

NEW ZEALAND.

The Stories About the Premier Pronouncing Against the Arbitration Acts Untrue—New Labor Legislation.

The following letter from Wellington, New Zealand, dated Oct. 20th, touching the question of labor unions and compulsory arbitration, has just been received by a Canadian public man.

Many letters have been received from Canada asking if it is true that New Zealand is in a condition of industrial turmoil, and that compulsory arbitration is a failure. It is added that the report is current in Canada that the Premier of this colony has pronounced against the act and against further legislation of the advanced order.

The Premier, so far from having pronounced against the Arbitration Act, has this session, introduced an amending bill, making the act far more strict than before. One of its clauses provides that all trade unions in an industrial district shall come under the award, whether industrial unions or not. So that, while an industrial union has certain privileges, such as initiating disputes and electing boards and courts, the union that is not industrial has only the disabilities. This is something like compulsory arbitration. The bill has passed the Lower House with flying colors, and is almost certain to pass into law.

Another measure that will, in all probability, reach the statute book, is the new Factory bill, consolidating existing acts, but with some very important new points. The hours for women and youths are to be 45 per week; that is to say, an eight-hour day and a weekly half holiday (to be paid for), as well as overtime, which must be paid time and a quarter. That is 25 per cent. extra on day rates.

There is a minimum wage of 12 cents per hour, no girl or boy to be employed at less wage than \$1.25 per week. The men are to have a 48-hour week; any time after this is to be paid at time and a quarter. There is a schedule of a few exemptions, such as for fish-curing, jam-making and other intermittent industries, where, at certain times of the year long hours have to be worked, while, at other times, the work partially or wholly ceases.

The importance of this new bill lies in the fact that, hitherto, the Factories Act has only interfered with the hours of women and boys, and, to attempt to regulate the working hours for men is a new departure. Exception is, of course, made for any trade working under an award of the Arbitration Court, and it is thought that employees will now be more ready to seek the aid of the court in order to get better terms than the act itself allows.

With regard to the proposals of the Government to establish a line of mail steamers to San Francisco, the balance of commercial opinion appears to incline unfavorably against the Oceanic Company. This colony offered a subsidy of \$75,000 a year, for three years; but Mr. Spreckels, on behalf of the company, declined the offer. Mr. Spreckels was willing to enter into a five years' contract for the carriage of the mails for \$7,500, in United States gold, per trip, seventeen trips per annum. It is doubtful if this will be acceded to.

Business men say that, although the San Francisco Line is much more rapid than any other means of communicating with Europe by letter, still that speed alone is not so essential as regularity and certainty, urgent affairs being transacted by cable. There is, too, the patriotic side of the question, and many think that New Zealand ought to encourage a Vancouver service, not subsidize steamers which are under a law that discriminates against the colony.

A Royal Beef-Eater.

Being very fat, the King of Portugal is, says "M.A.P.," forbidden by his physicians to eat much meat. He calmly disobeys the doctors, however, and is especially fond of beef, of which he eats great quantities.

When he visited England a few years ago he was stopping at Lord Salisbury's country seat, where also King Edward was a guest. One

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Mr. Matthew Frost, of Port Arthur, Ont., C.P.R. employee, writes: "For over seven years I have been a most unfortunate sufferer from asthma and bronchitis. Many times for weeks I could not sleep other than sitting up in a chair, and for three months previous to taking Clarke's Kola Compound I could not work a day. Our doctors said they could do nothing for me, but give a little temporary relief. I was becoming weaker all the time. A sincere friend brought me a bottle of this grand medicine (Clarke's Kola Compound), and in less than two weeks I was back at work again. I took in all four bottles during two months and have not lost a day's work since, nor have I had the slightest symptom of the disease." This letter is also certified to by Mr. W. J. Clark, Port Arthur's leading druggist. Clarke's Kola Compound has permanently cured thousands of asthmatics. Sold by chemists everywhere, \$2.00 per bottle, three for \$5.00, or sent on receipt of price by The G. and M. Co., Limited, 121 Church street, Toronto. Send for Book on Asthma.

King Carlos was asked what had impressed him most during his short stay in England.

He replied thoughtfully, "Well, I think English roast beef is very delightful."

"Oh," laughed King Edward, "surely something else has impressed you as well?"

"Ah," was the reply, "of course, the English boiled beef also is delightful."

The Ameer and the English.

