

# THE WEEKLY GRAPHIC

AND  
NEW ZEALAND MAIL

VOL. XLIX.—NO. 17

APRIL 23, 1913

Subscription—25/ per annum; if paid in advance, 20/ Single copy—Sixpence.

## The Week in Review.

### Problem of Native Land Rates.

IN every district where Native land exists, the difficulty of collecting rates is so acute as to call for prompt attention. So long as the rates are not collectable it gives an unfair advantage to the Native owners, and places an inequitable burden on European owners, who have shown some persistency of late in securing an alteration of present conditions. The clerk of the Rangitikei County Council has offered the following suggestions:—(a) That the individualisation of native lands should be carried out as expeditiously as possible; (b) that individualised native lands should be placed upon the same footing as European native lands in regard to rating; (c) that the Valuation Department should be supplied with the fullest information obtainable in regard to all native lands, and that individualised lands should be entered under a distinct heading upon the valuation roll; (d) that some system should be devised whereby the rates on all native, other than individualised lands, may be secured to the local body in the same way that survey charges are secured, and without the need of any Court proceedings. The Minister for Native Lands has indicated that the suggestions will receive due consideration. The suggestion was offered by the Rangitikei County Council some years ago, and has since been made by other county councils, that no transaction in any native land should be approved by any Native Land Board, Land Court, or other authority dealing with native lands, unless all rates have first been paid on the land or secured on behalf of the local body. This very troublesome question was brought before the Prime Minister at Hawera, and mention was made of the case of a farmer in the district who was holding 2,000 acres, and cultivating and grassing it; but not one penny by way of rates did the country get from it. Mr Massey said that legislation would be introduced next session, and that matters would be placed in a much more satisfactory condition, so far as county councils were concerned.

\*\*\*

### The Teaching Profession.

It is unfortunately a fact that the teaching profession is not attracting a sufficient number of capable men and women to fill the positions created by the growth of population and the spread of schools to distant and isolated districts. The profession is not popular, because the reward for efficient service is not equal to the work involved, and quite unsatisfactory compared with other channels of employment. The inevitable result is a scarcity of qualified teachers, and the employment of uncertificated and inexperienced teachers. This appears to be the position throughout the Dominion. In Auckland it has been suggested that the evil can be partly remedied by setting up "observation schools" where the unqualified may receive instruction. The inspectors, in reporting on the matter, point out that a considerable number of uncertificated teachers now engaged are incapable of discharging efficiently their important duties. Many of them are without knowledge of the standard of attainment and effort reached by the best schools, and so are unable to realise their own limitations. Most of them, moreover, are so far removed from centres where the more efficient schools are in operation that it would be both costly and inconvenient to require them to

make use of such schools for purposes of observation. It is from a visit to the small sole-charge school that they would derive most benefit; but this type of school, owing to its isolation and the small salary it carries, does not, as a rule, attract the kind of teacher likely to act as a model and an inspiration to the inexperienced. A few small schools scattered about the district in convenient centres and staffed by specially selected and highly efficient teachers would afford the facilities required. Of course the inspectors recommend good salaries.

\*\*\*

### Earnest Workers.

Necessarily the Inspectors, who have had practical experience of teaching, have a sympathetic word for the enthusiastic band of teachers who against difficulties and discouragements are doing effective work. In their annual report the inspectors admit:—

"We have been obliged, during the course of our report, to speak somewhat freely and disapprovingly of certain matters connected with work in the schools, to express disappointment at conditions we found obtaining during the course of some of our visits, to find fault with methods, and to complain of inattention to needed details. Though all this has become necessary in our review of the year's work and in our efforts to point out the better way, we are fully alive to the fine spirit of earnest enthusiasm which permeates the service and finds expression in the resolute effort and splendid work so frequently met with. We feel more strongly as each year passes how much we all owe to those men and women in our service who labour so cheerfully, so persistently, so earnestly, so successfully—often in the face of difficulty, disappointment, discouragement, opposition—to train and educate our young people, and so prepare them for the responsible duties of citizenship by developing that sense of service on which the welfare of the community ultimately depends."

\*\*\*

### An Irremediable Wrong.

It is an old grievance that children in dairying districts are required to do such heavy labour at home that their school studies suffer lamentably, and that their mental and physical equipment are unequal to the strain. Just as often as the complaint is voiced by school teachers and others in a position to judge, it is so often challenged by those interested directly and indirectly. The subject has been reviewed by the Auckland Education Board's inspectors, who ought to be cognizant of the general conditions and sufficiently careful in criticism as not to overstate any existing evil. The inspectors speak very emphatically in condemnation of the tasks imposed on children concerned in dairying. "It not infrequently happens," report the inspectors, "that such children are obliged to work so hard, both before and after school, that they are quite unfitted to undertake profitably the work demanded in the school, with the result that their physical, as well as their intellectual, development is grievously retarded. It is to be regretted that parents, and the community generally, do not recognise these facts, and are not more fully alive to their duties and responsibilities. To extract from children labour so continuous that the bloom and vivacity of childhood linger but a few short years, and leaves behind it prematurely tired little men and women—a sight unpleasant to be

hold in so young and promising a country—is an irremediable wrong to the children and a menace to the welfare of the State."

