

NEW ZEALAND LAWS.

GOVERNMENTS CONDUCTED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE.

Systems of Taxation—Public Ownership of Railways, Telegraphs and Telephones. The People Benefited, and Only Monopolists are Dissatisfied.

The governments of the Australasian colonies, and especially New Zealand, are gradually nationalizing, or, if you please, socializing, what in Canada or the United States would be considered individual or corporate business utilities.

Usually when Australian or New Zealand legislation is referred to in the Canadian or American press it is said to be socialistic, anarchistic, wildcat, experimental or trial legislation, and the people look in vain for explanations.

First.—The land and income tax assessment act now in force in New Zealand imposes a tax upon incomes and an ordinary tax upon land and mortgages—the amount of which is fixed annually by a rating act.

Second.—Advances are made by the government to actual settlers—in fact, any farmer may borrow on the security of his farm and improvements an amount ranging from £25 to £3,000 at 5 per cent interest per annum and repay the principal on very easy terms.

Third.—The schools are national and free.

Fourth.—Over \$1,000,000 has already been expended by the government of New Zealand in establishing technical schools.

Fifth.—The government controls the postoffice and postoffice savings banks, and the postage between any two points in New Zealand is a penny, and the deposits in the government savings banks are always available with interest when required.

Sixth.—The government controls and operates the telegraph system in connection with the postal service, and a ten word message costs only sixpence.

Seventh.—The government controls and operates the telephone system, and the charges are about two-thirds the usual Canadian or American charges, and the profits go to government and consequently to the whole people.

Eighth.—The government gives state or national life insurances, and the premium rates are lower than the average rates charged by private companies.

Ninth.—The government is now perfecting plans in regard to national fire insurance.

Tenth.—The government has practically established a state or national bank. South Australia was first to move in the establishing of a national government bank which is managed in the interests of the people.

Eleventh.—The government controls and is responsible for the administration of all estates, for which service a very nominal fee is charged and the widows and orphans are protected from local troubles.

Twelfth.—The government charges a graduated succession tax of from 2 per cent to 10 per cent according to the value of the estate.

Thirteenth.—The government owns and operates all the railroads excepting one short line, which will also soon be nationalized.

Fourteenth.—Eight hours constitute a legal day's work, for which fair living wages are paid. This gives the workers more time for mental improvement, recreation, health building, etc.

cepting a homestead, if required) at the owner's valuation, plus 10 per cent, if the owner's valuation is considered too low.

Seventeenth.—A conciliatory board has been established in every town or city where any difficulty is likely to arise between capital and labor.

Eighteenth.—Public libraries, museums, parks and gardens have been established in every city and town. Public baths are also found in many places.

Nineteenth.—Considerable of the land adjoining the cities and towns is held as public domain and for small homesteads for the artisan class.

I do not know of any country where there are so few very rich and so few very poor as in New Zealand. The laws tend toward providing an equal opportunity to all and to check the overreaching of those possessed of wolfish propensities.

The writer spent over eight months in the Australasian colonies and never met a man who could give good or valid reasons why the so called radical laws should be repealed.

The labor movement in its broadest terms is the effort of men to live the lives of men. It is a systematic, organized struggle of the masses to obtain primarily more leisure and larger economic resources, but that is not by any means all, because the end and purpose of it all is a richer existence for the toilers, and that with respect to mind, soul and body.

The true significance of the labor movement is this: It is an attempt to bring to pass the idea of human development which has animated ages, prophets and poets of all ages; the idea that a time must come when warfare of all kinds must cease and when a peaceful organization of society shall find a place wherein its framework is for the best growth of each personality, which one but subverts another's gains.

Democratic and Republican politicians have been saving the country for 30 years on the tariff plan. In the meantime labor every year is worse paid, our farmers get poorer every year, our merchants fail in larger numbers each year, while bankers, trust magnates and stock gamblers pile up princely fortunes.

While we are looking at the bright side of things let us look at the secretary of state's mortgage statistics for Ohio. There were 71,565 mortgages given last year, calling for \$78,744,508, while only 51,323 were canceled, securing \$59,355,923.

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MONEY THAT BURNS.

SPORTING MEN EASILY GET RID OF THE WEALTH THEY WIN.

