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## Talks by Tiberius.

### SEVEN DEVILS IN PUBLIC LIFE.

"And the last state of that man shall be worse than the first." So ends the story of the man, who being possessed with a devil, was swept and garished when the devil was cast out, but did not protect himself against a possible re-entry of the evil spirits, and consequently found himself possessed of seven devils where before he only had one. "And the last state of that man shall be worse than the first."

Lately I have been pondering and meditating upon the developments in the Political Life of our country, and must confess to many strange feelings as I have looked at the facts, so far they could be obtained, relating to public life. The rumours and talk which one hears on the street can be safely ignored. There may be something in it, there may not, but whether there is or not, there is some notice to be taken of an affidavit duly made before a legal commissioner and confirmed by witnesses. One is bound to pick it up and read, when in the public press appears a sworn statement by a man, which seriously involves himself and those personally mentioned in the statement. If only one or two humble men read it, they might draw their own conclusions touching the matter and then let the subject drop, but when the Press takes up the question, draws out the legal and logical significance of the affidavit, and calls the attention of His Majesty's representatives to it, the matter rapidly grows into one of profound importance, the futile attempts at jeering notwithstanding, of which certain sections of the Press have lately been guilty.

As the case is at present in court, and as I am not a lawyer, the legal aspect is severely left alone. As I am not a politician in the Party sense, that is to say, as I do not either publicly or privately speak or act or even think for one party, more than I do for another, the Political aspect is also ignored. When election time comes, I generally use my privilege of the

Franchise. I feel that I ought to do so, still the choice is then made on the ground of personal fitness rather than Political Party. The purpose of these "Talks" is moral and socialistic, and it is with the moral and socialistic side of the question that I deal; or with any question for that matter. To further explain and define, by the "moral" side, we refer to the relation which a person bears to God; by the socialistic we refer to the relation which a person bears to his fellow-men. The greatest law as emphasized by the Greatest of Lawyers illustrates the definition: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and soul, and mind, and strength; and thy neighbour as thyself." The former part is what we mean by the moral, the latter is what we mean by the socialistic. Nor is it my intention to appear "goody-goody." I shall deal with the question as a citizen with a Christian conscience, a sense of right as reached by the process of being born in a Christian land, trained by Christian parents; educated by Christian teachers; conversant with Christian Literature; and in perfect sympathy with the Christian ideal I express, or try to express, my own convictions.

### THE OUTS.

He would indeed be sadly lacking in the critical quality who could not find fault with the out-going Government. It is probably the easiest thing in the world to pick holes in the administration of any Governing body which has had its day. The teacher who goes to a new school, goes with the idea that his predecessor in office has been a rank failure and that providence and every favourable wind that blows has combined to place him at the head of that school to save it from absolute and final ruin. He knows just what that community needs. He can see the big gaps in the fence which the previous teacher had erected. The experience the other gained has no value to him, is he not new to the situation? Has he not a clean sheet? Who can find fault with him? No one, for no one knows who or what he is.

So he talks at first, and as he talks, the teacher who has gone out is ridiculed with holes which have been shot by the teacher who has just come in. The common people love to side with the new comer because they also hope, that, however greatly they may have benefited by the one who has gone, they hope to benefit more by the one who has come. "A new broom sweeps clean." Time passes, however, and the new teacher gains some experience of the place, the scholars and the people. He begins to look more favourably upon the work of his predecessor, there are not so many flaws in it after all; and as the teacher grows in grace, the people realize that all teachers are alike, the "Ins" are as bad or as good as the "Outs," and when all are tried in the balances, all are found wanting; none are perfect, no not one.

So it is in the Political field, and I was going to say and so it will be. The game of Politics is described by the couplet:

"Life is like a game of Cricket;  
First you're in, and then you're out."

### THE ILLUSTRATION.

Recently we have had a change of Government. The country, influenced no doubt by desire for a change, which desire has been fanned into a larger flame by the ability of the new comer to criticize the actions of the old government, and to promise to do better, has turned out bag and baggage the "Has beens." Books, documents, secrets, agreements and deeds, transactions, contracts, incomes and expenditures; all are revealed to the inquisitive and eager eye of Mr. Voter, and Mr. Non-Voter too; the dirty linen is put out and its filth exposed. Hon. Mr. Board of Works went to Toronto and did nothing for the country at a cost of \$5,000, more or less. Lawyer Swelled-Head was retained by the Railway Magnate as a private solicitor and by the Government as Clerk to the House, thereby following with the hounds and running with the hare. Hon. Mr. Jones, a grocer, for the credit of his country, supplied the Poor House; and the Jail House; and the Lunatic House and other houses, not excluding his own and his friends with bread and butter; and hard tack; and soft soap and so on for \$50,000; at a profit to himself of about 100%. All is revealed, and more. The "Outs" have it. The new take infinite pleasure in publishing all the faults, real and unreal, that the old seemed to be guilty of. The "Ins" expose the "Outs" and promise, (in their election stunts) to do better. The "Ins" now have it.

