

ASIA.

Indian Affairs.

Lord Minto's Executive Council has considered the report of the Committee of Reform, with the result that a telegram has been framed for dispatch to Viscount Morley (Secretary of State for India) to assist him in preparing Indian legislation.

The authorities in Calcutta recognise that the anarchist movement is of larger dimensions than at first imagined, and that incessant vigilance is necessary.

Indian officials strongly warn the Home authorities that the Indian anarchist leaders are likely to show an increasing tendency to reside in London or Paris.

The Bengali student Bose has confessed that he was given a revolver and twenty rupees to kill Biswas, the Public Prosecutor, at Alipur.

An influential movement is afoot among the Indians to raise a memorial to His Majesty.

The editor of the Poona newspaper "Kat" has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment and ordered to pay a fine of 1000 rupees for publishing a seditious article.

A Bengali student named Base, from Barisal, fired three times in the Alipore Courthouse last week, during the trial of anarchists, killing Asutosh Biswas, the Public Prosecutor engaged.

The assassin was arrested. Six Hindus have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment for inciting people to murder, and for having published placards at Kolahapur containing recipes for the making of bombs.

This murder is considered to be a token that a campaign has been commenced for the assassination of officials. The Indian papers demand that severe measures shall be taken with all offenders.

AFRICA.

Menelik, the Emperor of Abyssinia, has improved in health, and is now engaged in a motor tour of his dominion.

The "Standard" declares that the Somali Mullah, whose late aggression necessitated the increase of the British forces, has three columns of 10,000 men each, one-half being riflemen, and apparently is anxious to force a campaign upon the British.

France and Germany in Morocco.

France and Germany have arranged with regard to Morocco, for a signed declaration emphasising the integrity of the State.

France agrees not to impede Germany's commercial and industrial interests, while Germany on the other hand recognises the political claims of France.

United South Africa.

The draft Constitution of the South African Federation, hereafter to be called the South African Union, was published last week.

The Constitution makes provision for a Governor-General with a salary of £10,000, an Executive Council, empowered to nominate eight senators, a Senate to consist of 40 members, each province electing eight—the present colonial Parliaments choosing them in the first instance, and Provincial Councils subsequently—and a House of Assembly comprising 151 members for Cape Colony, 17 for Natal, 17 for Orange, and 36 for the Transvaal, all members to be of European descent.

The Federal constituencies are to be defined on the basis of the European adult male population, with a quinquennial redistribution. The principle of proportional representation is to be applied with a single transferable vote.

The English and Dutch languages are to have equal privileges. Each province is to be administered by an administrator nominated by the Governor-General, Executive Council, and Provincial Council. A Federal Court of Appeal is to be established, with power of appeal to the Privy Council.

The Union assumes all assets and debts of the States, and takes over the Civil servants, and as compensation for their acquiescence in the dual capital compromise pays to Pietermaritzburg (capital of Natal) and Bloemfontein (capital of Orange) two per centum of their municipal debts for 25 years. On the other hand, if it is found necessary, Capetown and Pretoria are to be allowed one per

centum of their municipal debts. The railways and ports are to be vested in three commissioners and a Cabinet Minister. The interests of the native populations are carefully safeguarded, and the sale of liquor to them is prohibited.

United South Africa.

The preponderating sentiment in South Africa is favourable to the Federal Constitution, subject to certain amendments. The Hon. Louis Botha, interviewed at Capetown, said the Federal Constitution was a natural complement to the Vereeniging agreement.

The two races were united in the resolve to lay the foundations of a South African nation which would be a worthy part of the Empire.

Practical Friendship.

Owing to the Warsamaze tribe imploring H.M.S. Philoniel's protection, the cruiser shelled and dispersed the Somali Mullah's followers, and thereby dispelled a growing belief that Britain did not intend to protect the friendly tribes.

AMERICA.

The American-visible wheat supply is estimated at 73,000,000 bushels.

The American battleship Delaware, of 20,000 tons, has been launched.

Mr W. H. Taft, President-elect, confirms a statement that the Board of Engineers fully approve the Panama canal plans, including those of the Latun dam. The tuberculosis campaign is being prosecuted vigorously in New York, and 200 arrests have been made for spitting in railway and tram cars.

Degraded for Drink.

Captain E. T. Quattrough, of the United States battleship Georgia, was tried at Gibraltar on a charge of drunkenness.

He was suspended from the command of the ship and placed in a reduced position on the promotion list.

Japanese in California.

Mr J. N. Gillett, Governor of California, has announced that if the projected census of the Japanese in California shows the necessity for it, Congress will be urged to enact the exclusion of Asiatics.

