

meat, and there have been very heavy exports of butter and cheese. Wheat has been short, supplies having to be obtained from Canada, but it is expected next season's crop will suffice for our needs, though we shall fall much below our usual level in oats production, with the heavy needs of the military forces to be met. Trade generally seems to maintain a very steady level despite the disturbed times in which we live.

POLITICAL.

OVER six months ago the general election was held, and to-day New Zealand politics present a riddle as difficult to solve as that of the Sphinx. Two elections were upset, and the bye-elections resulted in no party change. Thus in a House of eighty members we have forty Government, thirty-nine Opposition, and one doubtful, though generally regarded as certain to vote with the Ministry. This is Tau Henare, the native gentleman of whom I have written before. He has veiled his intentions behind a cloud of cryptic sayings culled from Maori legendary lore, and here we stand with the Session of Parliament opening to-morrow and the political "colour" of the member for Northern Maori not yet "fast."

When a Speaker has been elected—and it is not likely there will be any opposition to the return of the Hon. Mr. Lang, a Ministerialist, to that position—the Government may live or die by the grace of Tau Henare. He has spoken darkly of the potato being cooked, but he has not told us what we all wish to know more than anything else—whose potato; he has, when pressed for an indication of his preference of parties, replied that he is "standing on one leg." What we would like to be told is which leg! To-morrow many eyes will watch closely, no doubt, for a sign of which leg the Maori gentleman from the North inclines to depend upon—whether he will stand for or against the Government. For if he votes with Mr. Massey the latter may carry on, though his path will be full of difficulties; if Tau votes with Sir Joseph Ward, the present Ministry must fall, though the Liberal leader will have just as unenviable a task to keep his head above the whirlpool of politics. Another general election may produce a sufficient majority on one side or the other to set up a steady flow in the current of affairs; but very few of our politicians are prepared to face the electors again so soon. There is a good deal of talk, however, about a coalition Ministry, and several open references to this

subject have come from present Opposition members.

FRANK H. MORGAN.

Revival in Recruiting

DURING the past two or three weeks there has been a great revival in Canadian recruiting.

All over the country, the rush to enlist has been tremendous. Of course, this has not come voluntarily. The Government issued orders to recruit 35,000 men, and as many more as could be secured. The militia officers throughout the country started campaigns, and the men were secured at a rate which exceeds even the rush of August last.

The only jarring note has been the attitude of certain French-Canadian elements in Montreal. Some one has stirred up trouble there and misled certain ignorant people into believing that this call was not volunteering, but conscription. Several recruiting meetings have been broken up on this ground.

Considering everything, Canada has every reason to be proud of the results. It is quite manifest that Canadians are aroused to the highest pitch of enthusiasm and determination.

Warm Recruiting Campaign in Toronto



A recruiting car, manned with buglers, recruiting sergeants and officers, and decorated with inspiring legends—used by the 109th Regiment.



In connection with the big recruiting night, last week, described elsewhere in this issue, a recruiting tent was erected on the lawn in front of the City Hall.



All over the city, patriotic work on behalf of Red Cross and Patriotic Funds goes ahead despite the holiday season. This is a picture of a garden party held by three families at 193-195-197 Spadina Road, a few days ago.