

reason of his pension being affected by any such amending or repealing Act."

WILL IT WORK?

Such are the main provisions of one of the most notable Acts that has passed the New Zealand Legislature. The Bill, at all events, received full discussion. In the House of Representatives no fewer than 1,367 speeches were delivered in Committee. It was finally passed by a large majority. To say that those who voted in its favour were enthusiastic in praise of its merits would scarcely be true. The hostility of its opponents, who declared it was an attempt to pauperise the people by an extensive system of outdoor relief, cannot

be denied. Many of those who, in its inception, were carried away by the benevolent idea of a "pension" for the aged, became lukewarm when they discovered that the scheme was but a glorified system of charitable aid. The Act is admittedly experimental, and will certainly require amendment. We have been sailing in an unknown sea, with no chart to guide us. But as an attempt honestly made to solve what has been called the "World's Puzzle"—a practical system of old age pensions—the Act should command the attention of statesmen in countries far distant from the little colony which has been the first to grapple with one of the greatest questions of the day.

W. H. Montgomery.

TO CANADA.

FROM the boundless prairies that wave in the West
To the East where the morning first beams,
The same love for Canada beats in each breast
While the same honoured flag o'er us streams.

Where Columbia's grand winter-capped summits arise
And tower o'er canyoned cascades,
Thy children as dearly their heritage prize
As thy of Acadian glades.

From the Ocean of Strength to the Ocean of Peace,
From the Lakes to the Northern Sea—
Through thy length and thy breadth shall devotion
increase :
To Canada loyal are we.

And though "Peace" be our watchword, should menace
provoke,
United we'll stand by the land,
Whose forests have fallen a prey to the stroke
Of the pioneer home-winner's hand.

Our *Home* that once welcomed the Loyalists brave
And found heroes when danger was nigh—
May learn that across every patriot's grave
Another stands ready to die.

Frank Lawson.