

Sayings of the Week.

Civil Servants in Paradise.

IF we hand over the public service of this country to a Czar we should have ructions of the most awful kind, and yet that is what the honourable gentleman proposes in regard to the public services. In a country such as this is, it is of the utmost importance that there should be a good public service, and that the Civil Servants should have as good a return made them for their services to the State as is possible. The present position of the public servants, as compared with what heretofore existed, is as paradise to the other extreme.—*Sir Joseph Ward.*

Fermentation.

The whole of the staff of the Railway Department are in a state of ferment and discontent.—*Mr. Herdman, M.P.*

What is a Tory?

A Tory is a man who uses public funds for his own private purposes. If there are any Tories in this country we don't want them to support the party in opposition.—*Mr. W. F. Massey, M.P.*

Fighting or Skiting?

I believe Mr. McLaren calls himself "Fighting Mac," but if the public were here night after night and listened to him they would call him "Skiting Mac."—*Mr. Herdman, M.P.*

Only Second Class.

Unfortunately it is well nigh impossible to get the best class of workman to emigrate from the Old Country.—*Mr. Nicholas, Auckland Employers' Association.*

Patronage.

The principal reason why I oppose the Public Service Reform Bill is because it throws open to almost everybody who has any society or wealth in the community the whole of the Civil Service. The very composition of the Bill from the beginning to end is patronage.—*Mr. E. H. Taylor, M.P.*

Political Purity.

In no country is there less political influence than in New Zealand at the present time, in no country in the world.—*Mr. E. H. Taylor, M.P.*

Unionism or Home Rule?

Some young women, on entering a factory, said they did not bother about unionism. They looked forward to another sort of union later on.—*Hon. J. T. Paul, M.L.C.*

The Public Service Reform Bill.

If this Bill were submitted to a vote of the public service, there would be, if not a unanimous, an almost unanimous, vote against it. From what quarter of the public service has come any demand for an alteration in their status.—*Mr. G. W. Russell, M.P.*

The People's Pocket Pays.

Personally, I do not care if the country gives the railway men £1 a day, so long as they know that they will have to put their hands into their pockets before this takes place. I am prepared to pay a higher wage to honest men.—*Hon. J. A. Millar.*

Thieving Made Easy.

It often happened that the amount of Customs duties was disputed, and while the matter was being adjusted the goods were left on the floor of the shed, and could be removed by anyone with business about the wharves without let or hindrance.—*Mr. Duncan Macdonald, Auckland.*

Brains Coat Money.

I do not think we pay half enough salary for the men in the higher positions of the public service. We want to encourage men with brains, and to give them something to look forward to. It is cheap to pay a man well; in order to get the best out of his brains it always pays to pay brains, and search out the man who has brains.—*Mr. J. Vigor Brown, Napier.*

A Timely Flea.

I think we should exercise a greater amount of generosity in our criticism of public men. It should be our endeavour to avoid mistaking parochialism for patriotism, or, in other words, contracting the habit of grasping the telescope at the wrong end. That besetting sin is part of the mission of this institution to counteract. The club stands for the recognition of honest motives, the condonation of honest mistakes, and the generous appraisal of public services honestly performed. Post-mortem eulogy never did a statesman any good, but even the most profound patriot may fall a prey to evil thinking.—*Mr. Pierre C. Freeth, president of the New Zealand Club.*

A Rival to Hansard.

It is not the duty of Parliament to provide a library of fiction for the citizens of Wellington.—*Hon. Geo. Fowlds.*

Libraries for Schools.

I should like to see boxes of books from our libraries sent out to our schools for educational purposes. That is a branch of library work that would be of great value.—*Mr. McLaren, M.P.*

Evolution of Conscription System.

Modern militarism in Europe was a growth merely of the last 40 years, when after the Franco-German war, Bismarck and Von Moltke—those men of blood and iron—imposed for the first time the conscription system on the States of the Fatherland until Germany had become the greatest military power, to be followed very closely by France, Russia, Austria, Italy and the other States of Europe.—*Mr. Herbert Carter, Wellington.*

Government and Daylight.

I am quite willing to apply this Daylight Saving Bill to the Government offices of the Parliament of New Zealand for two years as a trial.—*Mr. Massey, M.P.*

A Credit to Parliament.

I believe our Parliamentary library is well maintained, and equal to any Parliamentary library in Australasia. I hope it will develop into a national library, and that it will contain a complete record of all books on New Zealand.—*Hon. Geo Fowlds.*

Taking His Measure.

