

What's the Matter, What is the Cure?

(Continued from 7th page.)

in the public service, including drastic reduction of expenditure, is essential, is indeed, absolutely inevitable and the only question for settlement is shall it be voluntary, by self-determination of the people, or forced by insolvency and collapse, and carried out by some autocratic form of administration. It is impossible that wanton, incalculable waste, and cruel taxation, shall continue, and if the people do not themselves bring around a peaceful revolution, our Overlord, the British Government, will be forced to intervene, and then self-determination will be enforced upon a people not virtuous enough to undertake and enforce it by their own strength of will.

An American writer says that "unemployment and increased taxation—the burden of life, in fact—have turned the nations to their Mussolinis and Riveras." "Taxation," he says "is increasingly the great problem, and any man who consents to new taxes, or loses an opportunity to repeal old ones, is unfit for public office." Who can fail to see that this is the truth as far as this Colony is concerned. The United Fishermen sounded the keynote when, in 1922 they demanded reduction of expenditure and taxation. The decline in the value of our export trade, and the consequent unemployment, has brought home to our people a realization of the great burden of taxation they bear, and of the fact that unless it be reduced, they cannot exist. Trade will continue to dwindle, unemployment will increase, the exodus from the Colony will grow and conditions will grow steadily worse, unless we eradicate the cancer preying on the vitals of the Colony. It is the pressure upon them of the sense of dawning disaster which causes our people to cry "Oh! for a Mussolini or a Rivera, a Moses to lead us out of the wilderness of debt and disaster."

REDUCED TAXATION—BOUNTIES

—A SIMPLIFIED TARIFF—I wish to add that the only bounty which under existing circumstances can be given to fishermen is the bounty of reduced taxes upon the articles they consume. It is useless to talk upon bounties to fishermen paid out of money borrowed on the credit of the Colony, for that is how the money for a bounty would have to be procured, if the whole available current expenditure is less than the current revenue. But I am entirely in favor of a simplified tariff of Customs duties, and in that simplification something perhaps, could be done to lighten the tariff upon goods consumed in productive industries, such as the Labrador and Bank fisheries, where imported goods are used to produce fish, and so may be said to be in reality such goods as should if possible be treated as if in bond for export. I believe that trade and fishermen alike would welcome a simplified tariff, and that it could be framed by competent persons.

NOT BY ECONOMY ALONE—But the Colony cannot be saved by economy alone in the narrowest sense of that word. The controllable expenditure is, perhaps, too small to permit of a saving equal to the current deficit. The earning power of the people must be increased, productive employment must be provided, for the good of the Colony as a whole as well as for individual good. Borrowings should be for productive works only. Many surplus men have emigrated, leaving their families with us, and intending to return, sending earnings home in the meantime. For their success, and for their remittances, much thanks are due, but "it ever so humble, there's no place like home," and employment at home is better than abroad. Many who go will never return, and the loss will be ours. We must find them work at home. Where and how? I am persuaded that the employing power of our fisheries has not been developed to its fullest and most profitable extent. The country does not owe "every man in it a living," as some say, but statesmen owe to every man in it an

opportunity to earn his own living by hard work, and that is the statesmen's task, which should at once be undertaken earnestly.

More fish we may not be able to catch, nor would it be good for us perhaps, if we could, but the fish we do catch can be made more valuable, and both fisherman and merchant can profit thereby. I believe that the curing and marketing of Cod can be profitably improved. I am convinced that the herring fishery can be made profitable. I am satisfied that the lobster fishery can be successfully regulated. Great wealth can be added to the Colony by the proper cultivation of our inland waters. Consider our timber resources. The Gander and the Fortin Bay areas are yet undeveloped, and there are numerous water powers still awaiting the magic touch of capital. We import coal from Scotland, Wales, Canada, and the United States of America, while the White Coal of our rivers is running to waste. We have riotously given away great water powers, yet we spend immense sums for the light, heat and power those rivers could give us. Our water powers, our lands, our mines have been given away to speculators, many of them have received immense sums for them, yet our people at large are compelled to emigrate for the work they should receive at home if those resources were properly developed. Our rivers should be harnessed, and made to turn the wheels of industry, to warm our houses, to light our firesides. We could keep our men and our money at home.

