

SOCIAL LAWS OF
NEW ZEALAND.

FROM THE ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT.

New Zealand is dubbed "the country of overlegislation," that is, by those within her borders whose interests are not served by her legislative acts, and those outside whose education in political economy will not permit them to believe that some of the peculiar laws of this remote land will stand the test of every day practical use.

Although New Zealand is a British colony, she governs herself as independently of the Mother Country as does one of our States in the enactment and execution of her laws. This is just as true, however, of the other six colonies of Australasia. But in the compiling of and tampering with the statute book New Zealand has been much more aggressive than any of the other colonies, and has been right at the forefront of all countries as the pioneer in what is termed by many people "experimental legislation."

Here is a country far from the great markets of the world, but wonderfully rich in natural resources, agriculture, timber, and coal. Precious metals, to some extent, are named with profit.

In addition to several small islands which are dependencies, New Zealand comprises two large islands, separated by a channel—Cook's strait—fourteen miles wide at the narrowest point. These are called North and South islands, the latter being a little the larger. The total area is 104,471 square miles. New Zealand has four smart towns, namely, Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin, and Christchurch, all seaports, with a population of about 50,000 each. The distance across the Tasman sea, between New Zealand and Australia proper, is 1,200 miles. The population of New Zealand, in round numbers, is 750,000 whites, and 40,000 aborigines, or Maoris.

Practically there are no unemployed in New Zealand. That is to say, the unemployed difficulty—the grave problem, based on the presence in a community of large bodies of able-bodied men unable to obtain work—does not exist. Such seems to be the plain fact in New Zealand, without the least inducement in hyperbole.

There are two political parties, the Liberals and Conservatives. To the former the latter attribute all the "evils of bad legislation," but the Liberals still keep in power, and the people seem to be with them, although the leading newspapers of the colony are Conservative, and "with the rich man," as the Liberals say.

No corporation or individual can own enormous tracts of land or other real estate unless he pays the "penalty of success." The railway and telegraph lines are owned by the government. The graduated land tax has been in operation for some time, and the friends of the government claim that it works admirably. According to this law the labourer who owns a very modest home, or the farmer who has a small tract of land he is struggling to improve, pays the lowest rate of taxation. The man who owns a little more property than either of these is taxed a degree higher, and so on, until the man who is very rich, with his thousands of acres, would pay the highest rate in the schedule. The government does its assessing in its own way, and if any one is dissatisfied and thinks the valuation is too high on his particular

property, the government stands ready, according to the law, to buy the land at the assessed valuation, and pay cash for the same.

I sought an interview with the Hon. J. G. Ward, the ex-Treasurer of New Zealand, and recognized in London as the greatest financier in the colony, and at home as a great political economist. He has been in active politics in New Zealand for eleven years, and his opinion is regarded most highly wherever he is known, regardless of political affiliations.

Said I: "Mr. Ward, has the New Zealand Parliament, in your opinion, enacted any law in the line of social legislation that the people of your country would like to have repealed?"

"There are not many people in New Zealand," said Mr. Ward, "who would now suggest any attempt to repeal any of the social legislation we have placed upon our statute books."

"For instance, take our conciliatory and arbitration laws. At first they were very stoutly opposed; it was a hard-fought political battle, but success followed. In practice the law has been the means of ameliorating the strife that, from time to time must necessarily arise between the industrial classes and their employers. In these cases—and they have been many—that have come up for consideration in all parts of the colony, it has brought about a workable and economical solution of the difficulties which, under other conditions, would have developed into strikes—the old method of settlement, ruinous alike to employers and employed. I feel quite certain that no appreciable percentage of either class would now allow any part of this legislation to be repealed, or for a moment tolerate the suggestion. Any action will be in the direction of improvement and extension."

