



THE
NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE
 EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

WELLINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1897.

THE Second Session of the Thirteenth Parliament of New Zealand was this day opened by the Governor, when His Excellency was pleased to make the following

SPEECH.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

As the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty it is pleasing to me to meet you in Parliament assembled so soon after my arrival in New Zealand.

The cordial welcome tendered to me on my landing will ever be gratefully remembered. From what I have already seen, I am favourably impressed with your safe and beautiful harbours and splendid lands, and with the manifest evidences of industrial progress, and I feel assured that, with careful administration and reasonable opportunities, this colony has a great future before it. The enthusiastic expressions of loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty on the part of the people in all the places so far visited by me have been most gratifying.

I shall, as time and opportunity permit, visit different parts of the colony to make the acquaintance of the people, to see and admire the scenery for which New Zealand is famed, and to endeavour to obtain a personal knowledge of the productiveness of the soil, the progress that has been made in the establishment of industries, and the richness and extent of the mineral deposits.

Since you were last called together the brightest event in the history of the British nation has occurred. Representatives from nearly all parts of the world took part in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Her Most Gracious Majesty received from her subjects in all parts of the Empire congratulations on the completion of the sixtieth year of her glorious reign. The enthusiasm everywhere shown on the part of her subjects gave proof of their loyalty to the Throne, their reverence and personal attachment to the Sovereign, and their appreciation of the benefits—political, social, and moral—that have accrued since Her Majesty's accession.

In fitting recognition of the hospitality of the British nation, and as an evidence of our attachment to the Throne and the Royal Family, my Ministers are of the opinion that the invitation to their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York to visit Australia and New Zealand should be renewed.

During the recess the Prime Minister, having with your concurrence accepted the invitation of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, visited

London and took part in the Record Reign celebrations. The hearty and enthusiastic welcome accorded to all the Premiers and to the Colonial Defence Force Contingents by the vast concourse of people there assembled abundantly showed how closely we are united with those at Home, and how strong are the bonds of affection existing between the people of the colonies and their kindred in the Mother-country.

Visits were made by the representatives of the colonies to several of the principal towns in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, and everywhere the greatest hospitality and goodwill were manifested.

Amongst the important matters discussed between the Secretary of State and the colonial Premiers were questions relating to closer trade relationship with Great Britain, alien immigration, investment of trust funds in colonial securities, assimilation of commercial laws, improved cable communication, postal arrangements, the Pacific Islands, and Australasian defence. It was deemed advisable to publish only the decisions arrived at, together with the speeches of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the First Lord of the Admiralty. When received these will be laid before you. Meantime, it is with pleasure I inform you that the Imperial authorities have denounced such treaties as stood in the way of the colonies regulating their own fiscal concerns and improving their commercial relations with the Mother-country. The treaties, however, cannot be annulled until a year after they are denounced. I have further to inform you that the Home authorities do not intend to make any alteration respecting the Australasian Squadron, and, unless Parliament otherwise orders, my Advisers intend that the existing agreement shall remain undisturbed.

The Secretary of State has forwarded to the various colonial Governors a despatch containing a report of the conference between the Colonial Office and the colonial Premiers, in which he states that the Imperial Government desires to record its strong sense of the loyal and patriotic spirit shown by all the representatives of the colonies in the course of their discussions, but hopes that their colonial colleagues are satisfied that their visit has been productive of great advantage to the Empire, and that the conferences which have been held have resulted in such a free interchange of views as will have a lasting and beneficial effect in securing a complete mutual understanding between the colonies and the Mother-country. The despatch will be laid before you in due course.

The success that has attended the sending of a Contingent of our Defence Forces to take part in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations will, I hope, have removed the misgivings of those who hesitated to incur the necessary expense. The self-sacrifice of those who formed the Contingent in undertaking, in the interests of the colony and Empire, so long a journey, and devoting so much of their time without fee or reward, cannot be too highly commended. They were received with the greatest enthusiasm by the people at Home, and their efficiency, physique, and excellent behaviour evoked much praise. Our kindred in the Mother-land were greatly pleased to welcome, in the ranks of the Contingent, members of the Maori race, whose presence as comrades in arms testified to the outside world that the two races are welded together by a common sentiment of loyalty which will for ever tend to promote the well-being and best interests of the colony.

The representative rifle team acquitted themselves most creditably at Bisley, and the colony has every reason to be proud of their excellent performance, especially in the competition for the Kolapore Cup, in which they took second place.

By the death of the chief of the Ngatiporou Tribe, the Honourable Major Ropata Wahawaha, a remarkable figure in the history of the colony has been removed. He rendered valuable services to both races, and at a trying time stood by the early settlers and saved the lives and property of many of them. Major Ropata will ever be gratefully remembered by the people of New Zealand.

The loss of life and damage to private property, roads, and railways by floods in portions of the Hawke's Bay and Rangitikei districts have naturally evoked from all parts of the colony expressions of regret and sympathy. Practical assistance has been rendered, and to some extent the losses sustained have

been lightened. The Government has given every help, and is endeavouring to restore permanent railway communication as quickly as possible. The periodical recurrence of floods in these localities points to the necessity for adopting permanent remedial measures. Seeing the seriousness of the situation, the local authorities will no doubt give the matter their best attention, and it will be for Parliament to decide how far they shall be assisted by the State.