We talk copiously of our mineral resources, yet we do nothing to cause their development. No adequate geological survey has been, is being, or seems likely to be made, and no schemes to promote mineral development by the method adopted for the Humber pulp and power project has been mooted. Has the Colony no initiative? Must its people suffer until some outside promoter another mining industry as Bell Island was promoted? We are indeed sadly in need of statesmanship, and until it is exhibited our men must work in foreign lands and our women weep at home.

Not by methods now being practiced, nor even by a return to the saner methods of past days; not by cheese-paring economy, efficiency and unshakable honesty alone, can economic salvation come to this Colony, for interest on the public debt, and other practically uncontrollable expenditure, have grown too large to be met by reasonable taxation. Every natural resource of the country, every possible avenue for productive employment must be patiently explored, and courageously developed, and imagination, initiative and energy must be displayed in the task. I am not an alarmist, but an optimist. I feel that the present day call is for the best we are capable of, and for more than we have ever displayed. The crisis is upon the country and must be met unshrinkingly.

FIRM ENFORCEMENT OF LAW.—I have spoken of Lawlessness, Extravagance and Pauperism as symptoms of the malady the Colony suffers under, but it may seem to you that the programme of reform I have proposed deals only with Extravagance, and that only in public affairs. I beg you, however, to consider that much lawlessness and pauperism would cease if economy were practiced, efficiency were insisted upon, and honesty in high places displayed. Lawlessness would cease if orderly government were enforced. Pauperism would end if hard work were insisted on. Economy and hard work are sovereign remedies for all sorts of ills. But the lawlessness so apparent of late has resulted very largely from non-enforcement of law. Justice has not seemed impartial. Offenders have been allowed to go scot free. The scales of justice have fallen from lax hands. Firm enforcement of law is essential to ordered liberty and progress. The King's Writ should rule, the blue uniform of the Constable should be respected. Liberty is the result of order. Life and property are dependent upon law. Obedience to every law upon the statute book should be unflinchingly insisted upon. The fact that a law is not behind if the approval of majority of the people, is a reason for amending or repealing it, not for neglecting or violating it. Every law should be given honest enforcement, or honest amendment or repeal, and should not be so treated as to make it an offence causing the decay of public morals.

SECT. AND CLASS CRIES.—There is no good reason for appeals to our people for political support on sectarian or class cries. The doctrine or privilege of any denomination is at issue, no class can be hurt by a policy which demands economy, efficiency, and honesty. Such cries, if raised, would be but the appeals of demagogues to the baser instincts when the holy, the sacred, the highest impulses of men's nature are demanded for the salvation of the country. Mark down as treason all cries that would obscure the fact that the economic salvation of the



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ROYAL YEAST CAKES

Colony demands clear high thinking, and sacrifice to the general good of the community. What is best for all will prove to be best for every creed and every class. Let us be united for the common good!

THE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM—I am a convinced believer in the two-party system as essential to effective government by a democracy through a legislature. An active opposition is as necessary as an active government. Even though its criticisms are often merely partisan, they serve the great purpose of keeping government on its feet, and often of compelling them to maintain a standard of virtue from which otherwise they would easily fall away. The party system has been condemned by inexperienced persons, upon the ground that it leads to opposition for opposition's sake, but even so, truth often emerges from contention, and contention is better than the purchased acquiescence which is so much easier for individuals not constrained by party loyalty or party vengeance from sale to the highest bidder than it is to members of a party. This Colony needs to-day two recognized opposing parties, with two distinct platforms and a general election waged under two flags, for two clear cut policies, would greatly help to clear away the fogs which obscure public affairs. The first plank in the ideal platform for the times would be a self-denying pledge—"We shall take no thought of the consequences to ourselves of what we do, but only of the good to the country." The thought "is this expedient for our party good?" ("can we do it and exist?") germinates the country and party. "Shall we win?" has come to be the first question on the lips of every candidate, now-a-days, not "are we right?" Until par-

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Obituary. MARTIN WALSH.

