HAPPY NEW ZEALAND

A COUNTRY WHERE THE PEOPLE COUNT FOR SOMETHING.

Laws That Encourage Industry and Frugality and That Discourage the Shylock and Lonfer - Government of, by and For the People.

The governments of the Australasian colonies, and especially New Zealand, are gradually nationalizing what in Canada or the United States would be considered individual or corporate busipess utilities. The legislative measures in Australia proper are not quite so far advanced as in New Zealand, but all the Australian colonies will speedily follow the example of New Zealand,

New South Wales last year closed its first successful financial year under a policy of free trade and a direct land tax on unimproved values.

Usually, when Australian or New Zealand legislation is referred to in the press, it is said to be socialistic, anarchistic, wildent, experimental or trial legislation, and the people look in vain for explanations. A perusal of the following brief reference to some of the measures will assist the reader in coming to a correct conclusion as to whether the New Zealand laws are in the interest of the whole people or in the interest of a few privileged individuals:

First .- The land and income tax assessment act 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. There is also an additional graduated tax upon the unimproved value of land held in large blocks of from one-eighth of a penny to twopence in the pound. Improvements pay no taxes. The income tax is payable upon incomes derived from employment and from business, including investments other than those in mortgages on land, upon which the ordinary land tax is levied. An exemption of £300 is allowed to every person domiciled in New

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. On this account existing mortgages in favor of private parties or corporate companies, which are bearing high rates of interest, are being paid off. It is believed that this system will soon be extended, so that the artisan class may take advantage of it.

Third.-The schools are national and

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

Fifth .- The government controls the postoffice and postoffice savings banks, and the deposits in the government sav-

perates the telegraph system in connection with the postal service, and a ten word message costs only 12 cents.

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

Eighth .- The government gives state or national life insurance. The premium rates are lower than the average rates charged by private companies. Every policy holder feels that he has the whole

nation as a guarantee behind his risk. Ninth .- The government is now perfeeting 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 interest of the people. There is no object in the government forcing citizens into bankruptcy in time of depression.

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 legal troubles.

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

Thirteenth .- The government owns and operates all the railroads excepting one short line, which will also soon be nationalized. The freight and passenger rates on the government roads are such as give about 85 per cent interest on the capital invested. The rates do not discriminate, neither are they differential nor preferential, nor do the people pay freight and passenger rates necessary to provide interest upon watered

Fourteenth - Women vote at all elections in New Zealand, and also in South Australia, which has undoubted ly had a very beneficial influence.

Fifteenth. - 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. Life is considered worth living, and shorter hours also compensate to some extent for the loss of labor caused by the general use of machinery.

Sixteenth .- The large estates, principally acquired by aquatters, who located beir boldings early in the history of New Zealand, and for which little or nothing was paid, are being purchased by the government for the benefit of acmi settless that is, the estates are assessed for taxation purposes at the ownor's valuation, the government reserving the right in take over the land (excopting a homestead, if required) at the owner's valuation, plus 10 per cent if the owner's valuation is considered too

Seventeenth - A conciliatory board

city where any difficulty is likely t arise between capital and labor. The boards are composed of three represents tive business men, three representative from the trades union and a distric judge. A strike is impossible in New

Nineteenth. - Public libraries, muse ums, parks and gardens have been es tablished in every city and town; public baths are also found in many places.

Twentieth .-- Considerable of the land adjoining the cities and towns is held as public domain, and for small homesteads for the artisan classes.

Twenty-first. - Wednesday afternoon is the usual half holiday. The law compels a half holiday during each week. 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 overreach-

pensities. It is quite true that party politica still prevail, and that the government opposition in New Zealand is dissatisfied; also the money lending and land monopolizing classes, likewise those who have had or wish to have special privileges, and their cause is champioued by a financially strong wing of the

ing of those possessed with wolfish pro-

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 general opinion is that an honest administration of the laws will secure for the people of New Zealand unprecedented contentment and prosperity .- T. J. McBride of Toronto in Citizen and Country.

THE MICAKAGUA CANAL

Lancaste, Parmers' Club Discusses It Muliding

The Lancaster county farmers' club met in weder's half at Kaymond Feb. ruary to, 1899, under the auspices of Mr. Hurd and his friends. A large space was occupied by three tables, two running the same way as the han, the third connecting the two at the end. Decorated pots with flowers in tud bloom were seen arranged along them. At the nead were nice bouquets of nowers of various hue. The hail itself was festooned with bunting and the stars and stripes. It seemed as if the whole town turned out to do justice to the innumerable good things set out on those nicely arranged table. One solo and one duet were sung by Mrs. Hotehkiss and friends, while the others leasted themselves on the good things set before them. It was a banquet for the whole body, for the eye, ear and the inner being were satished at the same time. It will be remembered a long time with rleasure.

