

# TUMBLERS!

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Jan 2, W. S. 11

## About Men and Things

### And Public Men in Particular.

(By SCRUTATOR.)

"In all our calculations, balance sheets, and audits strict, end with end never meets. Some undetected loss, or profit, follows the well-kept ledger and the Accountant's tolls."

It is always well to have an honest, upright and far-seeing man at the head of public affairs. There is one someone identified with the concerns of the country who has the inclination, as well as the power, to exercise a moderating influence, one who, at moments when wild decisions seem on the verge of being taken, steps in and makes a successful plea for reasonable judgment, one who deprecates unconstitutional methods, who, little by little, slowly prys the train of state back on the lines again!

Whatever others may think or say to the contrary, to my mind, it is clear enough that, if the race for place and power, pull and privilege under the governments in office from 1908 to 1919 was bad, under the succeeding administration, with its greater possibilities of graft and patronage, it was immeasurably worse. What we want to-day more than anything, is more than ever before, is a clean government—a government of patriotic, practical men—men anxious to rule with justice and economy—with malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives them to see the right."

What is a Government? A Government, as defined by me in a previous article, is simply a committee of citizens chosen by the rest to manage their public affairs, and to do so according to their will. Now, it is conceivable that the citizens, employing shrewdness in their public works, would treat them (the laborers) otherwise than they would be treated by said citizens if employed about their private enterprises? Obviously not. The same law, both civil and natural, that would imply fair and just treatment of the one case would equally require it in the other. Yet what do we do? Let the reader answer!

Touching the labor outlook! It is fully assumed that no more serious rests upon the state than to provide reasonable safeguards against idleness and unemployment. It would seem axiomatic that a well thought out customs system should, as its first consideration, establish a principle of so arranging tariff schedules as best to afford protection to those of its citizens who must support themselves and their families by honest daily toil, to the end that reasonable standards of living may be attained, and that family savings may be possible, and that the welfare of the people may be promoted.

When there is the matter of "trade protection." To import into the country manufactured products from countries having a degraded wage scale, to force the pay of its own laboring men to lowest world level. In the analysis about ninety per cent. of all manufactured articles is labor. It is to account for the fact that all these start somewhere as raw materials in the forest or in the mine; hence in the country where wages are between quarter and one half the wage prevailing in the United States England has an advantage of at least fifty per cent. of the finished goods.

A writer in the International Worker observes, "the extraordinary thing is the ease with which men will surrender mentally to the challenge that might is right." The great leaders in every age, Moses to Lincoln, have known the truth of this. Only the other day an American statesman, who has shared in all the political actions of the last decade and

more, said: "It is a scandalous old doctrine that might is right. On the contrary, right is might, and you will prove it so every time, every time, mark you, if you have the courage." The difficulty is that men blench at the fatal moment. When the apparent dangers of the situation crowd in upon them, they yield to the mesmerism of the occasion, and their hearts fail. It must have required a tremendous hold upon principle for Moses to outface Pharaoh, or for Lincoln to accept the responsibility of the Civil War; but the one saved Israel, and the other saved the United States.

In view of the present unpromising conditions, and the not too cheerful outlook for the coming months of January, February and March, don't you think, reader, that we have reason to "cry to God to put it into the hearts of members of the Legislature to take the duty of the poor man's bread?" Let me here quote the first verse of Dickens' "Hymn to the Whistling Farmers" under similar circumstances. I think you will agree with me that it is quite appropriate:—

"Oh, God, who by Thy prophet's hand, Didst smite the rocky breaks, Whence water came at Thy command, Thy people's thirst to slake; Strike, now, upon this granite wall, Stern, obdurate and high; And let some drops of pity fall For us who starve and die."

It is sincerely hoped that the approaching "Commission of Inquiry" will lead to genuinely constructive reforms in certain departments of the public service. I do not presume to dogmatize on the form it should take. But let the inquiry be searching and far-reaching, not a mere camouflage, such as they trumped up in 1895 to hide the bank scandals of that time. Something effective must be done to clean the Augean stables of this dominion, and restore the public service to an honest, healthy, and efficient condition. Then, again, the people's interest not merely the interests of a few professional politicians—must be a matter of primary importance. And it is perfectly obvious that, in taking measures to safeguard the individual life of our people, you have got to give every possible help and encouragement to the great staple industry.