Mr Roosevelt, in a telegram to Mr Gillett, congratulated all who had aided to kill the Japanese School Children Bill, and added: "The way California has done right for the nation makes it all the more obligatory for the nation to safeguard California's interest. I personally will do my utmost to this end."

Colima Active.

The volcano Colima, near the Pacific coast of the province of that name in Mexico, which burst into activity in 1869, is again in active eruption.

Subterranean rumblings have been heard in the vicinity, and there have been heavy detonations in the pipe of the volcano and under the mountain.

Showers of hot sand have been ejected from the crater, killing the vegetation over a large area, while a stream of molten lava a mile long has devastated the slopes of the mountain.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Mrs. Arthur Myers, wife of the Mayor of Auckland, left for Sydney on Monday. Mr. J. H. Pollock, of Wellington, has been on a visit to Auckland.

Dr. G. T. Givler returned to Auckland from the North on Saturday.

Mr and Mrs E. Withy, of Rotorua, have returned after a six months' holiday in Europe.

Mr D. Cuthbert, manager of the cable station at Norfolk Island, is on a visit to Rotorua.

Mr C. W. Cropp, an old Thames boy, returned last week on a visit after an absence of 19 years.

Mr. Leslie Banks has severed his connection with Messrs. Banks and Grey, and leaves to-day for the Waikato.

Mr. T. E. Donne, general manager of the Tourist Department, will leave Wellington for Auckland in a few days.

Mr. J. H. Quilliam and Mrs. Quilliam, of New Plymouth, are on a visit to Auckland.

Mr. R. Cameron, manager of the Auckland Savings Bank, is taking a short holiday at Rotorua.

Mr. M. A. Clark was last week elected chairman of directors of the New Zealand Insurance Company.

Capt. Ross, late chief officer of one of the intercolonial steamers, takes over the command of the Squall.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Walkinton, of Kohl Waverley, and their family have been on a visit to Wanganui.

Earl Stanhope left Auckland last week for Rotorua, accompanied by Mr. T. M. Carson, a prominent English golfer.

The Mayor of Auckland, Mr. A. M. Myers, has decided to leave on March 1 for his twelve months' tour abroad.

The Rev. A. F. Smith has returned to Auckland from the Old Country, and resumed charge of his parish of Northcote-cum-Takapuna.

Mr. E. Gerard, the official assignee, is suffering from severe mental overstrain, and has been ordered absolute rest for a time.

Inspector J. W. Ellison, of Wellington police force, and for many years in the Auckland office, is on a visit to Auckland.

Mr T. W. Rhodes, one of the unsuccessful candidates for Thames, was tendered a complimentary social at Coromandel, and presented with a purse of sovereigns.

Capt. G. H. Lacy, of the Hauroto, which arrived from the Islands last week, is leaving the service of the Union Company to take up the position of assistant pilot at Auckland.

Mr B. Kent was nominated last week as president of the Auckland Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. M. M. McCallum as vice-president. The retiring president, Mr. L. J. Bagnall, made the nominations.

The Rev. J. A. Luxford, who has been the senior Methodist chaplain of the Defence Forces, with rank of captain, has been promoted to the rank of major. The commission dates from November 28, 1908.

Defective Arthur Skinner has been transferred to Tauranga, where he will be in charge of the police station. Mr Skinner has been a member of the police force for nearly ten years, and all his service, except a year in Wellington, has been done in Auckland.

The Hon. Jas. McGowan, ex-Minister for Mines, has been suffering from a severe attack of sciatica. Mr. McGowan has so far recovered that he hopes to be about again in a few days, and intends spending some time at Rotorua.

After undergoing a serious operation in Hamilton Hospital, Constable Rock has so far recovered as to be able to return home. He speaks most highly of the treatment and nursing accorded to him.

In consequence of the retirements of officers over the age of 65, Mr J. R. Vaile, of the Auckland Survey Office, has been transferred to Dunedin. Mr McKellar, who is well known in connection with the local Survey Office, succeeds Mr Vaile.

The Rev. Mr. Armstrong, of the Hamilton Primitive Methodist Church, who is taking the place of the Rev. T. R. B. Woolloxall at Waiki, has been paying his future parish a visit. Mr. Woolloxall leaves for Eltham in about a month, and Mr. Armstrong will commence his ministrations at Waiki four weeks hence.

