

national Association for the Protection of Industrial Property, held at Milan on the 14th and 15th September last, a resolution was carried advocating the abolition of the working clause in the conditions of all patents, and advising the substitution of the compulsory license system; thus suppressing forfeiture for non-working. The Convention knew that the working clause in many instances led to technical working only, and therefore moved to lay it aside as an unnecessary tax on the inventor, while saving all interests by recommending the Compulsory license system.

In Canada, the country to which the Minister for Labour is reported to have referred in support of his proposal, the requirements of the law can be met by a technical working. In the United States there is no working clause in the Patent Law; neither is there in the law of the Australian Commonwealth, the latest enacted of all the patent laws. It may be added that the latest of the up-to-date nations, Japan, has after examination into all the patent laws of the world, adopted the American

In the face of this universal experience the proposals of the Minister for Labour may be regarded as distinctly reactionary. In Canada the terms of the license are submitted to arbitration in the event of failure of the parties to agree, and it is the same with the British patent law. If the Minister were proposing to substitute the arbitration principle for the settlement by the Governor one could have understood his zeal in the matter of reform. But what he can see to recommend the return to an unnecessary and vexatious technical working, instead of the present certainty of true working whenever needful with absolute protection to all interests both of inventor and public, it is impossible to understand.

There is much more to be said on this subject, but as the news of the Ministerial intention only reaches us as we are going to press, we must postpone the saying of it till next month. For the present we take the opportunity of protesting on behalf of inventors against the conclusions arrived at by the Minister, and of expressing our hope that now that his attention has been drawn to the other side of the question, which he does not appear to be at all familiar with, he will reconsider the matter in the judicial and historical spirit so necessary to a satisfactory understanding of the subject.

A Hungarian chemist has produced a fluid optical lens at a moderate cost. The largest lens used for astronomical work has hitherto cost hundreds of pounds and taken several years to produce. A few weeks time and an expenditure of £100 is all that is now required

TELEPHONE 1061.

Plans & Estimates
Furnished.**Ashton & White,**

Builders and Contractors.

Joinery Works

188 Madras Street,
Christchurch.**S. C. Stubberfield,**Diamond Mounter,
Gold and Silversmith,

Moller's Buildings.

Worcester Street, Christchurch.

Hughes & Hansford,

Builders and Contractors.

Winchester Street,

North Linwood,
Christchurch.

Estimates given on shortest notice.

Town and country work undertaken.

A. Menzies,

Plasterer.

(Plain and Ornamental)

202 Moorhouse Avenue,
Christchurch.

TO ARCHITECTS

Henry de J. Patterson

(Formerly of London & New York)

Undertakes High-class Designing for
Architects, Engineers, etc.9 Hawkestone Street,
Wellington

Highest Testimonials.

THE GREAT NEW INDUSTRY.

MIRACLE Concrete Building Blocks. Double Staggered Air Space. Frost-proof, Moisture-proof. Investments small, profits large. Block and Brick Machines, Sewer Pipe Moulds, etc. Everything in the concrete line. Manufactured by the Miracle Pressed Stone Co., U.S.A.

C. A. HAMLIN & CO.,
Auckland, and Christchurch Exhibition.
SOLE AGENTS.

**N.Z. RETAILERS' PROTECTION
ASSOCIATION.**

Trade Enquiry Agents
Trade Assignees
Trade Debt Collectors

HEAD OFFICES—Gloucester Chambers,
CHRISTCHURCH.
AGENTS EVERYWHERE.

A PREMIUM ON THRIFT.

THE chances now offering put a premium on thrift. Never were more openings for a safe, legitimate 10 %. But you haven't studied Gold, Coal, Patents, Real Estate, and you're too shrewd to back dark horses.

You want a proposition put before you in plain, square terms. Then you can rely on your common sense. Exactly. It was to meet your case we started broking.

We have built up a sound, steady business on **Satisfied Clients**. Just this way we aim to increase it.

SEND US A LINE.

J. S. SCHWARTZ & CO.,

Brokers,

176 Hereford Street.. CHRISTCHURCH.

The Bank of New Zealand is next door.

THOMAS ANDREWS,

PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL

Plasterer and Architectural Modeller.

Importer of Every Description of Plasterers' Materials.

Fibrous Ceilings and Cornices a Speciality.

PLASTER AND CEMENT YARD:

154 OXFORD TERRACE AND GLOUCESTER STREET,
CHRISTCHURCH.

TELEPHONE 1046.

**A. H. WEBB,
Builder & Contractor,
CHRISTCHURCH.**

MACHINE JOINERY WORKS:

Corner of MONTREAL AND BROUGHAM STREETS,
SYDENHAM.

Estimates furnished for all classes of Buildings, &c., Town or Country.

FOR HOUSE DECORATING,
PAPERHANGING,
GLAZING, &c.,

Consult.....

AVERY & SONS,

164 Armagh Street - - - CHRISTCHURCH.

'PHONE 1945.

Ring up, or write for free estimates.

DO YOU WANT A PROPERTY

OF ANY KIND?

If so, write us.

Whether requiring properties in town or country anywhere in New Zealand, you will find something in our extensive List to suit you.

FORD & HADFIELD,

Auctioneers, Sharebrokers, Estate Agents,

158-160 Hereford Street, CHRISTCHURCH.

**DUNLOP
Sporting Goods**

FOR Quality,
Finish and
Price,

Our Golf, Bat, and Tennis Racquet
Grips, Football Bladders, etc etc.

ARE ABSOLUTELY THE

Finest on the Market.OBTAINABLE ALL LEADING STORES
AND SPORTS DEPOTS.**Specify Dunlop Brand**