\*\*\*

### Organised Terrorism.

So far the Asquith Cabinet has failed ingloriously to stem the tide of fanatical militarism. Organised lawlessness is still a menace to property, to certain services, and to peaceful citizenship. Just what the end of it all is going to be is the question that seriously confronts the Home folk. These women are dangerously irresponsible in their aggressiveness and maniacal in their defiance of the law. While drastic action is necessary, it is particularly puzzling to evolve an effective retaliation to such organised terrorism. The wholesale destruction of property, the deliberate firing of pillar boxes and residences of politicians, and perpetration of other outrages can not any longer be tolerated. But up to the present these violent suffragettes have triumphed in an inglorious campaign of destruction. It may be that the long-suffering public will turn and meet the militants with their own weapons. That would be lamentable, but would no doubt bring the militants to their senses in very quick time.

\*\*\*

### Out of Proportion.

Those in control of technical education in Auckland are naturally anxious to provide suitable accommodation and equipment for a rapidly-developing enterprise. For years a technical school at Auckland consisted of inadequate and inconvenient premises, located on different sites, but despite discouragement and disadvantages, the work made surprising headway. Population has been growing and industries expanding, and coincident a demand for skilled artisans and competent workers of both sexes. The Technical School in turning out the right material attracted attention, and the youth of the city clamoured for admission. But the accommodation available was lamentably insufficient. Many intending pupils could not be enrolled. Even now, with the fine up-to-date structure there is not enough room to meet all requirements. Another storey or two is necessary, as well as more equipment, and a further grant of £35,000 is imperative. The Department is to be asked to grant this big sum not only because it is urgently wanted for uninterrupted development of technical education, but because in comparison with other centres it is well merited. A table compiled shows that in the matter of grants, reckoned on a population basis, Auckland is lower on the

list than any of the other three cities, and lower than some of the smaller centres. The comparison is interesting:

Town	Popula- tion.	Total Grant.	Amount per Inhab.
Auckland	104,728	45,071	0 11
Wellington	71,427	8,890	2 6
Dunedin	65,089	10,527	3 3
Christchurch	82,004	14,388	3 8
Invercargill	16,868	5,044	7 6
Napier	11,738	6,894	11 8
Feilding	3,620	2,826	18 2

When analysed, these figures clearly indicate that Auckland has been neglected, despite persistent application for assistance. If Auckland had been as favourably treated as Christchurch, for instance, a further £15,000 is due. That is on a population basis; on area terms with Napier, £59,000 is due, or the same as Feilding, £94,000 should be available. It is surely time Auckland got a fair share of grants for technical education.

\*\*\*

### A Liberal Leader.

Since the defeat of the Mackenzie Government the Liberal party, dismissed in opposition, has been without a leader. The position obviously is not easy to fill. Now that Sir William Hall-Jones is returning to the Dominion after his absence in England as High Commissioner, an unauthenticated statement is made to the effect that he will be selected to lead the present Opposition. This suggestion, emanating from a strongly partisan Reform paper, has been promptly and definitely repudiated. It is admitted that Sir William is a veteran politician, with years of Ministerial experience, and temporarily Prime Minister, but his advancing years is against vigorous leadership. In addition, it is urged that capable as he may be, he is not the most capable of the men associated in the Liberal party. Mr G. W. Russell, who has been regarded as an aspirant for the vacant position, declares emphatically that Sir Joseph Ward is the only possible man for the leadership, and that he will receive a unanimous request to accept the position.

\*\*\*

### Dissatisfied Policeman.

New regulations recently introduced have created a pronounced feeling of dissatisfaction amongst the unstriped members of the police force, and they are almost in open rebellion. This is shown by the movement in Auckland towards the formation of an association, in defiance of the regulations, and the freely-

## IN THIS ISSUE.

The Week in Review .....	1	A Scene at Mullet Point .....	23
Sayings of the Week .....	2	Miscellaneous Pictures of General Interest .....	20
A Conspicuous Statesman .....	4	Aeroplane Flight in Auckland .....	29
Personal Notes .....	5	How Lake Takapuna is Sinking .....	31
Cricketer .....	7	Haunts of the Poets .....	32
Golf .....	7		
Chess .....	8	Hints on Photography .....	34
Turf Gossip .....	9	The Helicate Craft of Enamelling .....	37
Music and Drama .....	13	Waimarino Forest .....	35
		Life in the Garden .....	38
ILLUSTRATIONS—		Condensed Unheard .....	42
£1,900,000 Worth of Steel .....	17	Coasters at Shanghae .....	44
On Board H.M.S. New Zealand .....	18	The Bookbait .....	49
Two of the Big Guns .....	19	The Duet .....	51
On the Kaeo-Waiarapa Road .....	20	The Lady and the Diamond .....	53
A General View of Kaeo .....	21	A Night at Vercor (N.Z. Story) .....	55
The Reception of H.M.S. New Zealand in Wellington .....	22	Children's Page .....	57
Natal Sports at Newtown Park .....	23	Our Baiters .....	58
Wellington's Welcome to H.M.S. New Zealand .....	24	Jack Beveren's Hoop .....	59
A View of Wellington Harbour .....	26	Orange Blossoms .....	61
Lord Liverpool at Hobson .....	27	Society Gossip .....	62
		The World of Fashion .....	68
		Verses and Anecdotes .....	71
		Our Sunny Page .....	72