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Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE."



(To Every Man His Own.)

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OUR POINT OF VIEW

The Labrador Fishery

YESTERDAY President Coaker received reports of the Labrador floaters belonging to Trinity and Bonavista Bays which shows the voyage to be the worse for twenty-five years. The whole catch for Trinity Bay floaters will not exceed 10,000 qtls. Bonavista Bay schooners have fared very badly. The North Shore fleet never fared worse. A few who were early on the coast and secured prime berths have secured good fares; but three-fourths of the schooners wont average 100 qtls. each. The whole supply of soft cure taken by floaters to be sold here this season wont exceed 30,000 qtls., exclusive of Green Bay. The Change Island fleet which often secure 10,000 qtls. have not taken 4,000. The Herring Neck fleet which secured 10,000 qtls. last year will be 5,000 qtls. short. The Twillingate and Little Bay Island fleets are not all heard from; but nothing better than half of last year's fares can be reckoned on.

Altogether the outlook is extremely gloomy and extremely serious. During our twenty-five years' business experience we have not known worse returns from the Labrador floaters.

Bait still continue to shun our coasts and there is no fish being taken by hook and line men. Some 500 herring nets have been sent North during the past ten days, the demand being caused by the fishermen being compelled to fall back on herring bait.

The year 1915 will loom up in years to come as one of the hardest in the history of this Colony. It will bring loss to every branch of business. The fishery will be less by 200,000 qtls. than 1914, which turned out to be one of our shortest catches.

This year's Labrador fishery might well take place side by side with our seal fishery. The Shore fishery, so far as hook and line men are concerned, might take a third place at the side of the seal fishery. The Bank fishery will about equal last year, while the salmon and lobsters fishery is not equal to 50 per cent of last year's short catch. The only improvement was in the Green Bay herring fishery, which turned out indeed to be a blessing; and the market for turbot which came in so favourably for the southside of Trinity Bay.

The Graball "die hards" will face an intolerable financial position when the Legislature meets in February. They will have to face a deficit of \$1,000,000 for 1915-16. The deficit for 1914-15

amount to \$800,000, the very amount Dr. Lloyd claimed, it would be when reviewing the financial position in the House last spring. "Where are we and whither tending" is the universal question now upon the lips of every lover of Terra Nova.

The collapse that the Government has toiled for during the last six years is not far off, but as sure as fate their ugly misdoings will follow them, for the electorate today is as anxious to end the carnage of givings out and deliberate waste practised by the Morris Government, as it was in 1901 to cast off the shackles of the Reid octopus.

"Let Morris finish his work," wrote P. T. McGrath and John Alexander Robinson in 1913; and be sure to put down "godless schools" and this red hot, double headed "Socialist"—Coaker; and from 500 Graball platforms this cry was re-echoed, to be endorsed by a small majority in a few districts who had voted so, because of the direct boodle they had received. The vote was a bribed one—a purchased one—and those who bought and purchased power with gold taken from the people are now reaping their reward—the reward that eventually must follow deliberate wrong doing, graft, grab and dishonesty.

From the highest to the lowest of them, the same verdict apply—weighed in the balance—found absolutely worthless—the worse bunch of public men that ever ruled any land under God's Heaven.

Public Wells And Public Health

THE recent outbreak of typhoid fever at Change Islands may be attributed, as a correspondent suggests to the impurity of the drinking water.

Whether this is so or not we cannot say, but we go so far as to say, and then we are only repeating a truism that the sources of water supply for most of the towns and villages in this country are very unwholesome, so much so that it is more than surprising that the public health remains even as sound as it is.

Wells are the chief source of water supply outside a few of the larger towns that have a regular water system. Wells are always dangerous, and it is disgraceful to see what utter carelessness exists with regard to the proper construction of those wells, and the indifference with which the authorities look upon the selection of sites for those sources of water supply. The Government votes a sum of money—often ridiculously small—for the construction of a well, and having made the vote thinks that all that is necessary to be done has been done, as far as their duty to the public is concerned.

The Government never bothers itself beyond the main chance of catching a vote by the granting of the sum for the sinking of a well. The matter of the selection of a site and the construction of the well is left generally in the hands of the Chairman of the Road Board, when not placed directly in the care of some private individual to whom the money is sometimes granted.

The amounts granted for the purpose are often and in fact it might be said, always too little. The Road Board so pinched and circumscribed by pecuniary circumstances cannot make the selection for a site or construct a well as they might desire, but is forced to scratch a hole somewhere where water may be had easily and cheaply, and as a consequence it often happens that both site and construction are faulty.

There are two departments of the Government to be blamed for this systematic and dangerous as well as highly unsatisfactory state of affairs, and these departments are themselves the victims

an hereditary sleepiness in those offices.

