

The gross debt is shown in detail thus:—

BORROWED FOR—	£
Maori war .....	2,357,000
Defence .....	2,783,727
Railways .....	25,602,948
Roads and bridges construction .....	6,871,251
Public buildings .....	5,240,251
Telegraph and telephone lines .....	1,431,647
Harbors and lighthouses .....	573,683
Immigration .....	2,463,002
Lands for settlement .....	6,303,485
Government advances to settlers .....	6,974,935
Government advances to workers .....	964,765
Bank of New Zealand shares .....	500,000
New Zealand Consols .....	462,166
Purchase of native lands .....	2,461,167
Tourist and health resorts .....	131,507
Development of gold fields and coal mines .....	987,598
Loans to local bodies .....	4,882,000
State fire insurance .....	2,000
Reserve fund securities .....	800,000
Scenery preservation .....	40,000
Deficiencies in revenue charges and expenses of raising loans, increase by conversion, etc., provincial liabilities, and mis- cellaneous .....	9,244,990
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	£81,078,122

## THE HOPE OF THE FUTURE.

### THE UNITED LABOR PARTY ENDORSES NEW EVANGEL POLICY.

When resigning his seat in the Ward Ministry on September 5, 1911, the Hon. Geo. Fowlds said: "Whenever a truly democratic party arises in this country—a party pledged to definite principles, principles which it believes in, and which it is prepared to fight for—it shall have my whole-souled support."

The United Labor Party has come, and the Hon. Geo. Fowlds supports it.

At the Unity Conference, held at the Parliament Buildings, Wellington, last Easter, embracing delegates from the New Zealand Labor Party, the various trades councils, and numerous individual trade unions, the Housewives Union, the Young New Zealand Party, the New Zealand Land Values League, etc., representing from 40,000 to 50,000 of the useful people of New

Zealand—a gathering brought together mainly as a result of the eloquence, energy, and organizing ability of Professor W. T. Mills, M. A., of Milwaukee, and ably presided over by the Hon. J. T. Paul, M. L. C.—these various bodies decided to unite to establish the United Labor Party of New Zealand, while retaining their own individuality for the promotion of their own particular objects.

A thoroughly democratic constitution and platform was adopted and the following officers were appointed for the year:

#### DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Hon. J. T. Paul, M.L.C., President.  
 Mr. T. O'Byrne, Affiliated Building Workers.  
 Mr. ——— Affiliated Mining Workers.  
 Mr. W. A. Veitch, M.P., Affiliated Transportation Workers.  
 Mr. J. Petterds, Affiliated Printing Trades.  
 Mr. J. Robertson, M.P., Affiliated Agricultural and Pastoral Workers.  
 Mr. G. R. Whiting, Affiliated Boot, Textile, and Clothing Trade Workers.  
 Mr. J. A. McCullough, Affiliated Wood and Metal Workers.  
 Mr. E. Tregear, Affiliated Commercial Workers.  
 Mr. A. Withy, Affiliated Professional Workers.  
 Mr. E. J. Carey, Affiliated Food Workers.  
 Mrs. Harrison Lee-Cowie, Affiliated Women Workers.  
 Mr. J. E. McManus, Affiliated General Workers.  
 Mr. D. McLaren, Affiliated Radical and Progressive Associations.  
 Professor W. T. Mills, National Organizer.  
 A. McCarthy, Secretary-Treasurer.

#### THE OBJECTS OF THE PARTY.

- "1. To promote the organization of all the workers of New Zealand in all forms of necessary service;
2. To protect their interests in the matter of regular, rational, and remunerative employment;
3. To promote their good citizenship and to increase their efficiency;
4. To consolidate the political power of the workers in their own behalf; and to use their whole power (both political and economic) in negotiations with employers, in the Courts, in municipal, county, and Parliamentary bodies, in international relations, and (if need be) in industrial revolt;
5. To use the fruits of every partial victory to strengthen and continue this work until the power to oppress and exploit any of the workers, either by private monopolies controlling the Government, or through the private monopoly ownership and control of industry, shall utterly disappear, and there shall be secured for all the people power to purchase with their income the total products of their labor—until, in short, the means of production, distribution, and exchange (in so far as they constitute in private hands

instruments of oppression and exploitation) shall be socially owned and operated without profit and for the common good of all."

The proviso in parentheses in Clause 5, safeguards the position of the Single Taxers and others of like mind with them. Indeed it may be doubted whether the latter part of the clause would have been carried at all without some such proviso.

For the rest the National Platform endorses Mr. Fowld's "New Evangel" proposals, almost in so many words. The land plank, which demands the establishment of "a land system which shall bring into the most productive use, either by individual undertakings or by public enterprise, all natural resources; shall make absentee ownership and private monopoly in land impossible; shall secure to the land-holder all the values created by him and those only (all such values to be exempt from all taxation); and shall secure to the public in an annual tax all values created by the public," is particularly acceptable to Single Taxers, being, indeed, "the pure milk of the word"; and the taxation plank declares for "increased taxation of land values, the revenue so raised to be used to reduce the cost of living by the reduction of Custom taxes on the necessities of life not produced in New Zealand and by the reduction of railway freights and fares."

Both the National and Municipal Platforms demand Proportional Representation, and the Initiative, Referendum and Recall; and the Municipal Platform also declares in favor of "municipalization of public utilities"—gas, trams, waters, etc., and for "assessment of all rates on the unimproved value of land."

