

# THE WEEKLY GRAPHIC

AND

## NEW ZEALAND MAIL

VOL. XLIX.—NO. 21

MAY 21, 1913

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

### The Week in Review.

#### To Teach Inexperienced Teachers.

**T**HROUGHOUT the Dominion there is a scarcity of efficient teachers to fill the increasing number of positions created by the advance in population, and certain of the schools in new districts, with the result that recourse has to be had to the employment of inexperienced teachers. To remedy this unfortunate state of affairs it has been suggested that "observation schools" should be established so as to provide an opportunity for inexperienced teachers to get the benefit of some practical hints. The suggestion has been brought under the notice of the Department, but so far no action has been taken in the matter. At the recent Inspectors' Conference in Wellington a resolution was carried urging the Department to specify certain of the schools in Grade III as "observation schools," with a suitable addition to the teachers' salary for the extra work involved. Referring to this matter at the last meeting of the Auckland Education Board, Mr. J. K. Mulgan stated that the inspectors had, at his request, prepared lists of schools in the various subdivisions of Auckland district most suitable for the purpose of observation schools, due regard being paid to efficiency, locality and accessibility, and these he recommended that the more promising of the inexperienced teachers from time to time be allowed to attend. "If this recommendation be approved," he said, "the inspectors will be instructed to confer, during their visits, with those teachers who give promise of improvement, ascertain if they be willing to attend at their own expense suitable schools, and notify the chief inspector of the result. The teachers themselves will then make application to the Board for the necessary permission and name the school to which they wish to be attached. It will, of course, be necessary in each case to close the school in question for a few weeks, but this action, in my opinion, would be sound policy, in view of the increased efficiency certain to follow from the observation of good models and from the experience and knowledge gained during the period of attendance at the schools concerned."

The Board decided to adopt the recommendation.

#### More Support Wanted.

Frequent complaint has been made by Mr. George (George) concerning the parsimonious treatment received by the Auckland Technical School at the hands of the controlling authority. He is still dissatisfied and discouraged, and threatens to resign his position as director at the end of the year. At present the new building in Wellesley Street is incomplete, with no funds available to make additions, nor even to properly lay out the grounds estimated to cost £1,500. Speaking at the Education Board meeting last week Mr. George remarked that matters had improved very little since he took over the position eleven years ago. "Now that we have got into the new school," he said, "I seem to feel the position more than ever. We have only got half a building, and next year the pupils coming forward will necessitate our going back to the old buildings in Rutland Street for the accommodation of day scholars." It seemed to him remarkable that the Technical School should be so hampered while the Grammar School could get a £40,000 for a new building. "As far as the public utility of our work is concerned," he said, "I am sure ours is as valuable to the community

as any that is done in New Zealand." Mr. George added he was not blaming the Board, as the members had always been anxious to do all that they could. There was no playground to the school at present, and to remedy this deficiency he wanted the site laid out. Regret was expressed by the Board that it had no funds available for the purpose, and the matter was held over *marantae*.

#### Science Examinations.

In order to give facilities to school teachers for qualifying in science subjects, Mr. J. K. Mulgan has submitted recommendations to the Auckland Education Board to arrange for courses of practical instruction in elementary agriculture, elementary botany, and elementary hygiene. The recommendations are (1) That teachers be notified of the proposal to hold classes in practical work in the subjects named, and those who wish to take advantage of these classes be asked to inform the board of their intention. (2) That, provided a sufficient number of candidates be forthcoming, courses extending over about three weeks be provided. (3) That the teachers concerned be required to attend these classes at their own expense, and to relinquish their Christmas holidays in lieu of some of the time spent away from their schools. (4) That in cases where it is impossible to make satisfactory provision for carrying on the work by means of a relieving staff, the schools be closed during the duration of the classes. It is proposed to give the instruction about the middle of August, and the classes would run concurrently and extend over three weeks.

#### Aviation in New Zealand.

A New Zealand branch of the Imperial Air League is to be established. A provisional committee was set up at a meeting of civilians and military men held in Wellington last week. Various suggestions have been made in order to ensure a career of usefulness for the local branch. Amongst other matters is a proposal that funds raised should be used to found a scholarship entitling the holder to a course of study in aerodynamics with practical training in flying at some recognised school. Another suggestion is that the New Zealand League should work on lines similar to the Navy League, seeking to stimulate public interest in aviation, and to augment the Imperial Aviation Fund by a contribution from the Dominion. The majority of those interested are agreed, however, that the efforts of the league should be concentrated upon the development of practical aviation in New Zealand, such as the construction of machines, the providing of aerodromes and training grounds, instruction of pilots, and, in short, to assist in the creation of an air league of aviators.

