

by means of public works, and therefore I propose to provide that all surplus money received in respect of the sale of the fee simple of Crown lands, whether now under lease or not, other than settlement lands, shall be paid into the public account to the credit of a separate account, called the National Development Account, and that these moneys shall be applied only in the development of this country by roads, bridges, telegraphs, telephones, and railways, subject in each case to appropriation by Parliament.

The proposals of the Government with regard to the settlement of native lands will be put before you in a measure dealing specially with that important subject. The process of ascertaining native titles, and partitioning same into convenient areas, will be greatly improved. That process has been greatly delayed in the past, because surveys have not kept pace with the operations of the Native Land Court. It is intended that the Government will undertake all future surveys, charging the cost to the native lands affected. An important feature of the bill is a proposal to consolidate the scattered interests of individual owners, or groups of owners. It is proposed to purchase from the natives as large an area as possible, and to avoid the difficulties of the past, the purchases will as a result be negotiated with the owners assembled in meeting duly convened, and the consent of the majority will conclude the purchase, subject in certain cases to the partition of interest. The system established, it is confidently hoped, will enable the Government to protect a proportion of the proceeds of such sales from the extravagance of the native vendors.

All existing restrictions and prohibitions against alienation will be removed. The native who is the sole owner of a defined piece of land may, by application to the Native Appellate Court, convert his land into European land. Where land is owned by not more than 10 owners, they may sell, lease, or mortgage, but in the last-named case only to a person authorised by the Governor-in-Council. Where there are more than 10 owners, direct alienation will be permitted by the Board, if satisfied that the signatures can be obtained with little expense. In other cases, alienation is to be effected by resolution of the owners assembled in meeting. All alienations will be subject to confirmation by the Boards in the North Island, and by the Court in the South Island. As it is not proposed that the Native Land Bill, if it is passed, should come into operation until the end of March next, you will be asked to make provision for the carrying on, purchase, and development of lands vested in Maori Land Boards up to the end of the financial year.

#### Compulsory Training.

In his Budget speech last week, dealing with the question of internal defence, Sir Joseph Ward said: "The time has now arrived when a definite course must be taken with the view of placing the home defence of the Dominion upon a more satisfactory footing. To carry this out our defence systems must undergo complete reorganisation. This reorganisation will, as far as local conditions permit, be on the lines approved at the Imperial Defence Conference. These are designed to provide an active trained force for any emergency, consisting of coast and garrison defence. Mobile forces of all arms will be so arranged that should the Dominion be required to supply an expeditionary force suitable for service overseas, it can be promptly sent without any dislocation of our own defences."

"I propose," proceeded Sir Joseph, "that all boys between the ages of 12 and 18 undergo elementary and progressive training either in a junior or senior cadet division. Boys under the former age will undergo physical training only. All young men, except those physically unfit, between the ages of 18 and 21 will undergo two years' compulsory training. This training will be on stated evenings, and on half and whole days during the year. In addition there will be training for 14 days in each year in training camps."

"As further part of the proposed scheme an active force will be organised, consisting of 20,000 men of all ranks, composed of men between the ages of 18 and 30 years, who choose to join voluntarily. This force will be organised on Imperial lines as to arms, equipments, establishment, and training. After these men have completed their service, they will pass to a reserve. In the event of such a force not being

equipped in point of numbers by voluntarily enlisting, a selection will be made from those undergoing the compulsory training above outlined to make up the total. This active force will be established on March 1 next, in the larger centres of population only. The mounted rifles in the country will, however, be included as the staff instructors gain experience, and as material and equipment are available the scheme will be extended beyond the larger centres to the outlying districts of the Dominion. The compulsory training for the junior and senior cadets and for young men between 18 and 21 will commence as soon as the requisite registration can be completed.

"I feel," added Sir Joseph Ward, "that the useful services of rifle clubs should not be lost to the Dominion, and the continuance and formation of these will be encouraged in every way. All those exempt from service in the forces referred to, and those who shall have completed their service, may join the rifle clubs. I do not propose that those undergoing compulsory military training shall be provided with uniform. Their training will take place in ordinary civilian dress. As it is most desirable that there should be uniformity between the scheme followed by the Imperial General Staff and our General Staff, steps will be taken to ensure the necessary similarity of training and methods of defence. As a permanent central training ground will be absolutely necessary in each island, the House will be asked to authorise the setting apart of a considerable area of land, say 12,000 acres in each island, where continuous training may take place, where a permanent instructional staff can be located, and on which all necessary buildings, ranges, and other equipments can be erected.

