

NEW BASIS OF THE R.S.A.

DISTRICT ORGANISATION.

A BRIEF EXPLANATION.

The most important feature of the new institution is the inauguration of the District Organisation Scheme, which is set forth below, shorn of all its legal trappings.

DISTRICTS—The Constitution provides for six districts in the Dominion; only five have been constituted, Auckland, Wellington, Nelson and Marlborough, Canterbury and Otago.

A District Conference for each district will be held in May of each year, and the delegates for this Conference will be chosen by the various Associations in each district affiliated to the N.Z.R.S.A.. This District Conference will not have the power to determine lines of national policy—this is the duty of the Dominion Council—but it may discuss national questions and make recommendations.

The voting at the Dominion Council will be governed by the number of financial members in each district. Each district will have one vote for every 400 financial members (or fraction thereof) and the financial membership will be established by Headquarters on the 31st March of each year. Thus, if Canterbury district had 5309 financial members on 31st March, 1921, that district would be entitled to 4 votes next Dominion Council to be held at Dunedin next May.

2. GROUPS.—Every district is divided into groups, but no district is to have more than 10 groups. Each group in a district is to have a number and is to be known by that number. Every group must have not less than 400 financial members when it is formed. The grouping in each district is as follows:—

(A) **AUCKLAND DISTRICT**—(1) Auckland Group—Auckland R.S.A. and any other Association within a radius of 30 miles. (2) North Auckland Group—Whangarei, Bay of Islands, Mongonui, Northern Wairoa Associations. (3) Waikato and King Country Group—Waikato, Te Awamutu, Te Kuiti and Mata Mata Associations. (4) Goldfields Group—Hauraki, Thames Valley, Te Aroha, and Waihi Associations. (5) Bay of Plenty, Whakareare, Opoitiki and Rotorua Associations.

(B) **WELLINGTON DISTRICT**—(1) Palmerston and Levin Group. (2) Wellington Group. (3) Masterton, Woodville and Dannevirke. (4) Waipawa, Waipukurau, Hastings, Napier, Wairoa. (5) Taihape, Feilding, Marton and Taumarunui. (6) Wanganui and Waverley. (7) New Plymouth, Hawera, Waitara and Stratford. (8) Gisborne.

(C) **NELSON AND MARLBOROUGH**—(1) Nelson and sub-branches. (2) Marlborough and sub-branches. (3) Motueka, Golden Bay and sub-branches.

(D) **CANTERBURY DISTRICT**—(1) Christchurch and Cashmere. (2) Little River, Kaikoura, Amuri, Hanmer, Amberley, Rangiora, Kaiapoi. (3) Ashburton, Rakaia, Staveley, Waterton and Mayfield. (4) Geraldine, Temuka, Fairlie and Waimate. (5) Timaru and sub-branches. (6) Westport and Reefton. (7) Greymouth, Hokitiki and Ross.

(E) **OTAGO DISTRICT**—(1) Dunedin. (2) Oamaru. (3) Taieri and Balclutha. (4) Gore. (5) Invercargill.

The number of delegates for the next Dominion Council will be determined by the number of financial members in each group.

Each group having up to and including 1000 financial members will be entitled to one delegate; groups having from 1001 to 2500 members will have two delegates, and those groups having over 2500 financial members will have three delegates. Thus, if number 5 group Wellington district has 1768 financial members, it will be entitled to send two delegates to the next Dominion Council. All delegates for the Dominion Council will be elected by the delegates to each district conference, and a delegate to each district conference, and a delegate from one group may exercise all the votes to which his district is entitled. However, no delegate shall represent more than one group as a delegate, but he may hold proxies to vote from other delegates.

3. ASSOCIATIONS AND SUB-ASSOCIATIONS—The different groups

of each district are built up of various Associations and their Sub-Associations.

—Organisation Table.—

10s makes one financial member.
100 financial members make one affiliated Association.
1 Association (or more) makes one group.
400 financial members make 1 group.
10 groups (or less) make 1 district.
All the Associations in 6 districts (or less) plus H.Q. make the N.Z.R.S.A.
N.Z.R.S.A. makes things hum.

FREE SCHOLARSHIPS.

THE TRENTHAM FUND.

FOR CHILDREN OF N.Z. SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Preparations are now complete for the use of the Trentham Scholarship Fund for the benefit of children of New Zealand soldiers and sailors. "The cardinal object," it is stated, "is to assist the community by ensuring, as far as possible, that the recipients of its benefits shall become good and capable citizens, having regard to each one's character and ability."

The scholarships are available to boys and girls, thus:—

(a).—Children of men who died or were partially or wholly disabled whilst serving as members of the N.Z. Expeditionary Forces—either overseas or while undergoing training for overseas service.

(b).—Children of men who died or were disabled whilst serving in any military, naval, or aerial forces of the British Empire, provided such men were born in New Zealand or were domiciled in New Zealand immediately prior to August 4th, 1914.

Children of Home Service men or of men who did not leave New Zealand because classed unfit are not eligible.

—Conditions.—

To receive a bursary children must have attained the age of 14 or have obtained the Sixth Proficiency or Competency Certificate, New Zealand Code; and must be under the age of 21 years on December 31st, 1919.

Bursaries are awarded as an aid to

the maintenance and training of eligible children of secondary schools, technical schools, primary schools (when distance prevents attendance at secondary or technical schools) and university colleges; also in apprenticeship to any trade or calling approved by the trustees.

The amount of each bursary is to be determined by the trustees after consideration of all the circumstances of each applicant.

The holder of a bursary must be resident in New Zealand during its tenure.

—How to Apply for a Scholarship.—

Write to the secretary (Mr James McIntosh, P.O. Box 281, Wellington) who will forward a copy of the regulations governing the award of these bursaries, together with an application form bearing full instructions.

Applications should be made not later than 31st October each year, but for the year 1920 applications will be received up to the 30th November. Any bursaries awarded shall commence not earlier than 1st January following the application.

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LADIES' SPORTS COATS, in Silk. A few only at 50/-.

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SCHOOL COMMITTEES' ASSOCIATION.

The usual monthly meeting of the School Committees' Association was held on Friday last, the President, Mr Butterfield, in the chair.

Correspondence was read from the Federation asking for suggestions to be incorporated in the new Education Act. Mr Bain suggested that the committee should see the bill and then make suggestions. Mr Anderson stated that the Minister had given his assurance that he would consider any suggestions. A large number of valuable suggestions were received from Mr Stevens and handed to Mr Anderson for consideration by the Federation. It was ultimately decided that:—

1.—That agricultural instruction should be of a more practical nature.

2.—That an elementary course of hygiene be part of the school curriculum, and that scientific temperance be part of the said course.

3.—That sexual physiology be taught to boys and girls in their "teens" and that the instruction be imparted by qualified teachers.

4.—Mr Blake proposed the following resolution:—"That this Executive realises that its interests and activities are directly concerned with that sphere of activity which comes under the jurisdiction of the Education Boards. It further realises that its activities are in effect to prepare the child for its university career. Further, it realises the value of a scientific education as a factor in our commercial activity and that young men are not likely to pursue a scientific career unless they see a future ahead. It therefore proposes that an advisory council of scientific men be established whose duties would embrace: 1.—Proposals for instituting specific researches. 2.—Proposals for establishing or developing special institutions for the scientific study of problems affecting particular industries and trades."

On the suggestion of Mr Jones it was referred to the quarterly meeting.

According to a record which was kept during a period of seven years, lightning in England struck poplars 232 times, oaks 130, willows 70, and yews 50.