What Comes to Them Through One Game Gets Away From Them by Another. One of the Class Who Says City Sports Are the Easiest of Easy Marks.

"If I were looking for an easy mark," said a New Yorker who is not an easy mark himself, but sometimes finds use in his business for easy marks, "I would hunt for him among the sporting men, particularly if I were in a hurry. Talk about sporting men being shrewd! Why, they can't get rid of their money quick enough to suit them. That is especially true of sporting men in New York. Sporting men in the country—hayseeds, you'd call them—have harder heads till they come to New York and their heads get swelled and softened like the others."

"I suppose it comes of handling money in big sums and lots of it. I've noticed the same thing about bankers and bank clerks. They get accustomed to handle money just as carelessly as a dynamite maker handles the explosive. See the story of all defalcations and embezzlements. It's pretty much a matter of taking the trouble to cart away the stuff from the bank. The banks get in the rut of expecting you to rob them in certain ways, and if you just go about it in some new, simple way, why, everything's thrown open to you. It's the same way with the sporting men. They get to thinking that nobody but one of themselves knows enough to put up a job. Mighty few know enough to salt away their money."

"Another thing they don't know enough to do is to stick to one thing and get rich. A man may be a mighty fine poker player. If he's a gambler and you want his money, all you have to do is to match pennies or play old maid or some other game that you can beat him at. The chances are that he won't know enough to stick to his own game and will buck up against what he thinks is your luck till his last cent is gone. Why do you see so many broken down faro dealers walking about looking for the price of a meal? Because they can't help blowing in at policy or some other skin game the money they make at their business. They might all be well off if they knew as much as the business men they look upon as chumps."

"It's funny, the round the money makes. The business man earns it and blows it in at faro, and the faro dealer blows it in at policy, and the policy dealer leaves it in Wall street or real estate, and so I suppose the business man gets it again. Some of the money may stick to the business man, but none to the others. They don't know enough to keep it. There's a man in this city who has made \$1,000,000, easy, I suppose, at gambling. He's always been interested in one of the biggest and best gambling houses in this city."

"The game goes right along, reformed police or unreformed police. Money flows into it steadily. Now, for 25 years this man has been watching what infernal fools men make of themselves. You would suppose he would learn some sense in that time, wouldn't you? Well, often his bank roll is so low that a run of luck a little out of the ordinary would close the house. Gamble? Not he! He thinks he knows too much for that. No; he just puts his money into grain or wildcat mining stocks. Either will do the business quicker than gambling, and he'll be lucky if he leaves money to bury him decently, although his gambling house brings him in thousands."

"It seems as though they had to get rid of their money somehow or bust. There's another man who kept a gambling house. He had a fine family and maintained them in luxury. He wouldn't gamble or speculate either, but he had the money, and he had to spend it somehow. He got interested in a church and spent so much money on it that one day when the game went against him he hadn't money enough to put up, and so his snap busted. When I saw him last, he was getting \$25 a week as a sheet writer for a bookmaker and glad to get it."

"A man must have good sound sense to be able to pick the winner day after day in horse races. I know a man who is a genius that way. He never was a plunger, but was content to win a couple of small bets every day or so. He must have cleared money at the rate of \$10,000 a year at it during the periods when he gave his attention to it. Well, he would save so much, say a couple of thousand dollars, and then he would stop playing the horses and put the whole amount on a prizefight or an election or something of the kind and would lose every cent."

"That's the way with all of them. I don't believe they really know any more about the value and the nature of money than a child. It is simply something that changes hands. It's true with them that the next best thing to winning at cards is losing. You hear lots about come-ons who get robbed all over the country. If you don't hear so much about sporting men who get robbed, it's simply because they don't squeal."—New York Sun.

The Poet and the Beauty. One of the finest homes in southern England is Penhurst Place, the birthplace of Sir Philip Sidney. Under the trees of its park Edmund Waller paid his addresses to the haughty Lady Dorothea, whom he celebrated as Sacharissa. But the heart of Lady Dorothea Sidney—who was the most beautiful woman of her time—was untouched by Waller's amatory verses, and she rejected the poet in favor of the Earl of Sunderland. Many years afterward the countess met Waller and, reminding him sentimentally of the old days at Penhurst, asked him when he would again write verses about her. "When, madam," said the poet rudely, "you are as young and as handsome as you were then."

