

and it can be altered in manufacture to suit the particular needs of babies or delicate persons. It is claimed also that the new milk is far purer than any cows' milk as supplied to the consumer, and that it has better keeping properties. It will be possible to supply it in vessels sealed at the time the milk is manufactured, with a consequent maximum of cleanliness. It will be possible to manufacture synthetic milk at a cost which will compare favourably with that of cows' milk. Its taste is very pleasant, and of course it has the one great advantage that there is no risk of it being contaminated with tuberculosis or other disease germs. Yet another advantage claimed is that any milk left over in manufacture can be converted into cheese and butter.

Wall Street Must Go!

A new campaign has been opened by Mr. T. W. Lawson, the millionaire, who created a sensation eight years ago with a series of articles on "Frenzied Finance." His object is to abolish stock exchange gambling. The remedy which Mr. Lawson outlines in a tornado of words is in two sections. "The first," he declares, "is the destruction of the big evil and the big evil is a gigantic, sure-thing gambling device by which the people are annually sold of between two and three billions of dollars. This device is—and must be, to be effective—worked through the Stock Exchange. Therefore, the purpose of our work is the closing up of the Stock Exchange—its closing so far as gambling is concerned. When the Stock Exchange has been destroyed, the few, the possessors of gigantic fortunes, will still collect through the instrumentality of stocks and bonds a legal but undue return on their investments. The second section of the remedy will correct this by compelling a fair division with the people."

A Menace to Good Government

Ex-President Taft considers Socialism a creed for the lazy. He sums up the case as follows: "One of the greatest incentives to industrial energy and thrift is the desire of the bread-winner to provide for the future welfare of those he holds dear. Rob him of this by the prospect that his accumulation will revert to the State at his death and you have robbed him of what to most men is the chief inspiration to enterprise and saving. Do that, and you have robbed the world of one of the main-springs of its progress. Nor will you replace this motive power by assuring the bread-winner that society will care for those he loves and leaves behind. Examined in the cold, clear light of common sense, Socialism will not bear the test, though viewed merely as a philosophy it is not without its attractions. Indeed, it is these attractions which constitute its danger. It holds out a promise it cannot fulfil. It represents to the dreamer the vision of a society in which all shall be equal, in which life will be easy, and industrial toil and strife will have been reduced to a minimum. To the idle, the slothful, and unambitious malcontent, Socialism at once affords an excuse for his own defects and holds out the promise of an economic revolution which will remedy the evils for which his own delinquencies are chiefly responsible. To such as these, Socialism presents a constant and almost insuperable temptation to persist in habits of idleness and thriftlessness, interrupted only by an energy devoted to the denunciation of society and the present social system. Socialism is a menace to good government because it undermines patriotism and saps civic interest and enterprise, exaggerates the discontent of the discontented, and discourages from greater effort the human failure who is led by it to believe that his misfortunes are due solely to an unjust economic system which deprives him of opportunity and robs him of a fair remuneration for his services."

Rendered Idle by Legislation

Evidence in regard to a serious aspect of the introduction in England of the Insurance Act was elicited at an inquest on the body of a London weaver last month. The widow said deceased had been out of work ever since the Insurance Act was passed, because of his liability to fits. Until the Act came into force he was engaged on night work, but directly the measure became law he lost his job. "Many men have been

affected by the minimum wage legislation, the result of which is that those unable to earn the minimum wage have to give way to those who can," said the coroner. "As the cost of production is increased, and as insurance contributions, the minimum wage, etc., place heavier burdens on the employers," it follows that they refuse to employ defective workmen, who, in consequence, became a burden on the whole community."

Lesson of the War.