Messrs. F. M. King (Auckland) and Arthur Withy (Wellington) were the delegates sent by the New Zealand Land Values League to the Unity Conference.

#### HON. GEO. FOWLDS HAILS ADVENT OF UNITED LABOR PARTY.

Speaking at the first Auckland meeting of the United Labor Party, held at the Town Hall on April 27, Mr. Fowlds said: "I have waited for some twenty or thirty years for a truly progressive party to evolve in New Zealand. I left the Cabinet," he declared, "with the idea of precipitating the evolution of just such a party as is now evolving out of the industrial and political unrest."

He defied anyone to say what were the principles of the present Liberal Party, which had departed from the principles of the Liberal party as it existed under the leadership of John Ballance. Although he was not in entire accord with the full program of the United Labor Party, he could receive its platform with far more readiness than the platform brought down by the party he had been connected with for so many years.

"If the Liberal Party had been true to its traditions," he continued, "it would never have been necessary to start a new party under the name of the United Labor Party of New Zealand." Before very long, he considered there would be a clear line of demarcation between political parties in the

House, and the sooner this took place the better it would be for the Dominion. The time had now arrived for the establishment of a forward movement in favor of social justice.

#### AND UNDERTAKES CAMPAIGN ON ITS BEHALF.

In this Mr. Fowlds voiced the opinions of the Land Values League, which at a meeting held at Auckland on May 3rd, passed unanimously and with acclamation the following resolution: "That, in view of the prominent position which has been accorded to the taxation of land values in the program of the United Labor Party, and of the further fact that many other fundamental reforms, which in the past have been advocated by members of the Land Values League, have also been included, this League resolves to affiliate with the United Labor Party."

The Hon. Geo. Fowlds announced, amid loud applause, that he was about to undertake forthwith an active campaign on behalf of the United Labor Party. He has since addressed large and successful gatherings in these and other large cities—Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington, and in most of the larger towns throughout the Dominion.

#### MORE THAN SATISFIED WITH RESULT OF TRIP.

We clip the following report of an interview with the Hon. Geo. Fowlds from the *Auckland Star* of June 6th.

In the opinion of the Hon. Geo. Fowlds, who returned this morning from a six weeks' tour in the south on behalf of the United Labor Party, the political prospects of the Radical Party in New Zealand are exceptionally rosy.

"I am much more than satisfied with the results of my trip," said Mr. Fowlds to an interviewer this morning. "I finished up at Gisborne on my thirty-first address, and practically everywhere I had good audiences and found the people taking a real live interest in the united labor movement. A large number of people who for over 40 years and more have been voting the Liberal ticket are giving their adherence to the new party as the only thoroughgoing Radical Party in the country. The workers' organization is being taken up vigorously everywhere, in the small country towns as well as in the larger centres, and I feel quite certain that the dividing line in the near future will be the United Labor Party on one hand, and those who are opposed to them on the other."

#### "IT HAS BEEN A REVELATION TO ME,"

went on Mr. Fowlds, "that the general average mind of the community is a long way in advance of anything that has been enunciated by either of the two standard political parties, particularly in the recognition of the need for increasing land values taxation. The fact that £126,000,000 has been added to the land values in the last 19 years, and that most of that has gone

to 22,000 'farmers,' is causing deep interest, and the justice of taking the larger portion of it for Government purposes is widely recognized."

Questioned as to his opinion of the party's immediate prospects, Mr. Fowlds declared that the position now was very different to what it was at the elections last December. "I have no doubt," he said, "that were an election to take place this year the vote of our supporters would be a very substantial one, but as to the position the Labor Party would obtain, that would, of course, depend on how the other two parties stood to one another. But if the United Labor Party has to the normal end of the present Parliament to carry on its work, it will be able to speak with some effect at the next elections. I am also quite satisfied that the radical members of the present Liberal Party have got to come with us before very long. It means that there will be a new party alignment altogether."

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## WHAT THE NEW ZEALAND LAND VALUES LEAGUE STANDS FOR.

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By HON. P. J. O'REGAN

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The following statement of the principles that the N. Z. League stands for was written by Hon. P. J. O'Regan to combat the proposals contained in the Governor's speech of February, 1912, and to put clearly before the electors of New Zealand, not only the ideals, but the immediate aims and objects of the League.

Our aim as a League is to secure the fullest possible development of this country's resources. That is to say, we desire the fullest and best use of the land, whether in town or country, and consequently the fullest employment of Labor and the fullest promotion of the well-being of the people. This aspiration can never be realized under a land system which falls short of securing to everyone the enjoyment of his right to the use of the earth. It will be admitted on all sides that no civilized community can exist without taxation, but we contend that all taxes which hamper industry are inequitable and that they should be abolished.

### JUST TAXATION AND PREVENTION OF LAND MONOPOLY.

Land value taxation we regard as the ideal, both as a just and equitable method of taxation and as an unfailing preventive of land monopoly. Accordingly, we would, first, prevent the holding of valuable land idle and make land speculation and dog-in-the-manager land monopoly absolutely impossible by taking for the people the unimproved value of land, sometimes loosely termed "the unearned increment;" and secondly, by exempting all improvements and labor products from taxation, we would leave each individual complete possession and enjoyment of everything his labor produces, thereby encouraging to the utmost every trade and industry for which this country