacher of public immorality. All law is impelled by the offences under it. It should be enforced, amended or repealed. While it remains on the statute book it should be enforced and amendment is necessary to its adequate enforcement. It has two principles or one principle with an exception. It provides that intoxicating liquor shall not be used as a beverage but may be used as a medicine. Amendment is as much needed to make liquor available properly as a medicine as it is to effectively prohibit the use as a beverage. Prohibitionists and anti-prohibitionists are agreed (1) that amendments to the existing law are necessary, and (2) that non-enforcement of an existing law is injurious to public morality, wherefore it seems to me to be the unanimous opinion that the time is ripe for action, the only difference

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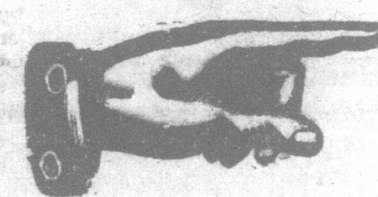
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of opinion being as to the nature of the amendments which should be made. Prohibition was enacted during the Great War, when patriotic emotion had much to do with its adoption by the people. What the people enacted should not be repealed without their consent. Prohibitionists think perhaps, that the people's decision on the question of repeal or amendment should not be taken until the success or failure of an honest attempt to enforce it does more good than harm or vice versa. But in the present state of feeling, no such attempt can reasonably be expected, and it would be best, perhaps, in the interests of

public morality, that the question of amendment or repeal, and if repeal the nature of a new law, should be referred to the people upon the ground that a law regulating the habits of a whole people must be based upon a strong public sentiment in order to be enforced adequately.

(Continued on page 12.)



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