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SECOND EDITORIAL

THAT NEW ZEALAND PARADISE.

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The *New Zealand Journal of the Department of Labour*, issued last November 18th, from Wellington, N.Z., “under the direction of the Minister of Labour,” is an interesting document all the way through.

Every mentally diseased Jew quickly claims for his race every man or woman who reaches some kind of distinction: It is a clear case of the weak grabbing for support outside of themselves. So with the “Reformers” regarding New Zealand. Every “Reformer,” the world over, has claimed New Zealand for his particular hobby. At one time Australia seemed to threaten New Zealand’s laurels. But the ‘Longshoremen’s strike, followed by others of similar magnitude, and all of them followed by capitalist outrages, employed in suppressing the “labor riots,” speedily threw Australia out of the ring, leaving New Zealand in undisputed possession of the variegated “Reformers” heart.

When closely pressed for some evidence in rebuttal of the obvious fact that the Single Tax was an exploded antiquity, the Single Taxer would cite New Zealand as the Single Tax paradise; when shown that the municipalization of railroads, etc., under a capitalist government, not only does not bring the working class one inch nearer to its emancipation, but actually aggravates capitalist domination, and when smoked out of his “Glasgow” illustration, the municipalization reformer leaps across continents and oceans, and points to New Zealand as the practical refutation of “narrow Socialist theory,” and the practical demonstration of his own special brand of “Reform”; when told that “Co-operation{”} is a bit of sentimentalism, useless and harmful, unless it is integral, when told that “Co-operation” within the framework of Capitalist Society, so far from being Socialist or even Socialistic, proceeds from premises that embody a tacit denial of Socialist economics, and must accordingly fail, being wrongly grounded, the Co-operationist, together with the Colonizationist and kindred Reformers, rises above the surrounding facts, and plumps down upon

New Zealand as the proof of the pudding; when confuted by the towering figures and facts, furnished by England and this country, demonstrating the criminal folly of the “Pure and Simple” organization of Labor, the office-holding, head-and-front of some “Pure and Simple” offending slips through one’s fingers, and suddenly plants himself as if on impregnable ground—in New Zealand; and so forth and so on. New Zealand seems, by a common accord among “Reformers,” to be a sort of “last ditch” behind which to flee for asylum, where distance, lending enchantment to the view, may also lend safety to explodees.

The *Journal of the Department of Labour* seems to be gotten up with an eye to helping along the asylum. That is one of the interesting features of the document. The other feature of it is the efforts put forth by the “Hon. Minister of Labour” to prevent the New Zealand “Paradise” from being overtaken by the fate that overtook its Australian neighbor. These two interesting features dove-tail into each other, and produce a thoroughly interesting document, which may be summed up in this sentence:

“With ample land (natural opportunities) to be had for the asking and to be taken for the grabbing; with a variety of industries ‘nationalized’; with ‘co-operations’ dotting the territory; with ‘pure and simpledom’ reigning supreme;—in other words, with the conditions that should afford luxurious life to the Single Taxer’s prosperity, steady progress toward Socialism, temporary relief of labor, and power to ‘organized’ workingmen, above all with a population so sparse as to mitigate anywhere the evil effects of Capitalist Rule, the document shows the army of the unemployed (THROUGH SLACKNESS OF TRADE) who have needed and have obtained public relief, to have reached in the place the respectable figure 143. Moreover, the capitalist rulers of New Zealand, finding the Army of Unemployed, that at their disposal, still too small to furnish the capitalist class with the requisite club for the reduction of wages, the New Zealand capitalist class, through that ‘Hon. Minister of Labour,’ try to run down all other countries, whither immigrants are pouring, and thus give the New Zealand Paradise-holders improved opportunities.”

“Labor departments” in Government—whether they be filled with “Hon. Ministers of Labour” or with “Dishonorable Labor-Fakir Commissioners of Labor”—are all of a kind.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.

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