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## MR. COAKER ON FOOD INSPECTION; MAKES TELLING REPLY TO ATTACKS MADE ON FISHERMEN'S ADVOCATE

(Continued)  
As the Colonial Secretary knows, I have received my religious instructions at St. Mary's Church with him under the instruction of the late Rev. Archdeacon Botwood, and I can certainly say that from that to this I have never been under a better influence than his. As a boy I was associated with him, leading as choir boy. That certainly shows that I was religiously brought up in the principles of the Church of England.

I ask why these words were left out. I want to impress upon the public that I had no object such as to lay hands on the clergy. The Herald wanted to say I did. That I was an anarchist. That I was going for the clergy.

**No Reflection**  
I ask anyone to point to a word in the article and show that it is a reflection on the clergy. Everyone of them gets his salary from the fishermen. No one could live in the country, were it not for them. We would have no Harnsworth, no Reid, no merchants, no nothing at all were it not for the fishermen.

The rascals who controlled the fishermen are the men who were in this Assembly. These are the men who were to be shaken off as you would a dog killing ship. The object of the Herald was to make out that

Coaker was a bad fellow. Coaker was an anarchist. Coaker wanted to do away with the clergy.  
The man in the Daily News is even worse than the man in the Herald, because the Herald does put in a few words. The News stated I was a dastardly socialist, a villain of the worst type. People who were strangers to me would think that I had two horns and a cloven foot from the News' articles about me. That is how I was represented.

**Reasonable Kind**  
Now the members of this House and those that attend its sittings know that I am a reasonable kind of fellow, but those who do not know me would be led to believe that I am the greatest rascal that ever walked in shoe leather. I want to set myself right in this matter, and I hope that in future no more misquotation of this kind will be permitted.

If you want to quote from The Advocate do it honestly. Let the people judge the true words. Then they will not get from wrong and make their own deductions. I hope the Prime Minister will see that when the Hon. Mr. McGrath quotes from The Advocate that he will do it properly.

**Improving**  
The Advocate is getting better. That poor little 8x10 four page thing of 1910, the size of the largest news-

paper published, is going to be issued to-morrow in twenty pages. It will be the delight of 20,000 fishermen who would not do without The Advocate even if they had to miss their meals. When the mail comes in you see all the people rushing to the post office to get The Advocate to get the news. And no wonder. Has it not done good work? Is it not the greatest paper in the country. Send it north, south, east and west and you will hear nothing but praise of it.

**Was Blameless**  
Mr. Jennings—Mr. Chairman, I would rise to make one or two remarks. Mr. Moulton in referring to the Opposition throwing reflections excepted the front row and Mr. Stone from the back. I just want to speak with regard to myself. I have not since I stood on the floors of this House, in any way that I know of, many any remark that has been a reflection on the personal character of any member of the Government.

I had no intention of doing so, and any remarks that I made were directly concerned with their policy, and I do not think it is fair for the hon. member to pick out one and try and put the blame on the others for something which they did not do. I made no reflection on the personal honesty or integrity of any member of the Government, and if that sort of thing is necessary to do in order to own a

seat here, then I am here for this last time.

**Objected to the Words**  
Mr. Coaker—With regard to the statements of Mr. Moulton, the hon. member for Burgeo. He stated yesterday evening that the Opposition were making out that the members on the other side of the House were nothing but rogues and robbers. I objected to it, and I thought that we fixed up the matter fully then. I excused him, and said that I thought it was unfair, and that certainly he was not justified in what he said, but that in all probability he did not mean to use such strong language when he got up to speak.

Now he comes out and reiterates the statement, and adds further insult to it by saying it is only members on the back row of this side of the House who are stating such things. I am very much afraid if this sort of thing goes on there is going to be music on the floors of this House. We on this side of the House are not going to tolerate any such statements by any member of the Government. We are going to do our duty. We are not going to stop our mouths and ears; we will say what we think is right and proper, and those who do not like it can dislike it.

**Interviewed Mr. Coaker**  
The hon. member did come into my office last year and make some complaint in reference to an article that appeared in The Advocate. I told him that I had nothing to do with it, that I did not write the article, and did not see it until after the paper came out, but I did not say I was going to do anything else. He said he had not got any contracts for fertilizers that were given out, and with which Mr. Moulton or some one by the name of Moulton was connected.