Colonel Heard, in speaking at Christchurch on the defence of New Zealand, applied some of the lessons of the war to the question of the defence of the Dominion. He said that the defence of New Zealand was of vital importance to all. He sympathised, however, with the young men to a certain extent—they had to give up certain things, and, of course, they did not like doing so. Now, the civilian could help the scheme considerably by joining the honorary territorial movement, which was doing good work. Military training was no small thing—it required discipline, and that was not a bad thing for young men. Discipline included self-control and self-sacrifice, and when the time came it spelt success. It gave soldiers confidence, and that was a great thing in a military organisation. What had made the word objectionable to some people was the fact that there were penalties for those who refused to be disciplined, but that objection could be applied to all laws, military and otherwise. The poor Turk was at one time a great fighting man, but lack of discipline had sapped his powers. He was also poorly trained, poorly led, and poorly fed. On the other hand, the Bulgarians had been trained steadily, organised thoroughly, and the result was a great military success. The lesson for New Zealanders was plain. Should a force land here it would be perfectly disciplined and well fed. Before such a force untrained troops would be wiped out. He did not wish to alarm anyone, but that was the position. War would cost Germany £1,000,000 a day, and when she made war it would be sharp and sudden.

Why There Are No Domestic Servants.

One of the most persistent and amazing insinuations of the day is the periodic wail of surprise at the scarcity of domestic servants. At the present moment we are told that hundreds of domestic servants are needed in New Zealand, and that 15/ and £1 per week, with board and lodging, are waiting for them. Yet there are plenty of young women in New Zealand. But they belong to the other learned professions, and not to that of domestic service. It would take the united efforts of Providence and a strong policeman to get one of these ladies into a kitchen for pay.

We have before us, as we write about a column of small print from one of the New Zealand daily newspapers. The paper says that these young women prefer to work in factories, where they get no board and lodging. Then it goes on to describe how surprised it is that it should be so, and that girls should prefer the factory to the good Christian homes offered to them. The article in question may have been written by a woman, in which case she probably spoke the truth when she said she was surprised. Women are like that. They are always surprised when they don't get their own way. But if that article was written by a man, he had most impudently. He was not at all surprised.

There is no man on earth who is surprised because girls prefer to work in a factory or shop rather than in a "home," that is to say, no man who has ever observed the average housewife at short range and with unobstructed vision. The difference between the factory and domestic service is not one of 2 s. d. or of board and lodging. It is the difference between being controlled by a man and by a woman. We may be unwilling to admit that we know what that means, but we do know all the same. There are occasions, rare occasions, when the truth ought to be told, and when a departure from one's habitual mendacity is not only permissible, but laudable. And there is not a man among us who would not rather die than enter the domestic service of our wives, that is to say, to any greater extent than we have already done. And in the eyes of the average young woman there is no lower depth of humiliation than to enter the

domestic service of one of her own sex. That is the chilly, glacial truth about the matter. The girl who works for a man in a factory knows that she will be required to deliver a definite and specific amount of work for a definite and specific amount of money, and that her relations to her employer are absolutely confined to the precise contract. There is no such knowledge in the case of domestic service. The relationship between mistress and maid is elastic, and that is precisely where the trouble comes in. The woman has yet to be born who can accept the domestic services of another woman as a matter of definite barter, and without the haunting conviction that she is entitled to some control outside the terms of that barter. Therefore, there is no reason to be surprised because thousands of girls prefer the factory and the shop with all their drawbacks to domestic service and control, however benevolent, that never rests. Of all the different kinds of control the benevolent and the well-meaning are the most unbearable. When women are ready to buy the domestic service that they need in the same way that they buy clothes—according to the measure of the scales—they will get all that they need. Until then those thousands of young women in New Zealand will troop into the factory and the shop.

To Cultivate Music.

A deputation from the Auckland University College Council waited on the Prime Minister and urged the granting of a subsidy for the establishment of a music conservatorium in Auckland. It was pointed out that it was not intended to interfere with the ordinary music teaching, but to cultivate music, more in the artistic sense. The estimated expenditure was £2,000 or £3,000 yearly for the first two or three years, after which it was hoped the institution would be self-supporting. Mr Massey replied that he would lay the matter before the Minister for Education, and made the encouraging announcement that he hoped to see his way to place a grant on the Estimates when the House next met.

Preference.

In replying to a deputation at Auckland last week, the Prime Minister made a statement with reference to the Government's policy regarding finance. Mr Massey said as far as the prize of money was concerned the present Government had come to a decision as to what policy should be pursued in differentiation between loans for development and non-development purposes. In the latter case the money would only be advanced at the rate it cost the Government, for it was only reasonable and fair that the taxpayers should not be burdened with any such cost. In the case of loans intended for development purposes, however, a considerable reduction would be made. Much the same system would prevail as in the old days of the Government Loans to Local Bodies Act which was in operation before the introduction of the State Guaranteed Advances Act. Loans for development work would have first call for attention.