"Then as to our early closing movement. At first this also received a great deal of criticism and a considerable amount of opposition—particularly from the shopkeepers. They believed and in the absence of practical trial such belief was not to be wondered at that early closing was going to be inimical to their welfare and detrimental to their business. It has not proved to be so. On the contrary, the effect of legislative enactment compelling all to close at a certain hour has brought the business conditions of all to a common level and so reduced the friction of profitless competition of that kind. I have been personally assured by many shopkeepers in all parts of the colony that neither their earnings nor their takings have diminished since the system has been inaugurated. On the other hand it has been the means of giving to a large section of our workers—the shop employes—more reasonable hours, greater time for personal recreation, larger leisure for the acquirement of personal culture; and that very fact has incidentally, enabled the employes to give better results to those who employ them. I am glad to say that the great majority of shopkeepers now recognize that the early closing legislation has been of material benefit and I feel persuaded that they would not care to revert to the former condition of things. The provisions of the Act are strictly enforced, but in nothing that I should add that the general recognition of the value of the law by the shopkeepers is such that interference is seldom needed. No real hardship has resulted to anybody. Of that I am confident. The Act is sufficiently elastic to make provision for the needs and peculiarities of different classes of business. Certain exceptions are made in the

Refreshing Sleep
COMES WHEN
Milburn's Heart
and Nerve Pills
ARE USED.

Miss Margaret Brown, 627 Colborne St., London, Ont., says:—"My mother has been afflicted with nervousness and general debility for a long time. She suffered a great deal with insomnia, and found it almost impossible to sleep."

"I went to W. T. Strong's drug store and got a box of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, which she took, and derived so much benefit from them that I bought another box for her. They have done her a wonderful lot of good, making her nervous system much stronger, giving her restful sleep, and removing many other symptoms which previously distressed her."

"I can truly say that these pills are a great remedy for any one suffering from weak nerves, general debility, sleeplessness or heart trouble."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c. a box or 3 for \$1.25, at all druggists.

cases of hair-dressers, fruiterers and others, concerned in the wants of travellers, and so forth; while hotels do not come under the Act at all, being properly supervised under the licensing Acts. Of course, the weekly half holiday is with us compulsory, as is the observance of all public holidays. Where however, a week includes a holiday, the granting of the regular half holiday is not enforced.

"Touching now on the question of old-age pensions, have you definitely settled your policy in that matter, Mr. Ward?" "Yes definitely. We have established the scheme. It is too elaborate to be surveyed in detail now; but, briefly, every man or woman in New Zealand over the age of 65 will henceforth be entitled to a pension, the maximum sum being £18 (\$90) yearly per individual pensioner. Of course there are conditions. The parties must have resided in the colony for 25 years continuously—the necessity for such a clause is obvious—and they must be really in need of the money; if they are capable of earning £52 per year they are not considered in need. Really the object is to see that no man or woman who, through no fault of his or hers is in a condition of poverty shall be starved or be needlessly pauperized. Under our scheme few new officials are to be appointed, if any. The money will be distributed to approved pensioners by the postal officers. No new department will be created: the Act is to be administered by the registrar of friendly societies as executive officer under the Minister."

"But, Mr. Ward, what of the cost of all this?" "The cost will be considerable. One hundred thousand pounds a year eventually, I suppose; not so much at first. It will come from the consolidated revenue. Once it is recognized to be the duty of the State to make provision for the aged the revenue must be adjusted from time to time to make proper provision for the purpose. But I should like to say as to all these questions where a necessary and salutary law is made, at whatever cost, there are always compensating elements. In a very few years matters right themselves, and we are recompensed for any revenue conceded in the first instance. We have made some enormous concessions in our colony in that way, but they have all been made up with one exception. We reduced the island postal telegraph rate from 1s. to 6d. some time ago, and so far the loss sustained in that connection has not been fully recovered, but I have no doubt that it will be. The old-age pension scheme, as it represses the evidences and harder aspects of pauperism, and keeps the aged in their own homes, in some measure of independence, will add to the health and tone of the social fabric generally, and so prove in time to be the remedy of its own apparent defect in the matter of cost."

"Mr. Ward, in the short trip I made through the colonies with a national capital, such as we have in the United States, is a burning question. How does New Zealand stand on federation?" "A question a little difficult to answer, perhaps, in concise terms. The people of New Zealand are concerned, as to the future of a great continent, such as Australia, but I am compelled to say that, in the opinion of the majority of our people and the great majority of our publicists, federation will not be acceptable to New Zealand. The main reason is that there is such a wide stretch of sea between us and Australia. Yes, I believe that federation will come for the other Australian colonies, but New Zealand will have to be excluded."—J. Martin Miller.

No trouble in getting the children to take Dr. Low's Pleasant Worm Syrup. It always does its work effectively without any cathartic to be given afterwards. Price 25c.

The opinions of relatives as to a man's powers are very commonly of little value, not merely because they sometimes overrate their own flesh and blood, as some may suppose; on the contrary, they are quite as liable to underrate those whom they have grown into the habit of considering like themselves.