The meeting was opened and closed by the following songs: "Beautiful Moonlight," "Golden Ladder," "Visions of Childhood, all of which were very good. Then there was a recita-tion by Mr. Bouman, called the "Lightning Rod Dispenser." Mrs. Quacken-bush read "No sex in heaven;" Mrs. ings banks are always available when Meckley read "An old time valentine" quired.

Sixth.—The government controls and ren. Mr. Latour read a piece relating to dreased beef. The following were the new members accepted: G. E. Weller, J. M. Cameron and J. O'Con-

There was a discussion over the government owning and building the Nic. araguan canal. Most of the members were in favor of it. Mr. Muggleton said it was a necessity for the country to own a canal through Nicaragua for its own safety since we own the Philippine islands, not only in case of war, but for its commerce. If we have said canal we can control the trade, which is getting larger as time goes by. He was well aware of the enormous expense, but this country could well afford to build it.

There would be a source of mone; benefit derived from it, which after all expenses being paid, would revert to this government, and also to the people. He wanted this country to own it; if not by the government he did not want it at all. Many were of the same opinion.

Resolutions were adopted on the death of the brother member, Mr. H.

With grateful thanks to Mr. Hurd and his friends for their grand entertainment the club adjourned to meet with Mr. and Miss Bouman one mile north of Woodlawn March 16, at the yellow house. All invited. Program: Recitation-Mrs. Hahn.

Select reading-Mrs. Drain. Select reading-Mrs. Leonard. Recitation-Miss Paswater

Frank Paswater. Voluntary speeches by John Qunckenbush, William Hollenback, John Muggleton, L. E. Mahan, A. P. God-

The club will be opened by music with music between each recitation, reading and speech. N. Leonard, president; E. L. Bouman, secretary.

Dr. Bull's Cough Cyrup is the best remedy for all bronchial affections. It is a great mistake to allow a cough or could to run on; for it may develop setions throat or lung trouble. Take Bull's Cough Syrup at once,

Do Away With the Secessity.

The New York Herald boasts that New Yorkers spent \$25,000,000 in charity during 1898. Laying aside the question of why such a tremendous outlay was necessary in the midst of such boasted prosperity, we come to the question. When will some great city boast that it did not find it necessary to spend a dollar for charity, its people being employed at living wagen? While we are congratulating ourselves that charity is provided in abundance let us not forget that it is our duty to strive for that condition when charity will not be useded. - Omaka World-Herald.

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USEFUL EDUCATION.

LET OUR CHILDREN BE INSTRUCTED IN CITIZENSHIP.

This Must Be Done if We Are Ever to Have a People's Government. Evils That Can He Removed if They Are Fully Comprehended.

The work of this century has been chiefly the subjugation and utilization of the physical forces and the production of material wealth. In this respect, however, it has surpassed the wildest dreams of Aladdin and eclipsed the wonders of his magic lamp. But material wealth is not always the greatest good-certainly it is not the only good. Under some circumstances it may be a curse. The wild dissipation and debauchery during the latter days of Rome were made possible by the concentration of great wealth in few hands, while the Icelander is frugal, industrious and virtuous in his poverty. Great material wealth may be a blessing or a curse according to its distribution, yet this is seldom referred to by our writers or speakers. The tremendons increase in our national wealth is glowingly portrayed by the grandiloquent style of oratory, but never a word about distribution. The fact that 1 per cent of our population own 99 per cent of the wealth of the United States does not seem to disturb or concern these shallow orators. Every \$100 earned in this country is distributed among 800 people as follows: One man gets \$70, the remaining \$30 being divided among the remaining 299 persons-a fraction over 10 cents each if equally divided. This startling fact seems to be entirely lost sight of by the editorial writers on our great dailies.

The extension of popular education has been one of the most distinguished achievements of the nineteenth century, particularly in this country. Regarding this I wish to say a few words. The three r's. "readin, ritin and rithmetic," were formerly considered the essentials of an education, and they were considered quite sufficient for the average man. But we now very plainly see that what were considered essentials are not an education, but the means by which an education may be acquired. One who can read, but does not read, is scarcely better off than one who cannot read. Our educators have been very enterprising and progressive (as they have thought) and have led their pupilschildren of the masses, in our public schools-into fields of study heretofore entered only by specialists. Geology, botany, zoology, psychology, mythology. etc., are a few of the many burdens prematurely loaded on our innocent and misguided youth, while the actual world of industry going on around us constantly is untouched. The study of nature is always interesting and ennobling, and I would not decry it in the least; but the question of relative importance is what I wish to call attention to. To make my meaning clear, suppose we take two classes. We will designate them as A

and B. (one of the most interesting and delightful of the sciences) and receives didactic instruction until the early spring days will permit expeditions over the hills and through ravines, hammer in hand. Every stratum that crops out on a hillside is examined and placed in its proper place in the wonderful scheme of earth building which has been going on for so many ages.