Under existing circumstances, "that is a difficult question to grapple with," as Sir William Coaker has again and again observed. I am not a practical fisherman; but I have had a fair second-hand knowledge of the matter, and I know enough about our people to realize that they are perfectly sick of being monkeyed about by governments as they have been during the

past few years. I know, also, that most of those who live in the outports are very much like people who live in the city in this that we are all born gamblers, and I do not suppose for a moment that anything that might be proposed will give universal satisfaction.

But to revert to the Commission of Inquiry! What the outcome will be I am not in a position to say just at present, but the assurance has been given me by one high in authority that grave wrongs and acts of an apparently criminal nature have been committed. It is also stated that even before the appointment of Mr. Hollis Walker as Chairman of the Commission, grounds were established of which criminal proceedings could be instituted. Obviously, then, if any faith is to be placed in the veracity of official statements and figures in public accounts, there are certainly ample grounds at least for indictments, and perhaps convictions. The Newfoundland public would feel unpeppably outraged if such action as the case called for should not be forthcoming. The statements of the Minister of Justice guarded as they are, will be received as an element of satisfaction in a most unsatisfactory business.

Whether the result of the Commission's inquiry will be satisfactory to the public can be known only as that action unfolds. The chief evil involved in the scandal cannot be reached except by criminal prosecution. Of course, there is the other evil, that of sordid and selfish politics. That can be reached only by aroused public opinion. One fact, however, is very clear from the outset. The punishment of those who have sinned against the heavily-burdened fishing and laboring classes, and against the whole country—deeply deserved as it undoubtedly seems to be—is secondary to what is to be done towards putting the Government on the right basis for performing the public service in an honest and efficient manner. The past, besmirched with misdeeds and with inefficiency cannot be washed white by any measure of punishment. The future, threatened with the political pollution that has fallen upon the past, can still be kept clean if action sufficiently vigorous is taken promptly. Nothing short of that will be accepted by the public as satisfactory.

Certain it is that to-day political conditions in Newfoundland, as elsewhere, show little sign of improvement, and people have "scoured" on the Government in general, and on the Prime Minister in particular. That is the real menace to Premier Warren, not the theatricals of Opposition and the Labor leaders. While one is convinced of the immense resources and potentialities of the country, and certain of its recuperative powers, it would be foolish to ignore that at present things are decidedly overcast, and that many people are ready to "rush" their grievances upon the Government.

In personal appearance, I am told

### For the Boy or Girl away from home

There is no pleasure greater than in receiving some good food from mother. Every son or daughter likes fruity cake—plenty of raisins and citron in it. Mothers who do not bake at home can send a loaf of Mother Drake's Fruit Cake (in 3 or 5-lb. decorated caddies). It will keep until eaten, because it has all the rich qualities of the finest home baked cake



### STEEDMAN'S POWDERS

Cooling and health giving. An ideal aperitif for children from the period of teething to the age of 10 or 12 years.

WRITE FOR SOBERLY "HINTS TO MOTHERS" GRATIS AND POST FREE.

JOHN STEEDMAN & CO. 17, WALKER STREET, LONDON.

Mr. Hollis Walker, the Chairman of the Commission of Inquiry, is not unlike the late Sir Hugh Hoyles, and he greatly resembles him in sheer honesty of thought and method. He is a man of considerable will power, and has all a lawyer's facility for getting to the essential point. He may be described as a finished product of the English bar, who combines ability and dignity in the just proportion that will make his appointment and the discharge of his duties satisfactory alike to the country and to those who have been instrumental in getting him here.

As to the "great harvest of the sea" and how it can best be conserved, let me say that it has always been regarded by the people of Maine and Massachusetts, as well as by ourselves, as an industry of the utmost importance. In the new Hall of Representatives in Boston, honors a wooden codfish, "as a memorial of the significance of the codfishery to the welfare of the Commonwealth, in accordance with the resolution passed in 1784." It may be seen above the transom of the door. Next to the herring, the cod is the world's most important and valuable economic fish, and the cod fisheries of the Newfoundland Banks are the oldest in North America. I need hardly add that George's Bank, southeast of Gloucester, is also, is still a favorite fishing ground.