COOK'S NEW BLOOD PILLS.

THE WOODSTOCK
WOODWORKING COMPANY, LTD

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

Church Pews, Doors, School Desks, Windows, Sheathing, Mouldings, Shop Fronts, Flooring.

And every variety of Finish for Houses and Churches.

Window and Door Screens,
INCREASED FACILITIES.

SHINGLES AND CLAPBOARDS FOR SALE.

CONFEDERATION LIFE
ASSOCIATION
OF TORONTO.

Established 1871.

Income \$1,200,000.

Policies Unconditional. Extended Insurance and
Paid Up Policy after TEN years. Low Rates.
Profits Unexcelled.WENDELL P. JONES,
Special Agent.G. W. PARKER,
Gen. Agent.

Court Knew What Was Poker.

Paul Milliken, who is one of the most popular men on 'Change, was yesterday on the floor rehearsing the latest poker incident. It is unnecessary to say that he secured a great many auditors, as there are numerous admirers of the great American game there. A private game had been broken up in a small town which was very religiously inclined, and the players arrested and taken before the county judge. The first prisoner was told by the judicial light to rehearse in strict honesty what was going on when the officer appeared.

"Well," had just dealt. It was a jack pot—he said; 'I open it, but it will cost you \$2 to come in.' The next player put up the needed amount and said: "Well, it will just cost five more to be in this play." The third one advanced it \$3 more, and when it came to me I looked at my hand and found a pair of threes. I had been lucky, and concluded to go in the jack pot and 'did so."

"Prisoner is dismissed!" cried the judge, interrupting him in his story.

"Well, what's the trouble?" said the latter, looking about alarmed and studying the judge in surprise.

"Why, simply this: You are charged for playing poker, and your own evidence shows that you were not," replied the court.—Cincinnati Inquirer.

Montague, of Dunnville, Cured of Ulcerated
Itching Piles.

Mr. Robert Montague, of Dunnville, Ont., writes:—"I was troubled with Itching Piles for five years and was so badly ulcerated, they were very painful, so much so, that I could not sleep. I tried almost every medicine known when I was recommended to use Dr. Chase's Ointment. I purchased a box and from the first application got relief. Have used two boxes and am now completely cured."

A busy man or woman is rarely a long hater—or indeed a hater at all. An inveterate hater needs a clear, unoccupied mind. It wants the house to itself, and will brook no fellow-lodgers. Work heals more feuds than intercession.

You don't know when Diarrhoea or Dysentery may attack you, so always be prepared to check them at once by having on hand Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry.

If we had our way most of us would choose a new set of circumstances and would afterwards repent bitterly. God doeth better for His sons, disarming and illuminating the things which were against us, so that they become our protection—the storm on the surface hiding the eternal calm below.

COOK'S SURE COUGH CURE

FLOWERS.

Roses and Carnations, Floral
Emblems and Bouquets,
At Thomas Troy's Greenhouse.

Also, House Plants of every description, Bedding Out Plants, Cabbage Plants. Cauliflower, Tomato, Celery and Cucumbers ready 1st of May. All orders promptly attended to

THOMAS TROY,

Opp. L.P. Fisher, Main St. Woodstock, N.B.

Notice Of Sale.

To Harvey Kennedy of the Parish of Richmond in the County of Carleton and Province of New Brunswick, Farmer, and Rhoda Jane Kennedy, his wife, and all others whom it may concern.

TAKE NOTICE that there will be sold at Public Auction in front of the office of D. McLeod Vince, Barrister-at-Law, on King Street in the Town of Woodstock, in the said County of Carleton, on THURSDAY the SIXTEENTH DAY OF MARCH next at ten o'clock in the forenoon, the following lands and premises namely:—All that certain piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Parish of Richmond in the County of Carleton and Province of New Brunswick and bounded as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a post standing on the North eastern angle of the grant to Thomas Griffin in Maxwell, thence running East fifty-nine chains thence North Sixteen chains and eighty links to meet the South line of lot number twenty-three West fifty-four chains along said line to a post standing on the East side of the American Boundary line and thence along the said last mentioned Boundary line South fifteen degrees, West seventeen chains and fifty links to the place of beginning, containing ninety-three acres more or less, distinguished as lot number nineteen being same land conveyed by Andrew Kirkpatrick by Deed to one Robert Saunders on or about the Twenty-first day of March A. D. 1871 and conveyed to said Rhoda Jane Kennedy by her father, Robert Saunders, about the Twenty-seventh day of June A. D. 1882.