"As regards the expense of the proposed scheme," continued the Prime Minister, "I may say that this is estimated at not more than £100,000 per annum, and this sum you will be asked to add to the present defence vote. I propose also to ask for a further sum of £150,000 for additional armament and field equipment, but the expenditure of this amount will spread over a period of three years after it has been introduced. I propose to set up a Select Committee to consider the proposals contained in a bill to be introduced, and I feel sure the House will assist to place this important legislation on the Statute Book this session."

#### Egyptian Antiquities.

A welcome addition to the treasure of the Dominion Museum will be installed there soon. It is a case of antiquities from Egypt just landed from the Rimutaka. The collection is a gift to the museum by the management of the Egyptian Exploration Fund, in response to a suggestion from the New Zealand secretary, Mr. George Lambert. The list (which does not include any mummies) comprises pottery, bowls, necklaces, beads, and other ornaments with which the ancient people adorned themselves or their houses.

#### Population Returns.

Statistics for October show the population of Auckland and suburbs to be 93,544; Wellington and suburbs, 73,667; Christchurch and suburbs, 76,709; Dunedin and suburbs, 61,279. Other figures are:—Thames, 3,750; New Plymouth, 5,352; Napier, 10,450; Wanganui, 8,511; Palmerston North, 11,650; Masterton, 5,500; Petone, 7,200; Bleunheim, 3,500; Nelson, 8,630; Greymouth, 5,078; Hokitika, 2,410; Lyttelton, 4,000; Timaru, 8,100; Oamaru, 5,257; Invercargill (greater), 13,700.

#### The Dreadnought Gift.

Sir Joseph Ward referred to the Dreadnought offer during his Budget speech last week, and explained the Government's proposals as to meeting the cost and repayment of the necessary loan. He said the offer having been accepted, steps would require to be taken to enable the vessel to be built and handed over to the Admiralty. "For this purpose," he proceeded, "I propose to ask the House for authority to raise a loan of £2,000,000, at a rate of interest not exceeding 3½ per cent. Having regard to the nature of the expenditure, you will, I hope, agree that it would not be treated as part of our permanent public debt, and I propose that we make provision for paying it off within 18

years. For this purpose a sinking fund of 4 per cent will require to be provided. In making these proposals, I acted on what, after very full consideration, I believed to be the best for New Zealand, and most in accord with the sentiments of her people. It would be quite out of place for me to attempt to question or even to criticise the decision of Canada and Australia to establish local navies. Omitting all controversial points, there remains one consideration, which is purely personal to New Zealand, and in my opinion, determines the whole matter. This is the question of cost. To show what pecuniary liability is involved in a local fleet unit, I quote an extract from an Admiralty memorandum that Mr. McKenna, the First Lord, submitted to the conference:—"The fleet unit to be aimed at should, in the opinion of the Admiralty, consist of the following:—One armoured cruiser, one new Indomitable class (which is of the Dreadnought type), three unarmoured cruisers (Bristol class), six destroyers, three submarines, with the necessary auxiliaries, such as depot and store ships, etc." The minimum numbers required for such a fleet would be about 2000 officers and men, including one rear-admiral or commodore and staff, one captain, four commanders, 43 lieutenants and sub-lieutenants, 18 engineer officers, besides medical and accountant officers, and warrant and petty officers of various classes. The total first cost, accordingly, of building and arming a fleet unit, apart from auxiliaries, would be:—Indomitable (new), £2,000,000; three Bristols, £1,050,000; six destroyers (river class), £480,000; three submarines (C class), £165,000;—total, £3,695,000. The total annual cost of maintenance would be:—Indomitable, £52,000; three Bristols, £49,500; six destroyers (river class), £64,200; three submarines (C class), £6,000;—total, £172,600. The above figures do not include cost of personnel, which should be added to the annual charge for maintenance. The active service pay of 2000 officers and men, and their victualling, and other like expenses, would amount, approximately, to £150,000 a year, calculated on the rates payable in the Royal Navy only. Mr. McKenna said that at the Imperial rates the total annual cost of such a fleet unit would be about £600,000; Sir F. W. Horden, speaking for Canada, said that in the case of that Dominion it could not be less than £800,000; after going into careful calculations, I stated that in the case of New Zealand it would be, at the very least, £700,000. It is manifest that such an annual expenditure is quite beyond our resources, and must be so for many years to come. The proposals made by me involve a total yearly expenditure of £250,000, made up thus:—Dreadnought, interest and sinking fund for each of 18 years, £150,000; contribution to Admiralty to cover difference between Imperial and local rates of pay, etc., £100,000;—total, £250,000. Deducting from this the £100,000 which we are at present paying as our contribution to the cost of the Australasian squadron, and which is to be dropped when the new scheme is adopted, the net result will be a yearly increase of £150,000 on the amount we at present pay. Recognising as we all do our duty to take upon us a reasonable share in the general burden of Imperial defence, I feel satisfied that neither Parliament nor the country consider such an expenditure excessive.

