

Minister in August, 1906, consequent upon the death of Mr. Seddon, and the retirement of Mr. Hall-Jones from the position he had temporarily occupied as Mr. Seddon's successor, during Sir Joseph's absence from the country, the member for Grey Lynn was offered, and accepted, the portfolios of Education and Public Health in the new Administration.

During his two years' term of office as Minister for Education, Mr. Fowlds has put in some excellent work. Under his administration of the affairs of the department it has become possible for any boy or girl to pass from the primary and through the secondary school into the University without the payment of fees of any kind, and to so obtain the very highest form of education, hitherto open to those who could afford to pay for the training."

In September, 1911, Mr. Fowlds resigned his place in the Cabinet in order to force a fight on real live issues, and though defeated at the general election in the December following, he was by no means disheartened as later events have shown. Indeed, he may be trusted to stay in the fight till the end of the war.

FREDERICK MASKELL KING.

Frederick Maskell King, by profession a clothing manufacturer and by conviction a Single Taxer, was born at Yarmouth, Norfolk, England, in 1859. The family then removed to Ipswich, but in a few years he returned to Yarmouth to be educated at the local grammar school. He afterwards left Yarmouth to go to Bury St. Edmund's grammar school, and on leaving school he went into business with his father in Halifax, Yorkshire. The family subsequently left Halifax for Leeds where his father died, and young King then went to America, travelling through the United States and Canada and settling for some years in Chicago, where he became acquainted with Messrs. John Z. White, Edward O. Brown, and other noted Single Taxers. But when the depression struck America in 1893, he came to Auckland, New Zealand, where he has been honorary secretary to the National

Single Tax League (now the New Zealand Land Values League) ever since. He married in 1897, Bertha, the second daughter of Mr. Edward Withy, and "the royal family" now numbers six little Single Taxers.

R. A. HOULD.

Richard Arthur Hould was born in London in 1839. He received an average education, and after a few years experience of office life he felt the attraction of the idea of the free life in the colonies. Breaking "the fetter of an office stool" he decided to emigrate and landed in Auckland in December, 1859, the happy possessor of an Order entitling him to forty acres of Crown land, and cheerfully confident of his ability to make a home of those "forty acres." The "forty acre system" then in operation was apparently devised by men who had secured for their four-legged cattle all the available land near the townships, and wished to induce some thousands of two-legged cattle to settle in the back-blocks, to give value to the land near the towns. Naturally these unfortunate bipeds were soon willing to pay the landlords tribute for permission to live within reach of some approach to civilization. Although a few, specially qualified for the struggle with the wilderness, succeeded in making homes for themselves, the great majority found they could do better in the towns. That was Mr. Hould's experience. Forty acres covered with impenetrable forest on the margin of a huge and dismal swamp, and miles away from any road or neighbor, was too tough a proposition. He gave it up, and had to take to "the office stool" after all. For fifty years he has watched the growth of landlordry in New Zealand. He was one of the first to join the Auckland Anti-Poverty Society in 1888, and had the honor of being the first man to welcome Henry George on this side of the world. He met him on the deck of the "Mariposa" at six o'clock one lovely summer morning early in March, 1890. Henry George was then on his way to Australia and only remained a few hours in Auckland. Other members of the Anti Poverty Society had