The Public Works Department and the Public Health Department must share the blame between them, and which of them is the greater sinner it is hard to say.

From an economic standpoint the Department of Public Works should take a more active interest in the matter. That office is responsible for public money spent under such a head as that of providing water supply to the people of the various settlements. It should therefore be the duty of that department to make a thorough investigation of the subject of water supply.

There are two heads under which such enquiry might be held, with decided advantage to the country. One of these is how best to furnish adequate supply of pure water at least cost, and the next and the most important consideration how best to insure the health of the people against the dangers that menace them in a contaminated water supply.

For this latter consideration the Public Health Department should be made responsible. It should be the duty of that office to make recommendations to the Board of Works respecting well sites and construction.

It seems to us that there is no excuse for having impure water in this country where nature has endowed us with the most bountiful supplies of the most sparkling and wholesome waters to be found anywhere in the world.

The old curse of indifference on the part of a lazy and worse that mediocre administration blights us at every turn, till it seems to us that a revolution is the great need in our land.

Not a department of the whole public service is capable of performing the duties that in every enlightened country under heaven devolve upon such administrative branches. We have men in public offices who have no capacity for the performance of the business of such offices beyond the very commonplace.

There seems to be an entire absence of initiative, the heads of departments are mere monkeys, in the sense that they are but parricide monkeys.

It is positively sickening to hear, year after year, the same old stereotyped petitions for wells, being presented by the same old style of political numskull in the House of Assembly.

We wonder why men do not see how absurd, how utterly silly they appear as they read those petitions, year after year.

The digging of a back yard well may seem a great engineering feat to those paltry politicians, but intelligent people must shrivel within themselves when they hear a petition for a well being read.

How much longer is this mockery of conducting the government of a country such as this to be tolerated?

English and German Gold

N.Y. Times.—As one studies the continuing revelations of the conduct and character of the people in this country who have been talking so long and so loudly about "British gold" and its effectiveness in influencing the American press and through it American public sentiment, there gradually assumes form in the mind something between a suspicion and a conviction. The chief if not the only object of this talk may have been to start flowing toward certain empty pockets here a stream of German gold. It is evident that the German gold has come, and in all quantities. It has produced a sudden and hitherto inexplicable prosperity among the German propagandists, but what they have propagated, except their own fortunes, seems to be merely a few little plots, some of them sufficiently annoying and irritating, but not one affecting public sentiment in the slightest degree, or the press to any measurable extent.

Just before he went down with the Lusitania Charles Frohman said: "Why fear death? It is the most beautiful adventure in life."

PROSPERITY STATISTICS OF KANSAS AND MISSOURI

From Address Delivered at National W.C.T.U. Convention, Atlanta, Ga.—Lillian M. Mitchner, President Kansas W.C.T.U.

What does the saloon cost the people of the United States every year? Government statistics tell us we spend \$2,500,000,000 for liquor every year.

What do we receive in return for this large sum of money? The same statistics tell us that as the direct result of the legalized saloon we receive 2,500 little dead babies, 5,000 suicides, 10,000 murderers, 60,000 fallen women and for every fallen woman a fallen man, 100,000 orphans, 100,000 paupers, 100,000 criminals, 100,000 insane, and every year 100,000 men die and fill drunkards' graves, and the Bible says, "No drunkard shall enter the kingdom of Heaven."

I believe the saloon would kill the church if it could and I also believe the church could kill the saloon if it would. I believe that any man or woman who signs a petition for a saloon license, who votes for license, or who rents property for saloon purposes, is just as guilty as is the man who sells liquor over the bar.

In Kansas statistics show that many of our inebriates are old people who acquired the drink habit, either before they came to the state, or before our laws were well enforced. When I was on the Pacific Coast I was handed a slip containing extracts from William A. White's article, "When Kansas Bordered the Water Wagon." Only a part of the article was there. If the whole story had been given the reading public would have been told how we finally won out what a terrible struggle it was and that no other state would have such a struggle, owing to the fact that we had no Supreme court decisions by which to be guided, but had to fight every possible legal point that could be raised and every technicality in the law, through all the lower courts and then through the Supreme court. This took many years. Now we have Supreme court decisions on almost every possible phase of the liquor law for which our sister states will not have to fight.

In 1880, when prohibition was adopted, and prior thereto, Kansas was exceedingly poor. During the thirty years of prohibition it has become one of the richest states, per capita, in the Union. Let us compare it for a moment with Missouri, which adjoins Kansas on its eastern border.

