

Our Illustrations.

The Return of the Prime Minister

Addresses to be Presented to Sir Joseph Ward

THE following is a full text of the two addresses shown on page 19, which are to be presented to the Premier on his return this week:—

Auckland,

30th September, 1909.

To the Right Hon Sir Joseph Ward, P.C., K.C.M.G., Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Dear Sir,—The citizens of Auckland deem it a fortunate circumstance that they are afforded the honour and privilege of being the first to welcome you upon your return to New Zealand from the Imperial Defence Conference.

Several months ago, when anxiety was freely expressed in Great Britain with regard to the naval defence of the Empire, you interpreted aright the loyal feelings of the people of this Dominion by promptly declaring our readiness to share in the growing burden of Imperial responsibilities.

Your action, conceived in a spirit of patriotism, was welcomed, both here and in the Home Country, with an enthusiasm which men of all shades of political opinion shared. Its moral effect was worth far more to Great Britain than any imaginable contribution in ships or money or men. It gave a lead which was taken up by Canada, Australia, and the other great colonies, and the profound impression it created in the Home Country was eloquently expressed by Mr. Asquith, Prime Minister, and Mr. Balfour, Leader of the Opposition in the Imperial Parliament, when presenting to you the original signatures attached to the congratulatory cable sent to New Zealand by 400 members of the House of Commons.

"The people of Great Britain and Ireland," Mr. Asquith stated, "will never forget that splendid and voluntary manifestation of cordiality, loyalty, and affection on the part of New Zealand," while Mr. Balfour was no less emphatic in describing the offer as "an epoch-making occurrence—an incident which will be looked back to in future generations, at any moment in which our great Imperial interests may be in danger, as showing how by spontaneous action the great self-governing Dominions of the King came forward on their own initiative, at once, without discussion, by an immediate inspiration, as it were, as to what was required of them by the public necessities of the Empire, and gave a gift, generous and almost beyond computation, in relation to their means to the common object of Imperial Defence."

These two foremost British statesmen so admirably interpreted the spirit that set in motion this great wave of Imperial sentiment, and so strongly emphasised the value of New Zealand's offer, that no words of ours could demonstrate more impressively the great service which you rendered to the Empire as a whole.

We also desire to express our appreciation of the distinguished ability with which you have represented the patriotic aspirations of New Zealanders at the recent great council of British statesmen. These eminent services we deem worthy of the gratitude of every loyal subject of the Crown.

With cordial good wishes for yourself and Lady Ward.

Signed on behalf of the people of Auckland.

(Here follow the signatures.)

(To the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Ward, P.C., K.C.M.G., D.C.L., etc., Premier of New Zealand.)

Dear Sir,—The Waitemata branch of the Liberal and Labour Federation, on the occasion of your return from the Imperial Defence Conference in London, bids you a hearty welcome home.

The first Imperial Conference between the Mother Land and her daughter nations, which has solved the question of the defence of the Empire, has been an epoch-making event, and the statesmen, who so worthily rose to the greatness

of the occasion, and arranged a practical method of safeguarding our vital Imperial interests, will be gratefully remembered in the history of their country.

In you, Sir, the people of the whole Empire recognise one, who, at a critical moment, with the instinct of genius, and with a moral courage not surpassed in the annals of Statesmanship, made a spontaneous offer on behalf of New Zealand, of two of the most powerful warships to strengthen that Royal Navy, which is England's and the Empire's "All in All." That incident electrified the Chancelleries of Europe, and convinced any contingent enemies of the unity and solidarity of the British Empire.

At the Conference which has just been held you have brilliantly represented the New Zealand people, and demonstrated their patriotism and determination to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Mother Country in defending the glorious fabric of the Empire, which has been reared by the toil and sacrifices of preceding generations of the British race.

Though we primarily represent the Liberals in Waitemata, we believe we voice the sentiments of the whole of the people of this large district, in expressing appreciation of your signal public services; and in wishing you a long and happy life and increasing honour and renown.—We are, dear Sir, faithfully yours—

(Here follow the signatures of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and members of the Executive Council.)

WELLINGTON Y.M.C.A.

SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY.

The seventh anniversary tea and public meeting of the Wellington Y.M.C.A. were held in the Town Hall last Thursday evening, 23rd inst., and a brief outline of the history of the present Association will be of interest to many of our readers. A Y.M.C.A. was established many years ago in the Empire City, and accomplished excellent work under its founders and supporters; but, for some years prior to 1802, from one cause and another, it had ceased to exist.

The memorable Torrey-Alexander mission to New Zealand in 1902 stirred up interest very greatly in our young people, and what could and should be done towards helping them to live healthy, clean, useful lives, and the special needs and best ways of helping, more especially the young men away from home influences, and exposed to the many temptations of city life, received special attention from some of those who took a deep interest in their welfare and were anxious to be of service to them. In fact, the present Association was a direct outcome of that mission, and was founded in 1902.

Its first rooms were in Customhouse Quay, but a serious fire in the building necessitated seeking fresh quarters, and Jervois Quay was its next home. The work grew in extent and usefulness from the start, and the need of a building of its own was keenly felt, and in May, 1906, very largely owing to the visit of Mr D. A. Budge, secretary of the Montreal Y.M.C.A., who had been, through the kindly interest of the International Committee of the Y.M.C.A. of Canada and United States, specially deputed to come to New Zealand, and whose visit and invaluable services and advice on that occasion will long be remembered, a great building fund campaign to raise £10,000 was decided upon, and brought to a successful issue within the time appointed, i.e., three weeks.