He said that he had nothing to do with the public chest. What was he doing up in Fortune Bay the other day? Was he up there for the good of his health? Are there any arbitrations on in connection with the Fortune Bay railway? He may not have got anything in the past, but he as well as the rest is beginning to find out that there is something in politics after all.

**Misconstruction**  
The Premier has said that out of 32,000 voters in the northern districts we only got 15,000. This is another case of putting a misconstruction on what has happened. It may be true that there are 32,000 voters in those districts, but do you imagine that all the men are home to vote at an election. Why there are only about two-thirds of the total number of votes polled. We would have got four or five hundred more votes in Bonavista if all our young men were home. Our majority would have been four or five hundred more if those men who were employed on the railway, and at Bell Island and Grand Falls, and every where else, were home to vote.

The Premier states that one-third of the voters of Bonavista would have gone against us if there had been Liberals in the field. Well, let him test it. Two departments have been vacant for three or four months—since we defeated Mr. Blandford and Mr. Morison—and have no representatives on that side of the House, and he is not prepared to open any district in the country to fill those vacancies. Send them back to Bonavista and see what we will do to them.

**Liberals Went Back**  
Then he says that they divided the district of Bay de Verde with us. Why, it was the Liberals of Bay de Verde that defeated our man, by going back on the Union candidate. Some people there were too grand. They were not going to vote for a fisherman, but they would vote for a merchant.

And do you know how you won Bay de Verde? There were fifteen hundred electors in that district working on public works up to a day or two before the elections. You may win a district if you put two thirds of the electors on the public works, but send your men down there as Mr. Hickman, the hon. member for Bay de Verde, went down there, on his own merits, and see how many votes you will get.

As for Harbor Grace, we did not claim to have Harbor Grace. The Council at Bay Roberts asked Dr. Mosdell to be one of the candidates, as the Bay Roberts end had the right of naming one of the candidates; but we did not interfere in that district in any way. It was a Liberal fight, pure and simple. We did not have any correspondence with any one man in Harbor Grace or Carbonear with regard to the election.

**Truth a Stranger There**  
The Premier is delighted because I admitted the truth. Somehow or another it is a refreshing thing to get anyone here to admit the truth. I admitted that men have been expelled from the Union because they did not vote for Union candidates. Do you know that the Fishermen's Union has a Constitution, and one of the conditions contained in that constitution is that every man who is a member of the Union is suppos-

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ed to vote for those whom the Union have selected as candidates; and the great majority of them did that voluntarily. The constitution was there and every member of the Union knew that we had power to select candidates and from a political party whenever the people chose to do so. It was not I, or the Supreme Council, but the various districts that decided to have Union candidates, and the members of the Union were supposed to stand by them; and those who did not do that, because they were false to their declaration, because they were heeled, were expelled.

**Went In As Spies**  
Those men went into their Councils because they wanted to know what was going on in there, so that they might inform our opponents as to what took place. These men have been expelled from the Union. They were chaff, and the men who were the wheat, who did their duty, would not sit side by side with them, and expelled them from their Councils. British subjects, said the Premier. A British subject is free, and these men were free. We did not ask them to join, but when they came in they came in under certain conditions and with certain obligations,

and when they did not live up to them they were expelled. As to the effect it will have, there is a seat now vacant in Twillingate. Open up that district, send a man down there, and use all the power and influence which you have on your side of the House to command, and see how you will come out.

**A Straight Challenge**  
Send a man down to Bonavista, if you would like to have Mr. Blandford back as head of the Department of Agriculture and Mines, or if you would like to have Mr. Morison back as head of the Department of Justice, I will resign my seat and give you a chance to see how many men down in that district won't vote for us.

You cannot expect us to come here and be perfection in everything connected with Parliamentary usage. We are new to our duties, and may make some slips occasionally, but there has been nothing wrong in anything that has been said from this side of the House.