Now laying aside all jokes, the "Outs" have had it and have some of it to-day. Poor Cinderella Colony. Poor People. Can you not see. Behold Mr. Pimpkins, born and bred at Snooks Cove, "Way North." A Trader. Income, in good years, \$500.00. Family large; house small. A Fore and After, 25 tons, the Labrador: Mr. Pimpkins can talk, is he not the leader in Church, and does he not talk the longest and the loudest at the town-pump. The District needs a political Candidate. All eyes turn to Mr. Pimpkins. He is elected. He takes his "Home-spun" to the "House." He takes his wife to the city. They meet, hob-nob and shake hands with the Governor. What-ho. His home-spun and her plain bonnet of black don't seem well. His \$500.00 income does wonders. The "House" closes. They return. How great they are, Mr. and Mrs. Pimpkins! How noble are the children! How mean and small is Snook's Cove. Ten years pass. They are still at it. Mr. Pimpkins and family now live in the city, on "Rotten Row" East: "Car." He is wealthy. What has he done to get it? Just been in the Government, that is all.

Mr. Pimpkins goes out. Mr. Slapdash comes in. Oh horrors. What

Bribery and Corruption Mr. Pimpkins has been guilty of. One thing, however, is a certain fact. How he did it; how he got it; no one knows and no one seems to care; he did get it. Ten years of life in the Government and he is a rich man. He certainly has not earned it. Honestly or dishonestly, he has got it. And it looks as if he has not always been patriotic and honest. He seems to have lived up to the philosophy:—"In all thy getting, get."

### THE "INS."

Mr. Pimpkin drops out. Mr. Slapdash comes in. The latter is an honest man. He has discovered that Mr. Pimpkin was a rogue, a thief, and a vagabond. As the Home team comes bounding on the field, capering and dancing with the flush of pride in their powers, amidst the tumultuous applause of the equally proud and dancing capering "Fans," so, there comes on the scene of action, the sporting ground of politicians, the new Government, capering and dancing amidst the plaudits of the "Heelers" and friends of the Government. Why do the "Heelers and Friends" of the Government make such a fuss? Why do they go out of their way to honor and glorify the deeds of the New Government before anything has been done? Mr. Slapdash is honest just because he has not done anything yet. "Wait and See." The heelers continue to applaud, and applaud until the New becomes the old, some heelers continue to applaud, most drop out. Usually those continue true and faithful to the party who get paid for it.

The fact is, however, the "New" is not in power long before they reach a climax: What is the climax?

### THE CLIMAX.

It comes in the form of an affidavit, taken out regularly and properly by a member of the "Outs." The affidavit goes to show that the member of

the "Outs," has been induced by a member and a friend of the "Ins," to resign his seat in the "House of Assembly," in consideration of a certain position worth \$3000.00 per year. Probably the cat would not have been let out of the bag, only, the "Ins" did not carry out their part of the deal according to schedule. The "Ins" have it. Six of one and a half-dozen of the other. The "Outs" had it. They were bad enough. The "Ins," have it they are no better. The conscience of the country should be awakened by the Climax reached. Four Politicians now figure in cases before the court which savour of shocking laxity and corruption in connection with the last election. The entire case around the affidavit involves four or five or more. Climax indeed. What shall be done?

### THE MORAL.

It is possible that owing to there being wheels within wheels, the main actors in this sordid Drama, will "escape arraignment to the shades below" at the present time. It is even possible that technically, if the parties concerned were lined up before a Bar of Justice, I say it may be possible technically, to prove that they are not guilty of a criminal offence. It is also possible that most citizens will say in connection with it, that it has been done before and therefore much notice cannot be taken of it; and may pass it on without much ado. But I want to sound a note of warning. In my judgment, the parties concerned have proven themselves unfit to stand before the public as leading men, as representatives of the people in the House of Assembly or in any Capacity.

### THE PUBLIC OUGHT TO DEMAND THE RESIGNATION OF ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED.

They should not be allowed to represent the people any longer in any Capacity whatever. The Law and Law Courts will justly deal with the question from the law view-point; the moral and socialistic phase will and must be dealt with by the public. The honor of the Dominion is at stake. Are we going to allow an act, a public act, one for which the public have to pay, one that is against good morals and the best interests of the people;

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S.S. Rosalind sails for Halifax and New York on Thursday next.  
Schr. Village Belle, 25 days from Barbados with a cargo of molasses to G. M. Barr, reached port yesterday morning.  
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