The one great difficulty that had been experienced was the securing of a suitable site, and those interested were greatly encouraged when that bar to progress was removed through the generosity of Mrs W. R. Williams, who, on the occasion of the 1905 anniversary, presented the Association with a magnificent centrally situated freehold site in Willis-

The contract price for the new building was £13,000, and the foundation stone was laid on March 9th, 1907, by Hon. Hall-Jones, and the new building, opened in May, 1908, has been found to admirably meet the requirements of the Association. The furnishing cost about £3,000, and as the site is estimated to be worth about £7,000, the Association to-day stands possessed of property worth in round numbers about £23,000, on which the total debt is under £5,000.

Mr. J. J. Virgo, secretary Sydney Y.M.C.A., and at present also filling the position of National Secretary for Australasia, who is so well and widely known for his splendid work in connection therewith. Mr. Virgo visited Wellington some seven years ago, and on that occasion rendered very valuable service in connection with the early history of the present Association.

Mr. J. G. W. Aitken, president of the Wellington Y.M.C.A., has been elected to the position each year since the board was established, and is well known as one of Wellington's leading business men, who has for many years rendered invaluable service in all movements for the welfare of citizens and its young men in particular.

Mrs. W. R. Williams, who gave the freehold site, and has also contributed most liberally otherwise to the Y.M.C.A., and at her own cost also erected and equipped the splendid Wellington Missions to Seamen building, which has proved such a boon to the sailors when in port. Her assistance and liberality are well known in movements and institutions for the benefit of those needing assistance. Mrs. Williams is honorary president of the Ladies' Auxiliary, and takes a keen interest and active part in its work.

Mrs. J. Hott, this year's president of the Y.M.C.A. Ladies' Auxiliary, has been a member thereof since its inception, and during her presidency the Ladies' Auxiliary set about the large task of raising the sum of £250 towards the reduction of the debt on the building, and by means of a sale of work, etc., succeeded in doing so. The tempting offer of a subsidy of a like amount if the £250 was raised, by that most generous friend of the Association, Mrs. W. R. Williams, acting as a keen incentive to the members of the Auxiliary and many other kind friends to thus reduce the debt on the building by £500.

Mr. H. N. Holmes, general secretary of Wellington Y.M.C.A., hails from Adelaide. His appointment by the Board of Management dates back to March, 1904, and he has proved himself the right man in the right place. Mr. Holmes is equally at home in the athletic field, gymnasium, or when leading a Bible class, has the full confidence of the Board and the members generally, and the very valuable service he has rendered—and continues to render—is recognised and much appreciated.

THE PORT OF NELSON.

A local shipping authority believes that Nelson will prove a considerable rival to Wellington now that Nelson is accessible to the large liners (says the "New Zealand Times"). "It needs no

more than a casual glance at the map to see how Nelson is going to beat Wellington for the West Coast transhipments," he remarked. "Vessels, instead of transhipping their cargo for the West Coast, will in the near future tranship at Nelson for two reasons—firstly, because they are nearer home, and secondly that goods can be transhipped much cheaper at Nelson than at Wellington with its heavier charges. Wellington has got to pay for some costly works, as well as for the dock now being constructed. Nelson has not much of a load to carry, and therefore can do the work cheaper and as efficiently. It would not be much of a surprise if Nelson eventually captures Wanganui and New Plymouth transshipments as well."

FOR TIRED PEOPLE

Who overstrain in one way and another there is nothing so beautiful or so restful as a cup of good Tea, made right and served right. But it must be good. The high-water mark of excellence is reached by "Choyan" Brand Tea. It is delightfully refreshing and fragrant, and has a delicious flavour all its own. Let your grocer send you a pound and be convinced that there is nothing so good. Remember the name: "CHOYSA." Price 1/6 per lb. — BOND AND BELL, Wholesale Agents.

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The immense number of orders for Frootoids, sent by post direct to the Proprietor, is convincing proof that the public appreciate their splendid curing power over the above named complaints.

Frootoids are elegant in appearance and pleasant to take; they are immensely more valuable than an ordinary aperient; they remove from the blood, tissues and internal organs waste poisonous matter that is clogging them and choking the channels that lead to and from them.

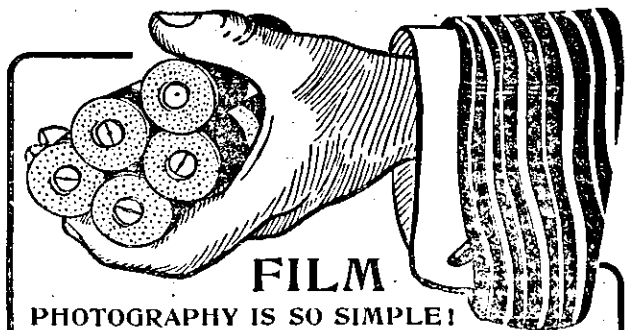
The beneficial effects of Frootoids are evident by the disappearance of headache, a bright, cheery sense of perfect health taking the place of sluggish, depressed feelings, by the liver acting properly and by the food being properly digested.

Frootoids are the proper aperient medicine to take when any Congestion or Blood Poison is present, or when Congestion of the Brain or Apoplexy is present or threatening. They have been tested and have been proved to afford quick relief in such cases when other aperients have not done any good at all.

Frootoids act splendidly on the liver; a dose taken at bed-time, once a week, is highly beneficial.

A constipated habit of body will be completely cured if the patient will on each occasion when suffering take a dose of Frootoids instead of an ordinary aperient. The patient thus gradually becomes independent of Aperient Medicines.

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