Speaking of our great staple industry reminds me that there is a suggestive article in the current number of the Geographic Magazine, from the export pen of Mr. John Oliver La Gore on "The Fishes and Fisheries of the North Sea-board." In the course of which he flashes some interesting light on the decline of the lobster fishery. "The story of the constant yearly depletion of this industry," he says, "is told in every area where the fishery exists. Fifty years ago lobster were so plentiful that even the poorest of the people might feast to their hearts content on this succulent crustacean. Even as late as 1880, the catch in the United States alone reached a total of 30,000,000 pounds, which sold for \$800,000—less than three cents a pound. Ten years later the catch was only half as large, while the price had more than doubled. In 1880 the State of Maine produced 14,234,000 pounds, which sold for less than two cents a pound, as compared with 8,545,000 pounds in 1922, which sold at 26 cents a pound at the wharf, and heaven only knows at how much to the ultimate consumer." The catch of Maine alone in 1880 was greater than the total from Delaware Bay to the coast of Newfoundland in 1922. Overfishing has been the cause. This can be combated in two ways by artificial propagation and by restricting the catch, either as to season or to size.

Enjoyable time assured those who attend the C.L.A. Dance at Columbus Hall, January 7th. Jan 5, 61

### Just Folks. By EDGAR A GUEST

AT SIXTEEN MONTHS. At sixteen months, when they start to walk, And a few brief words is their sum of talk, When their smile is a marvelous joy to see, And they want to ride of their daddy's knee, When you're not tired but they never do, For everything in this world is new—It's then, I say, that a baby pays For all of her care in her helpless days.

At sixteen months when they crowd with glee, And their arms reach up for the things they see, When a smile breaks out on that cherub face, The minute you call from your hiding place, When you know how the worst of you spoils your worth, But you're the greatest man on earth, It's then, I say, that you're downright The good Lord chose you to be a dad.

At sixteen months, let me say to you, There's a thrill in everything babies do, They'll keep you going and wear you out, They'll cling to your hand as you walk about, But you'll laugh and sing and you'll boast your fill Of your marvelous baby. Oh, yes, you will! For at sixteen months, I am here to state, Every baby, in spite of its dad, is great.

### Medical Advance

#### NEW METHOD OF BLOOD TRANSFUSION DISCOVERED BY ENGLISH DOCTOR.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A new method of blood transfusion and for treating serious cases of septicæmia is being successfully used at St. Mary's Hospital, London, says the Daily Mail. It is the invention of the famous pathologist, Sir Almroth Wright. Dr. Wright found during the war that simple transfusion was useless in desperate cases of septicæmia and adopted the plan of drawing the blood of a healthy person, inoculating it with vaccine to increase its power of killing microbes and then injecting it in the patient. From this developed the improved method, namely, the inoculation of a healthy blood donor with vaccine and then, when this person's blood, has manufactured a large quantity of microbe-killing substances, drawing this stream of infection.

The results so far obtained can only be regarded as a beginning, says the newspaper, but physicians apparently are building much hope on the new method.

### Home-made Remedy Stops Coughs Quickly

The best cough medicine you ever used. A cough, a cold, a sore throat, a whooping cough, a croup, a bronchitis, a pneumonia, a laryngitis, a pharyngitis, a tonsillitis, a sinusitis, a rhinitis, a conjunctivitis, a meningitis, a neuritis, a myelitis, a sclerosis, a paralysis, a convulsion, a epilepsy, a hysteria, a neurasthenia, a melancholia, a dementia, a mania, a insanity, a senility, a senescence, a decrepitude, a death.

You might be surprised to know that the best thing you can use for a severe cough, is a remedy which is easily prepared at home in just a few minutes. It's cheap, but it gives prompt results. It beats anything else you ever tried. Usually stops the cough, cough or chest cold in 24 hours. Tastes pleasant, too—children like it—and it's pure and good. For the quickest of these in a 16-oz. bottle; then fill it up with plain granulated sugar syrup. Or use clarified molasses, honey, or corn syrup, instead of sugar syrup, if desired. This you may give to your family freely—but costing no more than a small bottle of ready-made cough syrup.