The above sale will be held under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the seventeenth day of April A. D. 1889, and made between the said Harvey Kennedy and said Rhoda Jane Kennedy his wife, of the one part, and the undersigned Alfred H. Henderson of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania one of the United States of America, Dentist, of the other part, which said Mortgage is Registered in the Office of the Registrar of Deeds for the said County of Carleton, in Book K Number Three of Records on pages 539, 540 and 541, default having been made in the payment of monies thereby secured.

Dated this thirteenth day of February A. D. 1899.

ALFRED H. HENDERSON.

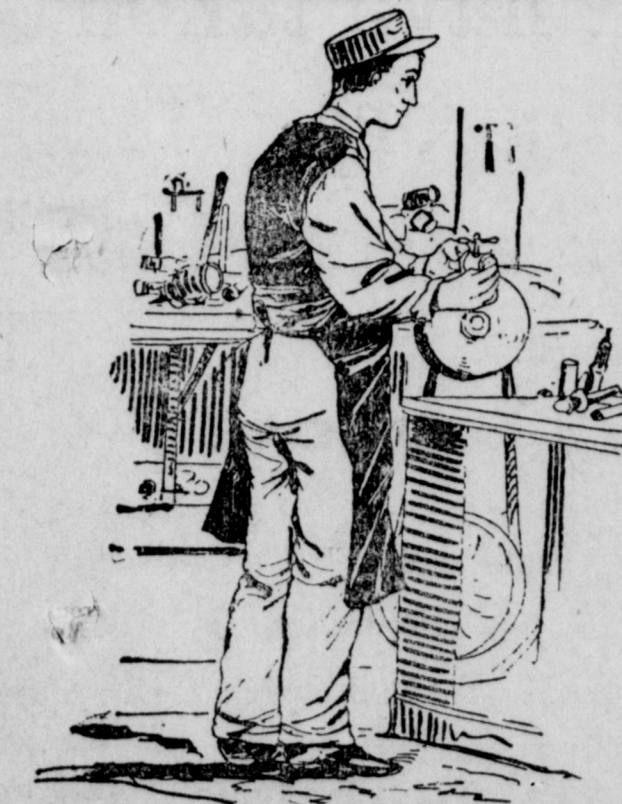
General House
Finishing.DOORS,
WINDOWS,
MOULDINGS,
FLOORING,
SHEATHING,
SCHOOL DESKS,
CHURCH WORK.James E. Barter & Co.
Avondale, N. B.

FARM FOR SALE.

A farm containing 350 acres 130 under good cultivation well watered and well wooded beautifully situated on the St. John river four miles below Woodstock will be sold on reasonable terms and possession given the first of April. Apply to JOHN D. KETCHUM on the premises or at the DISPATCH Office.

KIDNEY-SICK PEOPLE!

By far the largest army of sufferers in the world are the kidney-sick people—but by far the largest army of the cured ones attribute their release from disease to the great South American Kidney Cure—Cures Bright's disease. Cures diabetes. Cures all bladder ailments.



tested by eminent medical authorities on kidney diseases, and proved and testified to by them as the surest and safest cure for all diseases of the kidneys and bladder. It's a purifier—a healer—a health builder—efficacious alike to man or woman.

Good News from the North Country—A young machinist in a large manufacturing concern in Northern Ontario, fell a victim to the dropsical form of kidney disease, through atmospheric changes in following his daily labors—he continued his work until almost commanded to quit by the physician from whom he had been receiving treatment. He visited Toronto and consulted an eminent authority on kidney diseases. The doctor sent him home with as hopeful a story of himself as he could give, but wrote privately to the young man's physician that it was only a matter of time with him until death would claim another kidney victim. When he

SOUTH AMERICAN NERVEINE—Is a nerve healer. Cures indigestion and all stomach troubles which are forerunners of nervous collapse.

SOUTH AMERICAN RHEUMATIC CURE—Has lifted men off a bed of pain after a few days' use, who have not been free from suffering for years.

DR. AGNEW'S OINTMENT cures blind, bleeding, itching or ulcerating piles in from three to five nights. 35 cts.

FOR SALE BY GARDEN BROS.