Missouri has better natural advantages than Kansas, more mineral deposits and forests, richer soil, more rainfall, nearer market facilities and its population is nearly twice as large. In Kansas almost every town owns its own electric light plant, waterworks and sewer system, while in Missouri many towns of even 4,000 and 5,000 people have no paved streets, electric light or water system. In Missouri the assessed valuation is \$1,650,000,000, or \$300 per capita. In Kansas the assessed valuation is \$2,750,000,000, or \$1,750 per capita. In the panic of 1907, when eastern banks appealed to the west for money, Missouri, with its large banks and great cities, refused to send one penny to the east and Kansas bankers sent \$50,000,000 to help the eastern banks in their emergency. In Missouri there is \$20 per capita and in Kansas over \$148 per capita deposited in the banks. In Missouri one farmer in 100 and in Kansas one farmer in five owns an automobile. In Missouri common laborers receive eight dollars per week and in Kansas they get fourteen dollars per week.

Why these differences? In Missouri there are over 4,000 saloons, into which the people of the state pay \$80,000,000 annually. In Kansas there are no saloons. We expend our money for food and clothing, for public improvements, for schools and colleges. We have \$18,000,000 worth of school buildings and public endowment funds of \$10,000,000 or more. The growth and extent of private and denominational schools is correspondingly large. Illiteracy has been reduced from forty-nine per cent to slightly more than two per cent, and that trifling amount is nearly all among the foreign element in our mining regions. With over 800 newspapers and magazines published in Kansas only eight will carry any liquor advertising whatever.

We have 105 counties in Kansas and eight-six have no insane; fifty nine have no feeble minded; ninety-six have no inebriates, the few we do have coming from the cities which so long defied the law. Twenty-nine county poor farms have no inmates and there is only one pauper to every three thousand population. In July, 1913, when report for the fiscal year was made, fifty-three county jails were empty; sixty-five counties had no prisoners serving sentence.

We had 724 convicts in the penitentiary when the prohibition law was passed; since that time our population has increased nearly one hundred per cent and the number of our convicts increased only three per cent. We have no capital punishment in Kansas, hence murderers become permanent occupants of the penitentiary. Aug. 3, 1914, we had 733 men and twelve Kansas women in our penitentiary, located in Kansas but containing prisoners from other states, there were 1,031 prisoners on that date. There are incorrectly credited as Kansas prisoners by those who seek to discredit prohibition.

No other state will ever have the fight to enforce the prohibitory law which has been waged in Kansas. When our law was passed the public sentiment was not aroused against the liquor traffic as it is today. Maine was the only prohibition state. Kansas had not one foot of local option territory. There had been no general demand for the prohibitory law and the issue was unexpectedly forced on the temperance people. There were 1,200 saloons when the law was passed; 800 closed and 400 remained to wage a bitter fight, which battle we have won. Our era of law enforcement in the last five years has made the open saloon unknown in any part of Kansas, the dive rare and almost impossible to find and we have not one red light district in the state.

In 1906 there were in Kansas City, Kansas, over 250 open law-leaving places where liquor was sold, with a regular system of monthly fines collected by the city. When Attorney General Coleman commenced to enforce the prohibition law a large delegation of politicians and business men came from Kansas City to Topeka. They urged that closing the saloons would drive away business, and that they already too many empty buildings and increase taxes. They were told the law would be enforced to the letter—and it was. A year later, when it was thought a change in office might mean less vigorous law enforcement, these same men made a second trip from Kansas City to Topeka.

But how different their mission. They came to beg that the vigorous enforcement of the prohibitory law might continue. The city had never been so prosperous, bank deposits had greatly increased, property values were better, working men were now buying lots and building homes, the school enrollment was greater, children were better dressed and better fed. The grocers, the merchants and the furniture dealers told of increased sales. People were moving from Kansas City, Missouri, across the line to Kansas City, Kansas, to get away from the saloons and all empty buildings were filled. The cost of criminal prosecutions had decreased \$25,000 during the year and \$25,000 more was saved by reduction of police court expense. How much was saved to the merchants in better collections they could not fully estimate. What prohibition, well enforced, has done for Kansas City, Kansas, is duplicated in many other cities of the state.

If you will look at the young men, grown to manhood in prohibition Kansas, you will find them a type of which to be proud. Because its men were physically stronger and more capable of endurance the Twentieth Kansas won special honors in the Philippines. When our Kansas boys, grown to manhood, took up the burden of official responsibility, they showed their belief in prohibition by passing the most drastic prohibition law the world has ever seen. They riveted on the "lid" in Kansas, and any candidate, or party, which would attempt to loosen it digs his own political grave.

Prohibition is the doctrine of self-defense. It has established a quarantine against a plague more destructive than cholera. It has taken politics out of the saloons and the saloons out of politics. Kansas has helped to solve for the world the greatest civic problem of the age. It has demonstrated that the solution of the saloon problem is no saloon. It stands for state and nationwide constitutional prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.
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Sec.-Treasurer—W. W. HALFYARD, M.H.A.
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Disaster Fund—\$6,000.
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