Class B begins on the same day to study what man has put beneath the surface of the earth in and about Philadelphia instead of what nature put there ages ago. First, the drainage system is taught didactically, and the importance of proper and successful drainage on the health and well being of the community. Then they are taken to wherever any part of the sewer system can be seen, and also where new sewers are in process of construction, and all is explained to them. Then the water system is taken up for study. The reservoirs, the engines and pumps, the distributing system to the traps and waste pipes, all are studied from books and diagrams, then by visits to and actual examination of the various parts as far as possible. Then the gasworks and distributing system are taken up, tracing the process from the retort to the holder, then to the burning jet in the average home. Next the electric systems for both lighting and power are taken up in the same way, and thoroughly studied and understood. What could be more interesting than a course like this?

Now, to which class would you rather have your son belong. A or B? Which class would produce the best men and best citizens? Civic life is necessarily more complicated in large cities than in small towns and in rural districts. But if the conveniences of large cities were more properly studied and understood, ways could easily be found to apply many of them economically to even the smallest places. Classes in small places where there is none of the above mentioned local public services to study could take up the telegraph system of the country, the postal system, the transportation system, etc., and study these things with great edification and

profit. Every boy will be a citizen (and in ome states the girls also), but every boy will not be a scientist or a profemor of dead languages or the higher mathematics. Then is it not rational to educate every boy for citizenship rather than to give him a smattering of many

things that he will never use? In the days when even the most advarced nations were ruled by "the divine right of kings" the object of the one or at most a few master minds who really governed was to keep the nobility amused and the masses enslaved. In this country "education" has run riot among impracticable things and left citizenship, our most precious jewel, our "possession beyond compare," our greatest duty and responsibility, to take care of itself.

The above is an arraignment not only of our educators, but of ourselves as well Our educators do what we want them to do, and we are responsible for the above mentioned state of things. When will we know better and insist upon our youth being educated for citizenship.

A rejoinder might be made by in stancing our numerous and rapidly multiplying manual training schools. Yes, this is good, practical work, but there is no citizenship in it. That prepares them only for private pursuits. In this country of government "of, by and for the people" there are large and ever growing duties which the average citizen never makes any preparation for, ever growing because government is no longer limited to police duties, but it serves the people in an ever increasing number of ways. For example, the telegraph must soon become a public service in this country as it is in all other civilized countries except Honduras and Bolivia. So with many other public utilities that we are now allowing to be conducted by private parties for private

It seems that there is a "forbidden" nook in our scheme of education as now pursued, or is it indifference on the part of all-pupils, teachers and people? It is the matter of costs and profits. The cost of carrying a street car passenger in any of our large cities is a little less than 2 cents, yet the people go along paying 5 cent fares as though it was right. To make matters look right the street car companies water their stock in proportion, and there is no protest from the indifferent and thoughtless public. The same is true regarding the cost of telegraph service, telephone service, railroad service, etc. If our youth were educated in these things, citizenship would mean much more than it now does, and our country would be vastly improved as a conse-quence.—Medical World.

\$100 REWARD \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that it is catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting direct, ly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative pow, ers, that they offer one hundred dol. lars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., To. ledo, O, Sold by druggists, 75c.

The Birth of Trusts.

When combinations of capital can so control an industry as to dictate the cost to it of the raw material, arbitrarily fix the price to the consumer, control the output of both raw material and finished product and make its own terms for transportation and wages, the next step is not unlikely to be an alli ance between two or more such com binations for mutual security, increased power over producer and consumer and larger margin of profit. - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Worse Than China.

A Nashville paper states that there are children employed in the cotton mills of that city who receive but 5 cents a day of 12 to 18 hours. One child received 55 cents for three weeks' work. and a family of eight workers averages \$30 a month Is there anything in Europe or in China that can be compared to this condition?

HOW IT COMPARES.

Gering, Neb., Feb., 1, 1899. Nebraska Independent, Lincoln, Neb. -Dear Sir: I purchased from you or through your paper, last September, one of the machines you recommended in your paper called the Independent. I never received the ten years warranty with it as the paper stated. I would like for you to see that they make this all right or explain why they won't, as I see they have sent the warranty to others. I like the machine splendid, it does good work. If I had the warranty they recommend the machine, I think there is at least two of my neighbors that would purchase a machine of you as they have tried the Singer and thought it not worth the money they asked for it. Hope to hear from you soon in regard to this. hear from J. Truly ADDIE M. OGLE.

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To enable interested people to in-vestigate opportunities to get good farm land cheap, the Elkorn line will on February 21 and March 7 and 21, sell tickets to points in north-ern and western Nebruska and parts of Wyoming at one fare, plus \$2.00, for round trip; minimum fare \$9.00. For particulars call on A. S. Fielding, C. T. A., 117 South Tenth street, or depot, corner Ninth and 8 streets.

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the whole flusnein! question is treated in a thorough-logical manner, and we recommend it to our people as the most complete work on the subject ever writments ten. Nothing better can be found for the educational work of the campaign now opening for 1900,— J. M. Thompson, Sec'y Neb. State Cen. Com. The teachings of "Money Chart," if followed out,

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