There passed peacefully away at the General Hospital yesterday morning, after a painful illness, a respected resident of Nalgles Hill, in the person of Martin Walsh, Born 77 years ago the deceased, up to a couple of years ago, actively engaged in agriculture. His fields of forage and root crops gave ample evidence of good husbandry and were always a source of pride as well as profit. His wife and one son, Thomas, are left to mourn. An only daughter, Mary Ann, predeceased him four years ago. The funeral takes place at 2 p.m. to-morrow.

Features of a smart knitted sports dress are contrasting bands of color on the sleeves and hem, raglan shoulders and a harmonizing grosgrain belt.

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Should The Cathedral Balcony Be Wired In?

But for a twelve-word farewell note there is no clue to the motive of the woman who, with her two children, fell from Westminster Cathedral Tower on Saturday.

She was the wife of Edwin Davey, an upholsterer, of Bridge Avenue, Hammersmith, and the cryptic letter left at her home at 10 a.m. read:—"Dear Jack—You have been a good father and husband. Forgive me."

At 11 she and the children entered the tower, and at 2.30 they dropped from a balcony 250 feet high.

A wall 3ft. 6in. high, topped with railings, is round the balcony, and it is urged that to prevent future tragedies this should be wired in.

WOMAN'S "FORGIVE ME."
Last Letter To Husband—Eye-Witnesses' Stories Of Victims' Fall.

Not till several hours after the tragedy were the victims identified by the woman's husband, an upholsterer, as:

Mrs. Margaret Davey, aged thirty-seven, of Bridge Avenue, Hammersmith.

Her two children, Margaret, aged two, and Catherine Davey, aged seven.

This farewell letter was left by the woman at her home:—"Dear Jack—You have been a good father and husband. Forgive me."

It is the only clue so far throwing even the vaguest light on the motive of the tragedy.

The cathedral tower is 284 feet high, and the balcony on which the victims stood before they fell, about 250 ft.

It is surmounted by a wall 3ft. 6in. high, which is topped with railings. It is believed that the mother thrust one child over the railings and then jumped with the other in her arms.

They left home at about 10 a.m. while the husband was at work, reached the tower at eleven, and were on the tower for about two and a half hours.

"Child In Her Arms."
An eye-witness, Leslie Wright, a lift attendant at a neighbourhood building in Ashley Gardens, gave a vivid description of the tragedy.

"I was standing by the gate outside the house," he said, "and was looking up to the tower, as people often throw money down. Suddenly

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I saw something coming down. It was a child. "Just afterwards a woman must have fallen off with another child in her arms." Four lift attendants and porters at Ashley Gardens Mansions, Reginald Rivett, Robert Hubbard, William Summers and Maurice Brown, were also spectators. "It was a terrible sight," Rivett said. "Third—third—they fell almost as quickly as that."

"The woman and one little girl were in a huddled mass on the roadway, and the other, shockingly injured, on the pavement," stated Mr. Ernest Evans, a Cathedral attendant.

Launch On The Tower.
"The woman, whose clothes had been split as though cut with a scissor, lay on her back."

"It is not an usual thing for visitors, especially in summer time, to spend long periods on top of the tower."

"A doctor who was called ascended the tower and told me he had found the remains of sandwiches, which looked as if the victims had lunched there."

Mr. Cook, another cathedral attendant, admitted the woman to the cathedral about 11 a.m.

"She asked me," he said, "if she

could go up to the tower with her two little girls, as she wanted to show them London from the air." The bodies were removed to the mortuary of St. George's Hospital and the inquest will probably be to-morrow.

Mr. and Mrs. Davey and children had for some years past occupied a top flat in a house at Bridge Avenue, Hammersmith. They had been married about ten years, and are said to have lived happily.—Daily Mirror.

Gilded leather in a basketry weave edges a hat of dark brown lace with a scarf of the lace giving a softening effect.

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