The late Ameer of Afghanistan was one of the shrewdest and strongest men of his time. When the amount of the British subsidy was being fixed with him, it was explained that he must do this and that and the other. "You remind me," said the Ameer, "of a Persian tale. A certain man took a piece of cloth to the tailor and said, 'Make me a morning dress out of it and an evening dress and, while I think of it, a working coat.' The tailor did his best and brought them all as he was told. But they were of doll's size. What more could he do with the cloth?"

The Ameer was not a great admirer of the British system of government. On one occasion a very high personage was conferring with him and said in relation to some matter. "That is a very grave question, and I must refer it to Her Majesty's Government." The Ameer, who did not clearly distinguish the parts of the British constitution, replied: "When you ask me a question, I am able to answer at once; when I ask you one you say you must first ask 700 other gentlemen. I prefer our Afghan way of doing business."

The Admiralty.

The Admiralty consists of the First Lord of the Admiralty and five other members. The Board of Admiralty have managed the navy for over two centuries.

A Fortunate Circumstance.

She—Richard, what made you press those cigars on Mr. Thompson? Do you know that was the box I gave you at Christmas?

He—Yes, my dear. But he doesn't. Judy.

Didn't Want It Pulled Out.

Mrs. Naggs—Don't you know that wearing your hat in the house will cause your hair to fall out?

Mr. Naggs—Yes, but then I prefer to lose it that way.—Chicago News.

Self-Charging Automobile.

It is reported that an automobile battery has been evolved in England which threatens a revolution in horseless travel. In going down hill the motor is reversed and the battery recharges itself, so that it is much stronger at the bottom than at the top. A record trip of over 94 miles was made on a wagon equipped with this motor and battery, and no stop for recharging.

JANUARY



Turned into a Xmas Month.

Few dealers have ever tried to do a larger business in the dull month of January than during the big month of December. December is the month of profits and January is the month of big losses with us. We have detained our stocktaking this year in order to reduce our stock. We started a clearance sale last week and it turned out to be the biggest thing yet. 100 of buyers were unable to be waited on especially last Saturday. Therefore we will continue this January clearing sale all this month. Every week we will offer new and seasonable attractions and we will honor all previous advertised prices. Bring with you that red letter price list and buy at the prices that talk. This week we will put on sale the following goods which we never mentioned before. Read this:

Velvets and Velveteens.

Our stock of Velvet and Velveteens to be sold at 16c. 18c. 20c. 38c. and 45c. per yd., worth double.

Silks and Satins.

Balance of stocks in Silks and Satins at 16c. 19c. 24c. 39c. yd., worth 25c. 35c. 40c. 60c. to 95c.

Carpet Rugs all made up. A few Carpet Squares to clear, sizes 2 yds. by 2, 2x2½, 3x3½ 4x4 to be sold at 35c. square yd, previous price 58c. yd. Come early if you need a square ready for use.

Lace Curtains and Muslins.

Balance of stock of Lace Curtains, Muslins and Portiers to be sold this week at cost. Great day on Wednesday. Next Wednesday, Jan. 15th will be PRINT day, Embroideries and Lace day. Thousands of yds of these goods, useful goods will be put on sale under mill prices. Be sure and be here Wednesday.

Our bargain tables at 15c. 25c. 50c and \$1.00 are being filled up to-day for another week's rushing trade. Nothing but seasonable goods at

M. Fickler & Co.'s

January Clearance Sale now in full swing.



Our Interests are Mutual.

It is to your interest to buy where you get the best goods and the best attention.

It is to our interest to give you these for the least possible money.

If you investigate our line of Coffins and Caskets and all funeral furnishings, you will be convinced that we are the people to do this.

Having two Hearses, one which I run free and the other for which I charge a small fee, I am in a position to attend all funerals. Call and see for yourself at the downtown undertaker.

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Aug. 14, 1901.—d & w.

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Fredericton, July 24, 1901.—d & w 6 mos.

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IN PERCOLONIAL

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On and after Sunday, October 20, 1901, trains will run daily (Sundays excepted) as follows

TRAINS WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN

Express for Halifax and Campbellton...	7.00
Express for Point du Chene, Halifax, and Pictou...	12.15
Express for Sussex...	16.30
Express for Quebec, and Montreal...	17.00
Express for Halifax and Sydney...	22.35

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN

Express from Halifax and Sydney...	6.00
Express from Sussex...	8.30
Express from Montreal and Quebec...	12.40
Express from Halifax and Pictou...	16.00
Express from Moncton, (Saturday only), 23.50	

All trains are run by Eastern Standard Time. Twenty-four o'clock is midnight.

D. POTTINGER,

General Manager

Moncton, October 16, 1901.

