

great concrete walls have to be built, and to do this 2,000 tons of cement will have to be carted from Tirau to the ponds before next winter sets in.

**Thermal Springs.**

The Thermal Springs Bill provides for restrictions on the alienation of native land having thermal or mineral water thereon. It stipulates that where any native land in the North Island has situated thereon or contiguous thereto, any thermal or mineral spring, river, stream, lake, pool, geyser, or other thermal or mineral water, no alienation of that land shall, without the precedent consent of the Governor-in-Council, be confirmed by a Maori Land Board. Such consent may be granted or refused by the Governor-in-Council as he thinks fit. It also provides that the town of Rotorua and adjacent lands shall be Crown lands. This land is described in a schedule (being native land of which most of the undivided interests have been already acquired by way of purchase by the Crown). It is declared to be Crown land instead of native land, and is vested absolutely in His Majesty the King accordingly, subject, however, to all valid leases affecting the same at the commencement of this Act. With respect to the extent of the undivided interests in the said land, which have not been already acquired by the Crown, His Majesty shall hold the paid land in trust for the owners of those interests respectively, and all revenues derived by the Crown from leases of the said land shall, until and unless those interests are purchased or otherwise acquired by the Crown, be apportioned to those interests respectively.

**The Five Million Loan.**

Sir Joseph Ward brought on an interesting little debate in the House of Representatives last week. He explained at the outset that the recent £5,000,000 loan was made up thus: Advances to settlers, £1,500,000; advances to workers, £500,000; naval defence loan (Dreadnought loan), £1,250,000; and to public works and loans, £1,750,000. When he made his announcement on Friday he had not all the information by him, hence his present correction.

The Prime Minister mentioned that he had cabled to the High Commissioner, complaining of a premature leakage of information about the loan negotiations. The reply was that the leakage was quite unavoidable in underwriting. Sir Joseph added that he had not desired to make any statement about the loan till Tuesday, when the arrangements would have been completed. The loan had been successfully negotiated at £98 10/ for five millions, the largest sum ever raised by New Zealand at one time. He had fixed the amount himself.

Sir Joseph Ward, in answer to Mr. Massey, said that the rate paid for underwriting the loan was one per cent, the ordinary rate.

**The Gambling Evil.**

The debate on the second reading of the Gaming Bill was resumed in the Legislative Council last week.

Sir George McLean said he thought the totalisator permits should be left as a present. The reduction of the clubs would probably mean that 100 clubs would go out of existence. He condemned the clause inserted in the Lower House, instructing the commissioners to give preference to clubs holding one day's racing over a year in the holding one of the issue of totalisator permits. He ventured to say that in no country in the world was racing so clean as in New Zealand.

The Hon. C. M. Luke, the Hon. O. Samuel, and the Hon. W. C. F. Carnarvon also spoke on the bill.

The Attorney-General, in reply, said it would be something marvellous of course to attempt to deny that the two outstanding evils threatening the demoralisation of New Zealand to-day were drink and gambling, and that the chief cause of gambling was horseracing. "If I said any more," said Dr. Enderby, "I would go a long way in the direction of abolishing it altogether." It was his belief that the time would come when the people at large would make a decision as to whether they had better have the bill. The bill was the first step towards that goal. One day the evil would surely be eradicated, root and branch. He had only one term to apply to the arguments brought forward by the apologists for racing clubs. The section of the law dealing with racing clubs had been administered by the clubs most abominably, and he thought they had been in hypocrisy. The intent of the law was expressed in words so plain that any man could see what was meant, and it was merely playing with words to use it as the clubs had done. The words he had said it was one of deliberate misdirection. The next scene in this miserable business was that any blackguard who liked to offer a club £20, even if he had only come out of goal the night before, could get a licence with ease. Was that the way to deal with the thing? No; it was a deli-

**PERSONAL NOTES.**

Mr Charles Petterson, of Dunedin, was last week appointed manager of the Waimate gas works, in place of Mr. G. Marriott, who goes to Eltham. There were 16 applicants.

At a meeting of the Dunedin City Council last week the Town Clerk (Mr. Richards) sent in his resignation, to take effect from March 1, 1911. The resignation was accepted with regret.—(Press Association.)

Mr. Myers, the well-known Wellington lawyer, intends going for a trip to England in January, and has booked passages for himself and his wife and their family by the Ionic. He will probably be away for some ten or eleven months.

A Press Association telegram records the death at Wellington of Mr. G. Gray, aged 64, brother of the late Mr. W. Gray, for many years secretary at the Post Office. Deceased was until recently controller of the Money Order and Post Office Savings Bank.

On Tuesday night Pride Waahi Lodge of Druids tendered a farewell social to P.D.G. Bro. Malcolmson, who is leaving Waahi to go farming at Papakura. Bro. Cooper, on behalf of the lodge, presented Mr. Malcolmson with two beautiful chairs, and the secretary read an address.

Sir Maurice O'Rourke, M.L.C., has been notified of his election as a vice-president of the Historical Society of Dublin, which has been in existence since 1745. The president is Lord Ashbourne, and the vice-presidents include many distinguished personages of Ireland. Sir Maurice O'Rourke is the only colonial vice-president.

