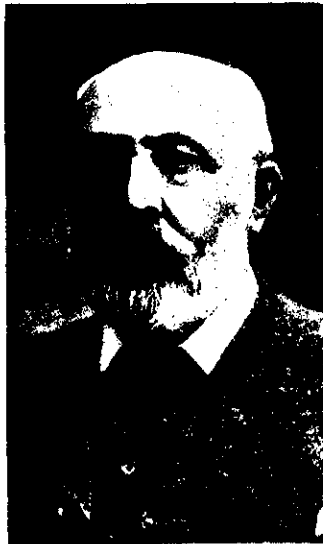


# People Talked About

## A Popular Official Assignee

Among the Civil servants who are retiring owing to the coming into operation of the "overage" regulation is Mr John Lawson, Official Assignee. It is some twenty years since Mr Lawson came among us and during his long connection with the Bankruptcy Department in Auckland he has earned the esteem of the commercial people and others with whom his duties have brought him in contact. While doing his duty to the State with a high sense of honour, and without fear or favour, he has always shown the greatest consideration towards those he has had to deal with. His courtesy was proverbial, and his urbane manner and many estimable qualities made him hosts of friends, who liked him better the longer they knew him. The exigencies of the service will rob the public offices in Auckland of one of the best-liked Civil servants we have had. Mr Lawson will remain in charge of the office till the end of July, when Mr E. Gerard, chief clerk in the Wellington office, will assume control.



MR JOHN LAWSON.  
Bartlett, photo.

## Auckland's New M.L.C.'s.

We give this week portraits of the two Aucklanders who have been called to the Legislative Council.

Mr Seymour Thorne George is a native of England. He was born in 1851, and was educated at Cheltenham College. He came to New Zealand in 1869, and when Mr C. E. Button resigned his seat for Hokitika in 1878 Mr George, on the advice of Mr Macandrew, went down and contested the seat. He was only there six days, and never gave a speech, but was elected. It was here that the long friendship between the Premier and Mr George began, as Mr Seddon was his right hand man and contributed greatly to his election. In 1882 Mr George was elected for Rodney, having come up to Auckland to reside at Kawau with Sir George Grey, whose niece he had married. Mr George was twice returned for Rodney, and subsequently unsuccessfully contested the Parnell electorate. For eight years he was one of the Liberal whips in Parliament, being for some time senior whip. Since his retirement from Parliamentary life Mr George has been active in other matters, having been twice Mayor of Parnell. For a long time Mr George has been closely identified with the mining industry, and his knowledge in that



HON. S. T. GEORGE, M.L.C.

respect should be of benefit in his career in the Legislative Chamber. Mr George is also interested in various commercial concerns, being a director of several companies. He, therefore, possesses a wide and varied experience, which should be of advantage in his new position as member of the Legislative Council.

Mr William Beehan for years past has been a most consistent supporter of the Liberal Party in Auckland. He has worked very hard in organising matters for the Liberal interest at various elections, but his services to the party had never been acknowledged beyond his appointment as a Justice of the Peace and Visiting Justice to the Auckland Gaol. Mr Beehan is a native of Ireland. He was one of the candidates nominated in the Liberal interest for Auckland City at the last Parliamentary election, but withdrew in order not to split the party vote. Mr Beehan has served the Liberal cause at various times as secretary and president of the Auckland Liberal Association.

Mr Beehan was born in Kerry in 1853, and came to this colony in 1874 with the object of settling on the land. The Ohinemuri goldfields rush attracted him, but subsequently returning to town he entered the service of the late John Cosgrave, Queen-street. Later on he was in the employ of the Holloway, Garlick Company. After a few years he started business on his own account. Ten years ago Mr Beehan sold out to the D.S.C., and was in that company's employ seven years. Afterwards he started in business, which he now carries on. When Sir George Grey was induced to leave his retirement at Kawau, Mr Beehan heard the first speech delivered in Auckland by the veteran Liberal, and since that time has been an ardent supporter of the party. He was chairman of the Central Liberal Committee in 1890, and of the Liberal Association for seven years. Four years ago Mr Beehan was a prominent leader in starting the present Liberal and Labour League, but consistently refused to accept of



SIR ALFRED CADMAN, K.C.M.G.

## Sir Alfred Cadman, K.C.M.G.

A cable message stating that the Hon. A. J. Cadman had been made a K.C.M.G. has been received by His Excellency the Governor. Mr Alfred Jerome Cadman was born in New South Wales 1847, and while yet an infant was brought to this colony by his parents. He was educated at the St. Paul's and St. Matthew's parish schools, and finished at the Wesley College. Upon leaving there Mr Cadman was apprenticed to Mr E. J. Matthews, and served his full term at the carpentering trade. When about 21 years of age Mr Cadman settled at Coromandel, where he was engaged for many years in the sawmilling business, and did well. It was at Coromandel he first entered public life as a member of the Tiki Highway Board. Soon afterwards he became chairman, a position which he filled for a number of years. When the Counties Act came into force Mr Cadman was the first chairman of the Coromandel County Council, and held that position for ten years, during



HON. W. J. BEEHAN, M.L.C.  
Sarony, studio.

which time he did good service to the district. It was at the end of 1881 that Mr Cadman was first returned as a member of the House of Representatives, practically by Coromandel. In 1887 he was re-elected, and in 1890 was returned for the Thames electorate, which took in the main part of Coromandel. In 1893 Mr Cadman, when Native Minister, challenged Mr W. J. Rees to resign his seat for Auckland, which was promptly accepted, with the result that Mr Cadman was re-elected by a substantial majority. Subsequently Mr Cadman was elected for Waikato, and three years later for Te Aroha. He has the honour of never yet having been defeated for any position he contested. Mr Cadman did not seek re-election in 1899, owing to ill-health, and was shortly afterwards called to the Legislative Council. At the time of the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York Mr Cadman was made a C.M.G., and has now been advanced to K.C.M.G.

Mr Cadman became a Minister of the Crown in January, 1891, under Mr John Ballance, being Commissioner of Stamp Duties, but only retained that position for six days. On the 4th of February in the same year he assumed the portfolio for Native Affairs, and on the 28th of May was appointed Minister for Justice, which offices he held under the