FREE COINAGE OF SILVER.

Judge Stark of Ohio Claims It Is Recognized by the Law as It Is Today.

I propose to show that the present law relating to silver coinage is a free coinage law. I base the claim on the act of 1878, entitled "An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar and to restore its legal tender character." That is its title. The text reads, "There shall be coined \* \* \* silver dollars of the weight, etc. \* \* \* as provided in the act of Jan. 18, 1837, on which." etc. When this interpretation of the act was argued before the judiciary committee of the house of representatives, it was objected that the \$2,000,000 purchase clause following the words I have quoted by common understanding and by fair implication restricted coinage to the silver so purchased and had the same effect as though it had said in express terms, "and there shall be no other or further coinage under this act than of the silver so purchased."

All but a small minority of that committee held that the purchase provision was limited—so intended and so commonly understood. In vain was it urged that what was "intended or commonly understood" had no standing with a court in the judicial interpretation of a statute, but the "general understanding" and the long practice of the department overcame what seemed to me a plain interpretation of the statute.

But we have got past that trouble now. The two million purchase clause was repealed and the Sherman purchase law was substituted, and now the Sherman purchase law is repealed. With that repeal, of course, fell all its implications of limitation. There was no other limitation or qualification to the "there shall be coined standard silver dollars as provided in the act of 1837" than was inferred from the purchase provisions. Now they are repealed the limitation has no leg to stand on, not even the artificial one of implication. The only qualification of the words "there shall be coined" is the clause "as provided in the act of 1837." And what does that provide? Section 30 of that act provides for the delivery of coin to depositors of bullion in the order of priority of deposit, and section 14 provides that silver bullion shall be received and coined for the benefit of the depositor.

What, then, shall we say of an administration which persistently refuses to the citizen his plain statutory right to free coinage of his silver? The impeachment by which that right may be recovered must come from the people when they come to a realization of their legal rights and will elect a president who has the courage of a Jackson to defy the plutocracy and will open the mint under the law as now in force.—Judge E. D. Stark.

A Cause of Opposition.

At last it is possible to arrive at something definite regarding the influences at work in the United States senate in opposition to government ownership of railroads. The following figures show approximately the sums invested by the senators named in shares of such corporations as the Pennsylvania railroad, the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, the New York Central railroad and the various Pacific railroads:

Table listing senators and their investments in railroads, including Senator Penrose, Senator Quay, Senator Platt, Senator Wetmore, Senator Fairbanks, Senator Hawley, Senator Hanna, Senator Foraker, Senator Morrill, and Senator Hoar.

It is not to be wondered at, in the face of figures like these, that the senate of the United States has set its face in stern opposition to government ownership of railroads. To be sure, these senators might be very large owners of railroad stock and still look upon the question of government ownership with impartial minds, but the probability is, in view of what is known of senators, that they are blinded by their financial interests to the merit of the question. They may not think so themselves, but they are not the best judges.—Twenty Century.

A Lesson in Finance.

A banker sauntering home for his dinner saw a \$10 bill lying on the curbstone. Of course he picked it up and took the number in order to find the owner. While at home his wife remarked that the butcher had sent in a bill for meat amounting to \$10. The only money he had with him was the bill he had found, which he gave to her, and she paid the butcher. The butcher paid it to the farmer for a calf, and the farmer paid it to the washerwoman, and she, owing the banker a note of \$10, went to the banker and paid her note. The banker recognized the bill as the one he had found, and which up to that time had settled \$50 of debt. On a more careful examination he found the bill was counterfeit. Now will some of our financial friends tell us what had been lost in this transaction and by whom, if anything?—Albia (la.) Union.

Low Wages in the United States.

Labor Commissioner Wright is quoted as saying that "the average wages per year paid in the United States is \$247, and the average product of each laborer is valued at \$1,838. This leaves the American laborer but 17 per cent of his product. In Italy the laborer receives 40 per cent and in Great Britain he receives 20 per cent of what he produces." It is time to stop talking about the well paid American workman. The only reason he ever gets high wages apparently is because he does more work, and, measured by what he produces, he gets less than the Englishman and not half as much as the Italian. This accounts for American manufacturers underselling foreigners in their own markets for the last 25 years. But what an enormous price the consumer has to pay—83 per cent—for distribution and profit!—Typographical Journal.