Mr. J. Hammond, who, according to a cable message received from London last week, is to proceed to Australia with two British biplanes, is a son of the late

berate attempt from start to finish to thwart the intent of the section, and if the clubs had managed to bring discredit upon it, they would have brought discredit upon themselves. Before the clubs now asked for further consideration for their so-called sport they should have seen to it that they carried out the law dealing with it. As for the proposed commission, the Government was not going to give it or any body the right to increase an evil which they were seeking to reduce. He did not think amendments made by the House in the bill were in all respects wise, and he intended to ask the Council to change some of the provisions inserted there.

The second reading was agreed to.

**Public Works Statement.**

The Public Works Statement presented to Parliament on Tuesday provides appropriations totalling £3,000,000, which is a considerable increase on £2 millions actually expended last year. This year's vote for roading amounts to £712,000, of which £234,520 is for back blacks roads, £100,000 for loans to local bodies account, £13,935 national endowment account, and £30,000 for road maintenance. Railways in the Northern Peninsula are to receive over £200,000 in all, of which £100,000 goes to the North Auckland main line, and £65,000 to the extension of the Kawakawa line. The expenditure of this large sum will certainly do a great deal toward promoting settlement and opening up valuable land in this district. Other northern appropriations are: Kaihu railway £1500, Kaikoho £40,000, Huntly-Awaroa £20,000, East Coast £110,000, Stratford-Ongarue £100,000, Mt. Egmont £15,000. The vote for water power and irrigation totals £300,000. A start is to be made with the Lake Coleridge scheme, which may cost anything from £290,000 to £700,000, and it is proposed to spend this year £150,000 on this work. A further sum of £40,000 is set apart for the Kaituna or Huka Falls scheme, and a similar sum for the Hutt River scheme.

**Presbyterian Assembly.**

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand continued in session at Auckland till Thursday afternoon. A number of matters affecting the general well-being and future extension of the church received consideration, but most attention in this connection centred on the question of deciding in favour of a books of praise, opinion being divided between the "New Church Praise" and the "Hymnary." A majority approved the former, but it was decided to obtain the opinions of Presbyteries and Sessions before taking decisive action. The only public question discussed was that of Bible reading in schools, and the controversy resolved itself into a contest between the Nelson and the New South Wales system. A committee was set up to make inquiry and report to next Assembly, which is to be held at Dunedin.

Mr. Joseph Hammond, formerly owner of the Bulla raecocourse. Mr. Hammond has resided for some years in Seaford, England. He is a skilled aviator, the first colonial to hold a certificate as Pilote Aviateur of Aero Club of France. On his second flight he covered twenty-five miles across country at a height of 2000 feet in his Sanchez-Beza bi-plane. He has flown at Rheims, Bethany, Vitry, and in other parts of France.

Major Jackson Keddel, ex-Stipendiary Magistrate, of Oamaru, died suddenly last week, aged 70. Deceased settled in Otago in 1862, and in the early days of settlement was Coroner on the Goldfields. During the Maori War he served in the military forces under General Sir Duncan Cameron in the Waikato campaign, obtaining the rank of major. He was subsequently appointed Stipendiary Magistrate and Warden at the Thames Goldfields, and afterwards served in a similar capacity at Coromandel, Greymouth, Central Otago, and Oamaru. Deceased was a Past-Master in the Masonic Order.—(Press Association.)

The death is announced, in his 71st year, of Mr. John Edwin Davies, who was for thirty-three years headmaster of St. Stephen's Native School, Parnell, from which position he retired early in 1904. Shortly after his arrival in the colony in 1871, Mr. Davies took over the headmastership of St. Stephen's, his motive being mainly a missionary one, and the strong sense of duty which he showed throughout his career earned him widespread respect. From the scholastic and character-building point of view, the success of his efforts is shown in such pupils as Dr. Pomare (native health officer), the Rev. F. Bennett, and other prominent members of the race. Mr. Davies was a native of Wells, Somerset, England, where his youthful activities took the form of educational and missionary work in connection with the Church of England. He had been in failing health for some time, and his death was not unexpected. His eldest son is Mr. W. C. Davies, agricultural instructor to the Wellington Education Board, and an old Auckland boy, at present resident in Greytown (Wairarapa). Other members of the deceased's family are the Rev. Herbert Davies, of the Chinese Village Mission at Canton; Mr. Frank Davies, a member of the staff of the Auckland Customs; and also Miss Davies, the only daughter. Mrs. Davies predeceased him by some five years.

The funeral of Mr. John Edwin Davies, late headmaster of St. Stephen's Native School, Parnell, took place at Purewa cemetery last Wednesday, when the Rev. Canon MacMurray, vicar of St. Mary's, officiated. In accordance with an oft-expressed wish of the deceased, the service was of a private nature. The mourners included the present principal of the school, Mr. A. Wilson, four representatives of the St. Stephen's Old Boys' Association, who acted as pall-bearers, and 30 pupils of the school, who feelingly rendered a Maori hymn at the graveside. The floral tributes included wreaths from the staff, pupils, and old boys of St. Stephen's. The hymn "Now the Labourer's Task is O'er" concluded a simple, but deeply impressive tribute to one who untiring labours on their behalf will long be remembered by the native race.