The death took place last week in Wellington of Hone Heke, who for the past sixteen years has represented the Northern Maori Electorate in the House of Representatives. Deceased was very well known among both races, and his genial nature had made him many friends. He was a comparatively young man, being only forty years of age. Death was due to tubercular hemorrhage. The body was brought up to Auckland, and a short tangi held at the Maori Hostel at Mechanics Bay. On Monday evening the body was conveyed to Rusehill, en route to Kaikohe, deceased's birthplace, where a big tangi will take place. Among the mourners who came up to Auckland was the Native Minister, the Hon. James Carroll.

Mr H. T. Maclean, librarian to the Auckland Law Society, died last week after a brief illness. He was the only son of the late Captain H. T. Maclean, of the Bombay Native Infantry. Mr Maclean was quite a young man, being only 45 years of age. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him, and was noted for his geniality, and courtesy by all those with whom he came into contact. His death will be keenly regretted by a large circle of friends.

LONDON, January 8.

The Right Rev. Dr. Neligan, Anglican Bishop of Auckland, is returning to New Zealand by the Tongariro, which has now been repaired after her recent collision in the Channel, and which sailed from Plymouth yesterday (Jan. 7). Bishop Neligan is accompanied by his wife, two sons and two daughters. By the same boat are travelling four lady teachers for the Auckland Diocesan School, and five clergy for the Auckland diocese.

Miss Grace Joel is the only New Zealand artist whose work is on view at the International Exhibition at the New Gallery. Her picture entitled "Mother and Child" has been praised by the critics. Miss Joel also had a portrait in the Portrait Painters' Exhibition at the New Gallery, being the only colonial artist to have a portrait accepted.

Mr. John T. Fox, late of Foxton, Manawatu, and now of Queen's College, Oxford, will be the Labour candidate for Reading at the next general election. He has been selected as a prospective candidate by the Reading Labour Representation Committee.

Miss Florence Naden, of Auckland, has been sight-seeing in London for the past month, and is now in Paris. She travelled here via California, afterwards visiting Niagara and Salt Lake City. Miss Naden is on a pleasure trip, and the date of her departure is at present uncertain.

SHARE LIST.

Paid-up.	Liability per Share.	Company	Last Quotation.
£ s. d.	£		£ s. d.
		BANKS—	
		New Zealand	8 17 6
		National	1 4 6
		Australasia	108 0 0
		Union of Australia ..	2 10 0
		New South Wales .. .	45 10 0
		INSURANCE—	
		New Zealand, Limited	3 16 0
		Union	1 8 6
		South British	2 10 0
		Standard	1 3 6
		FINANCIAL—	
		N.Z. Loan & Mercantile	0 4 4
		Dalgety and Co. .. .	6 10 0
		N.Z. and River Plate ..	1 13 0
		COAL—	
		Hikurangi	0 17 1
		Northern Coal Co., Ltd.	6 13 0
		Tauriri Mines	0 18 6
		Drury Brick & Pottery ..	0 2 6
		Hamilton	1 10 0
		Westport	1 10 0
		GAS—	
		Auckland (10% paid) ..	1 0 6
		Auckland	15 7 6
		Christchurch	9 15 0
		Feilding	0 19 9
		Gisborne	2 10 0
		Hamilton	2 15 0
		Napier	25 0 0
		3 7 6
		8 8 0
		New Plymouth	8 5 0
		Thames	11 7 6
		Wellington	16 25 0
		11 5 0
		Palmerston North .. .	7 10 0
		SHIPPING—	
		Union Steamship .. .	1 16 0
		New Zealand Shipping ..	6 10 0
		Northern S.S. .. P.U.	0 14 6
		0 7 3
		Devonport Ferry .. .	1 10 6
		WOOLLEN—	
		Wellington	3 2 6
		Kaipara	2 17 0
		Moagiel
		TIMBER—	
		K.T. Co.	1 12 0
		0 14 0
		Leyland O'Brien Co. ..	1 2 0
		Mountain Rimu Co. .. .	1 2 0
		Parker-Lamb	1 6 0
		MEAT	
		Canterbury	8 0 0
		Christchurch	10 15 0
		Wellington Meat Ex. ..	6 4 0
		6 0 0
		3 1 0
		Geat	2 10 0
		9 17 6
		Wanganui	6 2 0
		MISCELLANEOUS—	
		Auckld. Elec. T. Pref.	1 1 0
		1 0 6
		New Zealand Drug .. .	2 5 0
		Sharnold & Co. .. .	1 0 0
		0 14 0
		Union Oil	1 0 0
		Colonial Sugar	42 10 0
		N.Z. Paper Mills .. .	1 2 0
		N.Z. Portland Cement ..	1 3 3
		Wilson's	1 15 0
		1 15 6
		Donagh & Co.	1 1 0
		Wardry Hops	5 2 6