POPULISTIC BELIEF.

PARTY PRINCIPLES EXPUNDED BY EX-SENATOR PEPPER.

On This Platform Every Man Who Believes in Justice, Honors Truth and Loves His Country Should Unite—Extract From Speech at Des Moines.

Populists believe that every child born into the world has a right to live here, that he is entitled to a place to live, that he is entitled equally with his fellow men to the use of all the natural resources of subsistence and that he may rightfully claim a place on vacant lands to earn a livelihood and make a home for himself. Populists believe that what a man honestly earns is his, that the workman and his employer ought to have fair play and an equal showing in all disputes about wages and that no man or company should ever be allowed to monopolize land or franchises to the exclusion of the common rights of the people or the detriment of society.

Populists believe that the rights of all are paramount to the rights of a few or of one. Populists believe that the railroads of the country, the canals as well as the lakes and navigable rivers ought to belong to the people, to the end that the cost of transportation may be minimized and charges made uniform throughout the country. They believe that money, like ships and railway cars, is an instrument of commerce; that the people ought not to be subjected to inconvenience or loss from a scarcity of money any more than they should be hindered in their work or their business by reason of a shortage in the supply of wagons, cars or boats, and that therefore the people themselves, acting through government agencies, should supply all the money required for a prompt and easy transaction of business; that in addition to silver and gold coin, government paper, and that only, ought to be issued; that it should be full legal tender, and that no discrimination in favor of or against anything which is allowed to circulate as money ought to be permitted.

Populists are loyal men. They love their country and they venerate its flag. Devoted to the objects for which the constitution of the United States was ordained, they would form a more perfect union by cultivating a national sentiment among the people; they would insure domestic tranquillity by securing to all men and women what they earn; they would establish justice by procuring an equitable distribution of the produce and profits of labor; they would provide for the common defense by interesting every citizen in the ownership of his home; they would promote the general welfare by abolishing class legislation and limiting the government to its proper functions, and they would secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity by protecting the producing masses against the power of landlords and usurers.

Populists regard the land question as of very great importance. Large numbers of the people are losing their homes. We are fast becoming a nation of renters. And we have 1,000,000 or so unemployed men and women all the time, some of whom at least could earn a good living on the public lands if they could get there with means to start.

Populists look upon the labor question as involving the future of the republic. They believe the general government and the state governments ought to take hold of this subject and get the people to work. Populists would prevent strikes on railroads and in coal mines and in great manufacturing establishments by enforcing just rules and regulations for the management of these great institutions and if used by taking possession of them for public use and conducting them for the public good, keeping the men on duty at pay according to their earnings. Populists would provide employment for the idle on useful public works, when private sources are exhausted, and thus bring bread to the mouths of the hungry and sunshine to the dwellings of the poor.

So, too, Populists believe that the capitalization and management of our great railway system are a standing menace to the commercial peace of the country and that final government ownership and management are the only safe and certain cure for embarrassments attending the present methods of handling the business of these great corporations. The business furnished to carriers by the people of the United States is beyond the comprehension of an ordinary mind. Any one of our great roads carries more freight than all of Britain's merchant ships. The aggregate of freight carried by all our railroads, canals, river boats and coasting vessels exceeds the combined foreign commerce of all the nations of Europe. And the patrons of these great land highways have to pay tolls on them to maintain a capitalization equal to two or three times their actual value. And half a dozen railway managers have more influence in congress and before state legislatures and courts than all of our 5,000,000 farmers with their 5,000,000 votes.—W. A. Peffer.

The Only Solution.

The transportation problem is rapidly solving itself. The objections formerly urged against government ownership have been largely answered by the railroad corporations themselves. The companies were "in politics" during the last campaign as never before. Their exactions are becoming more tyrannical and unjust each day and the public begins to see that government ownership is the only solution.—The People's Paper.

Won't Stop the Gamblers.