Constable Scott, of Napier, has been appointed police officer in charge of the Chatham Islands.

Lieutenant Clutterbuck, of H.M.S. Encounter, arrived in Auckland on Friday on furlough, and is staying at "Cargen."

Mr. R. E. Priestley, one of the geologists of Captain Scott's Antarctic staff, was a passenger to Wellington by the Moeraki from Sydney on Wednesday.

Mr. James Henry Hayr, of Auckland, on Friday celebrated the 67th anniversary of his arrival at Auckland from the Old Country. Mr. and Mrs. Hayr, who both enjoy excellent health, have nine children, one of their sons being Mr. Harry H. Hayr, the well-known and popular secretary of the Avondale Jockey Club.

Archbishop Redwood, who represented New Zealand at the Eucharistic Congress at Montreal, returned by the Moeraki from Sydney on Wednesday. His Grace, who was the sole representative of Australia and New Zealand at the Congress, visited the chief cities of Canada and the United States after the conference was over. At Ottawa he was the guest of the Prime Minister (Sir Wilfrid Laurier). He returned via Queensland, spending ten days with his brother, Mr. Vernon Redwood, who is Mayor of Toowoomba.

The Hon. Seymour Thorne George, M.L.C., who has been at Home for about

**NEW ZEALANDERS ABROAD.**

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

LONDON, October 14.

On the 10th October, at Westminster Chapel, by the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, D.D., Mr. Charles J. Nairn, eldest son of the late C. J. Nairn, of Puererere, Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, was married to Miss Lillian Helen (Pam), youngest daughter of the late Dr. Vincent Ambler, London, and Mrs. Ambler, of Eastbourne.

Mr. and Mrs. Fitzherbert, of Featherstone, have let their house in the Garden City at Hampstead, and intend to leave on Monday for a holiday trip to Switzerland, taking their baby with them.

Miss Lenore Pulsford, of Wellington, was one of the singers at the weekly "At Home" of the Austral Club, held on October 11.

Mr. T. A. Munro, of Mangaweka, arrived in England last week, after spending a month in the south of France and a couple of weeks in Paris. He left again on Wednesday for a tour round Scotland.

The Swift cycles, on which Mr. Bert Drew, of Wellington, and Mr. G. E. Woolley, of Whangarei, recently toured through England, covering about 1500 miles, are now being exhibited in Holborn by the makers at their London office. It is the makers' intention to send the machines out to New Zealand to be placed on exhibition there by their agents in the Dominion.

Messrs. Drew and Woolley leave next week by the Persic on their return to New Zealand, after about two years' absence.

Mrs and Miss M. Bridge, of Christchurch, who arrived in this country four months ago, have since been travelling in Surrey, Monmouthshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Lincolnshire, and are now in London "doing" city churches and picture galleries.

Next week the New Zealanders go to Brighton, to stay with Dr. Griffen, brother of Mrs. Bridge, an old Christ's College boy, who has been philanthropic surgeon to the county hospital there for many years past, and to the hospital at Worthing.

Mrs. Bridge and her daughter expect to be in this side of the world for another year yet.

Though it rained nearly all the time they were travelling in Worcester—where their family have many associations—and while they were making all the noted Warwickshire excursions, Mrs. Bridge is of opinion that "it says much for the beauty of English scenery that in spite of that drawback, it charmed and attracted everywhere, even as regards summer rain enhances it somewhat, to my thinking, by the consequent soft, misty atmosphere and exquisite greenness. Much as our New Zealand scenery surpasses this in grandeur and variety, the clearness and brilliancy of New Zealand's air and sunshine makes in summer for hardness and glare."

Another visit was paid in Lincolnshire among the woods, with interesting excursions to Somersby Rectory and Church, the scenes of Tennyson's boyhood; also to Lincoln Cathedral. They also saw Peterborough Cathedral on the way back, but admired Lincoln more than either of the others.

Mr. Jas. W. Watts, manager of the Ouehanga branch of the Auckland Savings Bank, and his brother, Mr. Arthur Watts, are on a visit to London. They arrived by the Persic on September 27th, after an enjoyable fair-weather voyage, and have since been sightseeing in the metropolis. Next week they will take a trip to Scotland, and they hope to visit Paris before leaving next month for Sydney, where they propose to spend two months before returning to New Zealand. Mr. J. W. Watts is on holiday leave of nine months' duration.

Mr. Francis Hutchens, the young New Zealand pianist, gained a "commendation" in the competition at the Royal Aca-

a year, is expected to return to Auckland on the 18th of next January. As a good deal of comment was made regarding the fact that Mr. George, who is one of the directors of the Waikato Company, transferred all his holding of Waikato shares to the London register when he went Home, prior to the fall in that stock, it may interest shareholders to learn that exactly the same number of shares have now been transferred back again now that he is returning to New Zealand.