The Boundary Commissioners had been fairly kind to him in regard to his electorate (Wellington North). They had extended the electorate nearer to Porirua, and on the west had brought it closer to the cemetery. At the southern extremity also he still had the goal.—*Mr. Herdman, M.P.*

A Corner in Books.

If the majority of the larger booksellers stood aloof, and refused to sell controlled works of fiction, the result would be that huge stocks would be left on the syndicate's hands. Of course, the public would suffer in not being able to obtain certain novels, but the booksellers could not be blamed for protecting the interests of their trade.—*Mr. H. J. Edmiston, Auckland.*

Beautiful New Zealand.

In New Zealand was to be found the greatest variety of beautiful scenery in the world. The fjords there surpassed those of Norway, and he had seen both. Tropical plants could be found in the North Island, and also gigantic trees which had taken centuries to grow, but were unfortunately falling fast under the axe and could never be replaced.—*Lord Ranfurly.*

A Plethora of Pictures.

Getting in the Academy or Salon means nothing. There is splendid work refused at both places. I realised the absurdity of the present method when I acted as one of the jurors appointed to select the paintings for the Autumn Salon last year. Think of devoting four solid days to the scrutiny of about 3000 pictures! The most sincere man loses judgment under these circumstances, and selecting becomes a caprice.—*Mr. Rupert Bunny, Melbourne.*

Liberal Interest.

The rate of interest which we paid for our loan money when the Liberal party came into power was 16 3/4 per cent higher than the rate of interest paid last year, £3 14/6. On the total amount to date if we had got the old rate that the Tory-Conservative antiquated predecessors left us, it would have cost us £698,627 a year more than we paid last year.—*Sir Joseph Ward.*

Britain's Weakness.

What was the evil that beset the Motherland to-day? What was it that was weakening her? The answer was found in the figures that John Burns gave to the Conference, not in a spirit of despair, but in a spirit of profound sadness. He showed that in 1906 no fewer than 190,000 British people left their native country to scatter in places over the seas. In 1910 this number had grown to 240,000, while in 1911 Mr. Burns estimated that fully 300,000 sons and daughters of Britain would leave their motherland for other countries.—*Sir John Edmiston.*



A NEW SON-IN-LAW.

Britannia: "He is a very attractive person, but it always pains one when a stranger wins the heart of one's daughter."

The Bard as an Irishman.

If Shakespeare were to come back to us talking as he did in his own time, his speech, not only in pronunciation, but in many more essential characters, would be better represented by what we know as the Irish brogue than in any other way.—*Dr. J. J. Walsh.*

Inquire Within.

For the last four years the Opposition had been urging increased rates—anything, in fact, to relieve the railways from the consolidated fund. We heard them again and again before last election on the same plaint. Now the cry is: Reduce the rates, reduce the upkeep, reduce everything, and inquire into everything.—*The Prime Minister.*

The Great Unwashed.

Solicitors, clergymen, actors, writers, and others had nothing in common with the wage-earner. These were the very people, who in the past looked down upon the working class as "the great unwashed," and treated them with the utmost scorn.—*Mr. Cunham, Auckland.*

A Distant Relation.

A good many of the English people seem still to hold to the idea that New Zealand is a part of Australia. In one case at a dinner, Mr. Blomfield was placed beside another colonial, because they would probably be acquainted, although the other man had come from Canada.—*Mr. W. J. Geddes, Napier.*

Mixed Marriages and Daggers.

To prevent apostasy and adultery, I will never sanction a mixed marriage without having a dagger driven through my heart.—*Archbishop Kelly, Sydney.*

Boycotting Novels.

The only way to put a stop to the "corner" in books is for the booksellers to hold meetings, and send their united protest to the Publishers' Association of Great Britain. If this is not sufficient, we shall have to adopt more drastic measures, and we may, if necessary, go as far as to boycott the fiction controlled by the "trust".—*Mr. W. E. Arey, Auckland.*

Womanly Strength and Beauty

The woman who is really beautiful is the woman who is well. The languid nervous style of beauty once so popular with fiction writers is no longer in favour, either in books or in daily life. The beauty of to-day eats heartily and sleeps well, and trusts to nature to paint its roses in her cheeks. No medicine is better adapted to women's needs than

Stearns' Wine of Cod Liver Extract

It appeals at once to the palate and the eye, pleasing them by its taste and its tempting appearance. Its action is very simple and natural, since it builds up the bodily health by stimulating the appetite and digestion, and renews and enriches the blood by introducing more iron. It can always be depended upon, for besides being the best of tonics, it speedily breaks up hacking coughs and other bronchial troubles. Get Stearns' Wine of Cod Liver Extract at your chemist's, and be sure you get the genuine, STEARNS'.