And as a cough medicine, there is really nothing better to be had at any price. It goes right to the spot and gives quick, lasting relief. It promptly helps the inflamed membrane that lines the throat and air passages, stops the annoying throat tickle, loosens the phlegm, and soothes your cough, stops sneezing, and relieves your headache, croup, hoarseness, and bronchial asthma.

Price: A highly concentrated compound of Norway pine extract, famous for its healing effect on the membrane.

To avoid disappointment, get your druggist for 25¢ ounces of Fluid with directions and don't accept anything else. Guaranteed to give absolute satisfaction, or money refunded. The Essex Co., Toronto, Ont.

# 1924 BARGAINS!

## Friday, Saturday and Monday

### COAL HODS.

Now that you have your coal in the cellar, you should make sure to have a strong bucket to bring it up. These are made of heavy gauge steel with strong handle and rivetted connections.

New Year Price, 59c. each.

### MEN'S TWEED TROUSERS.

They are stylish in appearance; fabrics, a strong and long wearing English Tweed.

New Year Price, \$2.39 Pr.

### ENAMELLED JUG.

No utensil in the kitchen gets so much use as the Enamelled Water Jug.

New Year Price, 89c. each.

### CUPS & SAUCERS.

Made in England. Extra strong White Granite. New Year Price, for Cup and Saucer, 15c.

### HEAVY WOOL HOSE.

So serviceable for boys.

New Year Price, 59c. Pr.

### ENAMEL SAUCEPAN.

A four quart Enamel Saucepan

New Year Price, 98c. each.

### BOYS' TWEED TROUSERS.

As "wearproof" as modern ingenuity and durable fabrics can make them. All sizes in stock.

New Year Prices, \$1.29 pair up.

### FULL SIZED BED BLANKETS.

66 x 88. Woven of excellent quality yarns, soft, deep nap, insures unusual warmth. Blanket ends are carefully finished, pure white.

New Year Price, \$5.95 Pr.

### Kindly Remember: W. R. Goobie is just opp. Post Office

### New Light Cruisers

\$8,000,000 TO BE EXPENDED IN WAGES.

Sir Samuel Roberts, who has retired from Parliament after representing the Eccleall Division of Sheffield for 21 years, has made the following statement laid down by the Government. The programme is to build 17 light cruisers to take the place of the old County class. They will cost about £1,750,000 each, or a total of £29,750,000. It is proposed to get on with the work immediately. Ten of them are to be ordered this month or early in January. About half the cost will be expended in labour. That is to say, about £8,000,000 will be spent in wages extending over a period of from 24 to 30 months. I am hoping that a large share of the work will come to Sheffield for engineering machinery, armour plates, and guns. I have received a very satisfactory letter from Mr. Amery, First Lord of the Admiralty, acknowledging my communication, and stating that the Admiralty wished to place Sheffield among those places which were to be specially considered.

Food authorities say that Crisco is absolutely pure and easily digested. It can be used for all purposes instead of cooking butter. Crisco goes farther than butter and gives better satisfaction.

Barratt's English medium priced Boots and Oxfords for Ladies' and Gent's at SMALLWOOD'S. Dec 24, 1923.

### MUTT AND JEFF

THIS IS KILLING TWO DUCKS WITH ONE STONE.

MR. MEADOO, I KNOW YOU'RE FAIR AND SQUARE. I'M YOUR OPPONENT FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT BUT UNLESS I GOT A JOB SO I CAN RAISE FUNDS TO CARRY ON MY CAMPAIGN. MY NAME IS MUD.

I'LL GIVE YOU FIVE DOLLARS A DAY TO CARRY THESE SIGNS THROUGH THE STREETS.

I'LL GIVE YOU A JOB, JEFF.

FIVE BUCKS A DAY IS NICE PAY BUT AT THE SAME TIME THIS AD. I'NT GONNA HELP MY POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS ANY!

STILL, WHEN WE WERE GIVEN BRAINS I GUESS WE WERE SUPPOSED TO USE THEM!

MUTT, CAN YOU IMAGINE CANDIDATE MEADOO PAYING CANDIDATE JEFF FIVE BUCKS A DAY FOR DOING THIS? WELL, HE IS!