#### The Licensing Law.

It now transpires that Dr. Findlay was asked by the Prohibition people and by the Trade representatives to ascertain whether it was possible that the demands of both sides could be modified so as to reach some common ground by a process of reasonable and honourable concession. For a long time Dr. Findlay has been working to that end, and during last week representatives of each party have been in Wellington. Although there has been no direct meeting between them, a long course of proposals and counter-proposals has taken place through the medium of Dr. Findlay. It has resulted in a complete settlement as to the character and terms of the legislation to be introduced.

The representatives of the New Zealand Alliance, fully authorised, have requested the Prime Minister to bring down legislation embodying the terms set forth below, and representatives of the Brewers' Association, Wine and Spirit Merchants' Association, and licensed victuallers, on behalf of all branches of the Trade, have also made

the same request regarding the same terms. Each party has undertaken to do all they can to promote necessary legislation, so that it may become law this session. The terms are as follows:—

The three-fifths majority will be reduced to 55 per cent, and hereafter every vote cast for local no-license is to be counted for national prohibition as well as for local no-license.

If national prohibition is carried by 55 per cent of the votes recorded, it will come into force at the end of five years from the date of poll, and thereafter no further poll shall be taken until National Prohibition has been three years in force.

Upon National Prohibition coming into effect, no intoxicating liquor of any kind shall be imported into, manufactured, or sold within New Zealand, except such as is strictly required for medicinal or scientific purposes.

Should local no-license be carried, it shall come into operation two years from date of poll, instead of six months after, as at present, and means no-license only and not absolute prohibition.

"The Reduction vote is to be discontinued."

"In districts where no-license is already in existence, the Non-restoration vote shall count also for national prohibition."

"If the Restoration vote amounts to 55 per cent of the total votes recorded, restoration shall be deemed to be carried."

## AUCKLAND.

### Calliope Dock.

In view of the recent announcement that Auckland was to be a naval base for the Pacific Squadron, the following communication from the Admiralty is of special interest. Some time ago the

## SCALP DISEASE PUZZLED DOCTORS

Began with a Little Pimple.—Itched and Spread Till Whole Head was Raw—Hair Fell Out in Bunches—Suffered Three Years and Cure Seemed Impossible.

## IMMEDIATE RELIEF AND EASY CURE BY CUTICURA

"My disease started with a little pimple on my head. Then it began to itch. The more I would scratch, the worse it grew until it spread all over my head. So I went to the doctor. I continued his treatment for some time but, finding no results, I decided to change and try some other remedy. Little warts began to grow on my head. I would wash it every day but it grew as raw as a piece of beef and my hair commenced to fall out in bunches. So I changed doctors. This doctor prescribed a wash and a salve. My head at this time was so sore I could not touch it. After trying several doctors and many patent medicines, nothing would cure it and I lost much time from work."

"Then I decided to go to the hospital. Several doctors were called in to look at it, and after some consultation they said that I had scurvy in its worst stage. They began to treat it but it improved very slowly. For over three years I was a sufferer from this disease. I thought all hopes of a permanent cure were impossible. A friend of mine, upon seeing the condition of my head—which was a mass of running corruption—asked me if I had tried the Cuticura Remedies. I told him nothing would do me any good; but being very anxious to be cured, I decided to try them. The first treatment (with Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Pills) brought immediate relief. My hair became alive and stopped falling out, all the scale left and now I am perfectly well and have a full head of hair. I can truthfully say that it was entirely due to the use of the Cuticura Remedies and I recommend them to all sufferers from any skin disease. George E. Jefferson, 1518 Reed St., Philadelphia, U. S. A., Jan. 24, 1909."

Reference: R. Towns & Co., Sydney. Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour of Infants, Children and Adults consists of Cuticura Soap to Cleanse, Cuticura Ointment to Heal the Skin and Cuticura Resolvent Pills to Purify the Blood. London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 10, Rue de Valenciennes; Melbourne, 10, Collins St.; Adelaide, Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; U.S.A., Foster Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.