The Home Rule Bill.

The debate on the Home Rule Bill took an unexpected turn when the Government sustained defeat on an amendment by 228 votes to 206. The amendment, which was moved in Committee of Ways and Means by Sir F. G. Bantury, Unionist member for the City of London, proposed to limit the Imperial contribution to the Irish Parliament to £2,000,000 a year. Twelve Nationalists and thirty Labour members were absent at the time of the division. The Cabinet, after deliberating on the position which arose as a result of the division, decided that the Government should continue in office. This decision led to an extraordinary scene. Mr Asquith moved the rescission of the amendment which had been carried against the Government. Sir Rufus Isaacs was refused a hearing, and loud shouts of "Adjourn" drowned his voice every time he attempted to speak. Paper pellets were thrown at the Premier and the Attorney-General, and a copy of the Standing Orders was hurled at Mr Churchill. The Speaker was appealed to as to whether Mr Asquith was in order in moving the rejection of the amendment, and he ruled that though the motion was unprecedented,

yet it was in order. He would not say the House should never form a new precedent. Mr Bonar Law moved the adjournment of the debate, but this was defeated by a majority of 100. Sir W. J. Bull was ordered out of the House for refusing to withdraw the word "Traitor," which he had applied to the Premier. The scene that followed is described as a regular pandemonium. Members leapt to their feet and mounted the benches, cheering wildly and hurling insulting epithets at each other. After several minutes of wild booting and jeering the House dispersed. It may be said that the decision of the Cabinet to ignore the decision of the House is without precedent, but it cannot be pretended that the division on Sir F. G. Bantury's motion in any way represented the real views of the majority of the members.

The Wellington Competitions.

The Wellington Competitions, in connection with the New Zealand Competitions Society, have attracted a large amount of interest. The programme is a varied one, and provides for recitations for Boy Scouts, piano and vocal competitions for all ages, Shakespearean and other recitals, as well as many other items. It is computed that over a thousand people were attracted to the capital from outside the city. In connection with these competitions, it is interesting to note that many people who have subsequently achieved world-wide fame have just made their mark by winning prizes in similar contests. The late Mr W. E. Stead wrote his first article for a guinea prize in a literary competition. We have already referred to Mascagni and his success in a similar manner with "Cavallera Rusticana." Mrs Henry Wood wrote "Daneshury House" for a prize offered by a Band of Hope organisation. Zangwill wrote his first story for a prize of one guinea, offered by a weekly paper. Mrs Bailie Saunders wrote "Saints in Society" for a prize offered by Mr Eisher Unwin, the publisher. Annie S. Swan wrote her first stories in connection with competitions in the weekly papers, and the present Archbishop of York won a silver medal for an essay promoted by the Sunday School Union. It is hoped that some of the winners in our New Zealand competitions will achieve a like success in the future.

Assassination of the Spanish Premier.

Senor Canalejas, the late Premier of Spain, was shot dead as he was walking alone to a meeting of the Cabinet. His assassin tried to commit suicide, but failed, and was subsequently arrested by the police. It is believed that he was incited to commit the crime by the fiery speeches made at the annual demonstration on the anniversary of the death of Francisco Ferrer. The late Premier could not, however, have been held in any way responsible for Ferrer's execution, seeing that he was not in office at the time, but "Ferrer-day," as it is called, has now become the chief anarchist festival in Spain, and fiery speeches are delivered against all its authority. Canalejas, indeed, was by no means a supporter of clerical domination in Spain. Two years ago he came into conflict with the Vatican, whose power in Spain was curtailed as the result of his legislation. At the same time, he was a marked opponent of the Socialists, and argued so fiercely against them as to excite their animosity. He stood for progress and reform. He was an aristocrat born and bred, a great orator, and a man of splendid physique. Though he had many bitter opponents, he had a great hold on the affections of his countrymen, and his death will cause widespread regret.