The hon. member for St. John's East, Mr. Higgins, said that I had been a farmer myself, and had perhaps put water in my milk, and knew what the farmers were doing. Go around town and ask whether my

statements are justified or not. Dozens of men have come to me and complimented me on having the course Coaker is a villain, and all matter, and there are thousands of people in St. John's to-day who fully agree with what I have said. Of course Coaker is a villain and all that; but your opinions won't make any difference to me. I am here to do my duty, and I will do it.  
(To be continued)

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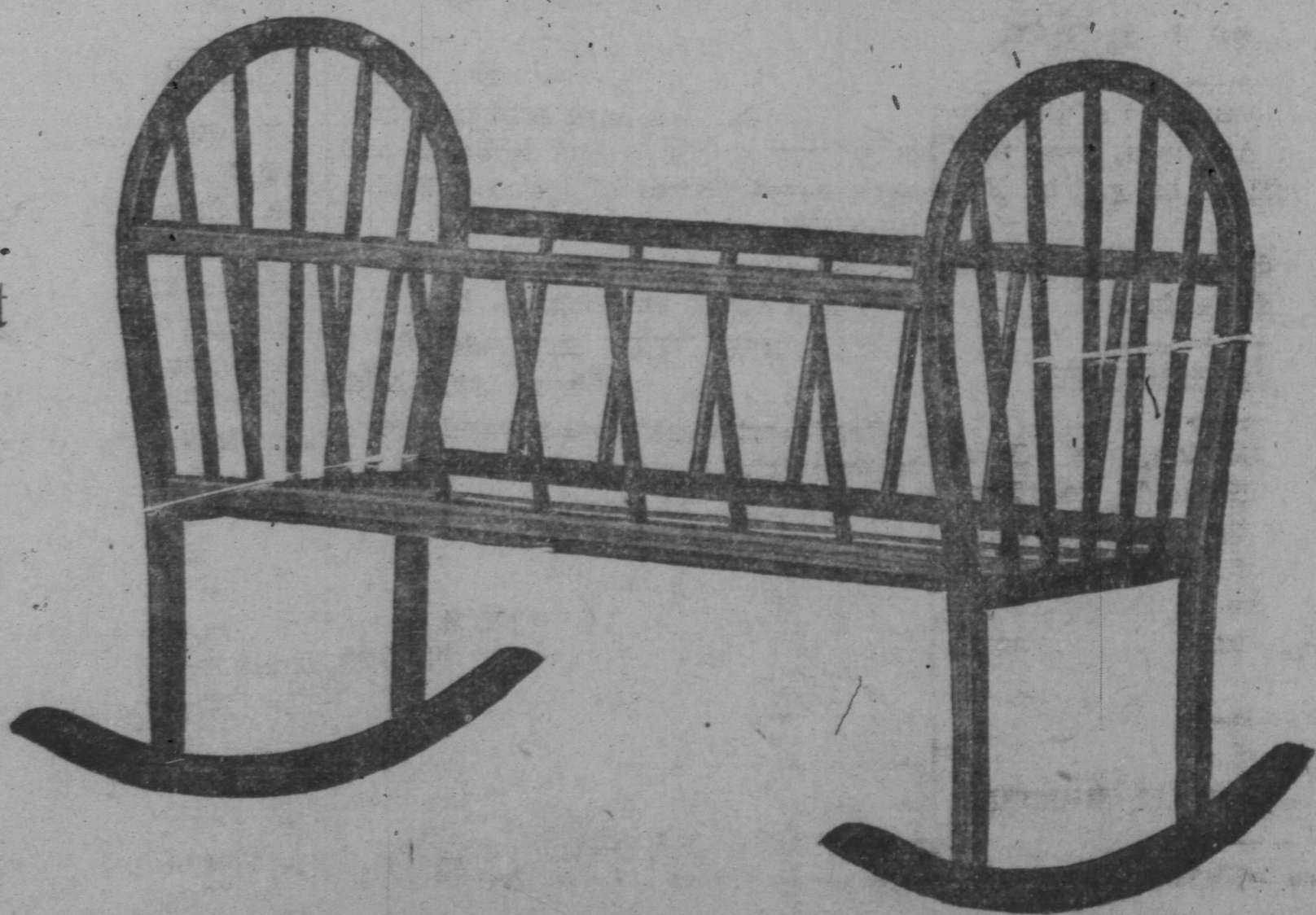
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