Klondike gold may relieve in some measure the financial stringency, but under our present financial system it will not prevent the stock gamblers from making another stringency when they find it will be profitable to them to do so.—Equity.

A THRILLING RESCUE.

A Young Life Saved in a Remarkable Manner.

Florence Sturdivant, of Grindstone Island, Saved From an Extremely Dangerous Predicament but Was Helpless to Aid Her—How She Was Rescued.

Among the thousand islands in the sea called Grindstone. It is seven miles long and three miles wide. The inhabitants of this island are a well informed class of people who devote their energies to farming and quarrying for a livelihood. In the home of one of these islanders resides Florence J. Sturdivant, the four-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Sturdivant. In February, 1896 she was taken sick with scarlet fever, and after the usual run of the fever, she was left with a weak back and gradually began to lose strength, until finally, despite the best efforts of physicians her life hung in the balance. It was at this crisis, when all seemed darkest, that an angel of health appeared on the scene and released little Florence from pain and suffering and restored her to strength and health. This remarkable occurrence is best told in the words of the father.



FLORENCE J. STURDIVANT.

Mrs. Sturdivant said: "Florence was taken sick with scarlet fever and was immediately called a physician. He prescribed for her and we followed his directions closely, giving our little patient the best of care. After two weeks the fever subsided but Florence was left with a very weak back. Severe pains were constantly in the back and stomach. We did all that possibly could be done to relieve our little sufferer, but to no avail. The difficulty seemed to baffle the efforts of the physician."

Finally at the end of four months of treatment, we found our patient completely prostrated. At this time we called an eminent physician, who agreed with the diagnosis of our physician and said that the trouble resulted from the scarlet fever. He prescribed a course of treatment and we followed it faithfully for three months, but instead of improving, Florence failed. Besides the treatment of physicians we used many proprietary remedies but without benefit.

Mrs. Sturdivant and myself were completely discouraged. A brother of my wife, who resided in Canada, but was visiting us, advised us to use Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and I purchased a box of the pills and gave them to Florence. This was in Oct. 1896. After using the pills a short time we could see an improvement. Her strength began to return and she would sit up in bed. Her appetite was restored and she ate heartily. We also noticed a gradual brightening in her eyes. When she had taken one box the pains in the back and stomach ceased and her recovery seemed certain.

We eagerly purchased a second box of the pills and watched with delight the change for the better that was being wrought daily. From sitting up in bed at times during the day and standing on her feet, Florence finally became strong enough to walk a little. She gained in strength and flesh rapidly and the pains gradually left her. By the time she had used three boxes of the pills she was evidently well. We continued the treatment using another box, the fourth, to prevent the possibility of a recurrence of the difficulty.

We cannot praise too highly the value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I am positive that without their use our child would have been to-day in the same condition of her early sickness—a confirmed invalid—if indeed she had had the strength to withstand so long the ill of her affliction."

(Signed) WILLIAM STURDIVANT. Subscribed and sworn to before me this sixth day of April 1897.

H. W. Morse, Notary Public. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price, 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 (they are never sold in bulk, or by the 100) by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

"Facts and Fiction."

"Facts and Fiction," that sprightly western monthly, is building an enviable reputation as a leading western publication. Mechanically it is neat unto distinction, being printed on a superior grade of paper and handsomely illustrated with copper plate engravings. In contents it is varied to afford both entertainment and instruction. A typical strong story in each number is a valuable literary feature. Leading articles on matters of world-wide interest appear as subject matter presents itself. "The Lincoln Page," in which is appearing in a well edited form, a vast amount of special matter about the great martyr president, is attracting wide attention. A free sample copy may be had by addressing the publisher, The Dominion Company, 356 Dearborn street, Chicago. Fifty cents a year, five cents a copy.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

As an old physician retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an eminent physician the formula for simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative power in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this remedy, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, enclosing this paper, to W. A. Peffer, 301 Forest Street, Rochester, N. Y.

WANTED—Trustworthy and active gentleman or ladies to travel for responsible, established house in Nebraska. Monthly \$50.00 and expenses. You will be supplied with a complete outfit—addressed stamped envelopes. The Dominion Company, Dept. Y, Chicago.