#### Danger of Over-Indulgence.

Some people who are labouring in the interests of prisoners are of opinion that the present system of reform is inadequate. A deputation representing the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society outlined some points in writing on the Minister of Justice last week. Mr. Duncan Macpherson, with twenty-eight years' experience as a chaplain at Mount Eden, declared emphatically that the work of reformation in the prisons was on the wrong lines. His idea was that the prisons should be

called criminal hospitals, and the object should be to make bad men into good men. That they did not achieve this aim was shown by the fact that men returned to gaol twenty and thirty times. Mr. Macpherson urged that greater facilities should be given for the education and instruction of prisoners, suggesting that the chapel should be open every evening, that permission should be given for lectures to the prisoners, and for members of women's Bible classes to visit the prison, and that greater opportunities should be given to the chaplains to converse with the men. "There is a danger of being over-indulgent with prisoners," the Minister remarked in commenting on these suggestions. "I am quite convinced that if you are too indulgent with these gentlemen they only take advantage of you." Mr. Herdman said the department did not desire a condition in the prisons which would lead to a repetition of the absurd incident that occurred in the Lyttelton Gaol, when the prisoners "struck" and refused to work. If a "cotton-wool" policy was adopted, similar Gilbertian episodes might be expected. The men must be treated with justice, but discipline must be strict.

#### A Startling Disclosure.

Cargo-broaching is of necessity a difficult crime to detect. There are so many opportunities for pilfering to be committed and all traces effectively covered up that it is next to impossible to decide upon whom to turn suspicion. It is a matter of working more or less in the dark to discover the miscreants. Added to the ordinary complexities there is collusion and terrorism, the situation is even more acute. Yet disclosures made in the Police Court at Auckland last week indicate, if the statements can be relied upon, that scamen are terrorized in a most aggressive fashion by wharf workers, making the crime of pilfering easy of perpetration and impossible of detection. In a statement to the Court a seaman, charged with having stolen goods, said it was high time the company sent officers to take charge of the holds instead of scamen. Wharf workers in the hold, he said, simply laughed at the scamen. If a man went up to tell an officer about a matter of pilfering, the men in the hold would just fix up the case again and deny everything. He had told watersiders not to do anything wrong, because he would be responsible, and they had just turned round and laughed at him. There were 1500 men on the wharf in Auckland, and if he got any of them fined, or into trouble by reporting them, he would have to clear out of Auckland and keep out.

#### The Coming Session and the Party Prospects.

In the course of an interview the other day the Hon. W. F. Massey stated that he has been very busy during the past week preparing legislation for the approaching session. Already quite a number of bills are completed or in forward state, including an amendment of the Land Act to give effect to that part of the Government's policy on this question which could not be dealt with last session owing to the necessity of proceeding with other work, and the fact that it would have made the Land Bill so bulky that it might have imperilled the passing of any legislation at all on the subject. As has been announced, it is intended to refer the allegations as to reagravation of land in some districts to the Lands Committee of the House for inquiry. If these investigations prove that legislation is required to prevent aggregation, the Government will take the necessary steps to stop the evil. The Government is quite determined that there shall be no aggregation. The Prime Minister stated that he is pushing on land settlement vigorously in various parts of the country, and, in addition to two estates acquired during the past week, there are some five or six others which will shortly, it is expected, be available for cutting up for closer settlement. As Ministers have still a good deal of work to do in connection with their departments which makes a personal visit to different districts absolutely imperative, it is difficult to arrange for a full meeting of the Cabinet for some time yet. This being so, it is not likely that the appointments to the Legislative Council will be made before the meeting of Parliament—indeed, it is probable that the announcement as to those who are called to the Council will be made in the Governor's Speech at the opening of Parliament. During the past week or two many members of the Government party have been in communication with their leader, and from these and other sources it is gathered by Mr. Massey that the party's prospects are so encouraging as to cause them to feel that in the event of an immediate test of the feeling of the country the Government would be returned by a very substantial majority of about twenty.

#### Women's Sphere.

Some very sensible remarks on women's work and influence were made by Miss Richmond at the annual meeting of the Richmond Free Kindergarten Union, held in Wellington. She declared that the kindergarten schools supplied needs that no other institution touched; the need of the mothers for help, the need of the children for nurture, the need of the girls for training

### IN THIS ISSUE.

The Week in Review .....	1	The Tide of Emigration in England ..	25
Sayings of the Week .....	2	Ngungu's Lighthouse .....	25
The Hero of Ulster .....	4	Presentation to H.M.S. New Zealand ..	31
Personal Notes .....	5	Akaroa Harbour .....	31
Story of a Stone Axe .....	7	On the Wanganui River .....	32
Papa's Tepe .....	9		
Golf .....	10	Hints on Photography .....	35
Chess .....	11	Japan's War Tax and Poverty .....	35
Trifling Gospel .....	12	Life in the Garden .....	35
Music and Drama .....	13	The Good Course (Short Story) .....	35
		The Kaitiaki (Whaka N.Z. Story) .....	35
		Children's Page .....	35
		Our Habits .....	35
		Orange Blossoms .....	35
		Society's Gossip .....	35
		The World of Fashion .....	35
		Verse and Anecdote .....	35
		Our Funny Page .....	35

#### ILLUSTRATIONS—

Maori Village at Parnell .....	17
Auckland Art Society's Exhibition ..	18
The Inland-born Akaroa .....	20
Territorial Camp at Orangi .....	21
Boating on the River Avon .....	22
Duck Shooting on the Plunket .....	23
Panoramic View of the Avonmouth ..	24
Christchurch Public Gardens .....	24
In the Victoria Valley, North .....	24
Auckland .....	27