A conference was held in February last at Hobart, at which the Premiers of Australia and this colony were present. Amongst the subjects dealt with were closer trade relations with the Mother-country and Australasia, intercolonial reciprocity, Australasian quarantine, codification of the commercial law of the United Kingdom and all the colonies, treaty with Japan, conservation of British interests in the Pacific Islands, naturalisation of aliens, export of Australasian produce, the Paris exhibition, uniformity of legislation on merchandise marks, and alteration in the mode of preparing statistics relating to imports and exports. Copies of the resolutions passed at the conference will be laid before you.

The outlook with respect to mining in the colony is very promising, and the development of our mines and mineral resources is making satisfactory progress. Changes in the method of working, the application of new processes, and the substitution of modern machinery and appliances for such as had become obsolete, caused a temporary stoppage and a consequent falling-off in the returns from mines in work last year. The returns for the half-year ending 30th June exceed those of the corresponding period last year, although not augmented to any appreciable extent by the proceeds of new mines.

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

Estimates showing the receipts and expenditure for the year have been prepared, and will be submitted to you. The Education expenditure in particular has increased considerably during the last six years, following the growth of the population. Economy has been observed, having due regard to the growing requirements of the colony and of the public service. The necessary moneys will, my Advisers hope, be cheerfully provided. As compared with last year's returns there is an increase from railways, customs, excise, stamps, land- and income-tax, and miscellaneous sources; but, as the effect of a disastrous snowstorm two winters ago, and of other causes, there has been a falling-off in respect to territorial revenue, particularly in the sales of land for cash—not a matter for serious regret.

The frequent interruption that occurs in telegraphic communication with Auckland and the northern parts of the colony causes great loss and inconvenience, and renders it necessary that an improved service should be established.

It will be admitted that there exists a necessity for the establishment of a University College at Wellington. Owing to funds not having been provided, and other causes, the existing legislation is a dead-letter. A measure will be submitted providing an endowment, but on such conditions and so safeguarded as to secure to students from the primary schools whose parents are not well-to-do the advantages of a university course. You will also be requested to pass further legislation for technical schools and the promotion of technical education.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

The excessive freights charged for some time past for the carriage of New Zealand products to Europe, with the keen competition ruling, have severely handicapped our producers, and become a matter of grave concern. My Ministers, after carefully looking into the question, came to the conclusion that action should be taken in the matter. When in Australia in the commencement of the year the Prime Minister made the fullest inquiries, with the result that the producers of New Zealand were found to be paying considerably more than was being paid by their Australian competitors. Later on, immediately after his arrival in London, considering the matter important and urgent, he brought it under public notice, and intimated that, unless reasonable reductions were made, it would be the duty of the Government to bring the subject under the review of Parliament. I am glad to be able to say that sub-

stantial reductions have been made; but my Ministers are of the opinion that, in some respects, the freights on dairy and other produce are still too high. Papers relating to this matter will be laid before you.

My Advisers consider the question of distribution and storage of the products of our colony in the Mother-country very important. A wider and increased market in Great Britain, the colonies, and other parts of the Empire is wanted, and the introduction of some of our staple products to foreign countries is possible. The greatest care and supervision should be exercised in shipping our produce, and also during transit. Concentration of the cargoes, and combination so as to insure regularity in feeding the Home market, are very necessary. The Government has every reason to believe that the Thames Dock Company are willing, on fair and reasonable terms, to expend a large sum in erecting and equipping well-placed sorting-sheds for frozen produce. Information regarding these important questions will also be placed before you.

It is well known that at the present time the products of New Zealand suffer at the hands of unscrupulous vendors of the products of other countries. This matter has received the anxious attention of Ministers, and, while in no way wishing to interfere unduly with private enterprise, they are of opinion that the supply of superior products should be insured to buyers, and that the honest producer should be rewarded for supplying a first-class article. Legislation on this subject will, I hope, receive your best attention.

The dearth of information supplied to the British public, especially in the provincial districts, and to foreign nations, with respect to the colony and its products and resources calls for attention, and remedial measures will be submitted for your consideration.

Seeing the abundance of fish there is in New Zealand waters, and bearing in mind the great national advantages to be derived from deep-sea fishing, and the little that has been done in this direction up to the present, my Advisers desire to draw your attention to this question. They will also invite you to consider the expediency of further assistance to acclimatisation.

The intentions of Parliament as to the preservation and protection of fur-seals have been frustrated. The great value of the skins, the scarcity of seals in other parts of the world, and the possibility of establishing seal-fishing on our shores and the islands adjacent thereto, render it necessary that the present unsatisfactory condition of affairs should be remedied. When in Hobart the Prime Minister offered, subject to ratification by Parliament, to lease at a nominal rental from the Tasmanian Government the Macquarie Islands. This offer has been favourably received, and papers relating thereto will be laid before you.

During the recess a Royal Commission has inquired into the working of private benefit societies, and it is pleasing to find from the evidence adduced that in a great majority of cases the societies are doing good work. A legal status should, however, be given to them, but on such conditions as will in no way hamper their operations.

My Government has had to consider the propriety of introducing further banking legislation; and, having regard to the generally-expressed opinion that, in order to strengthen the business of the Bank of New Zealand, a change in the constitution of its board of directors is desirable, it has been decided to submit for your consideration proposals which they hope may be final and satisfactory.

As you are no doubt aware, the San Francisco mail contract shortly expires. To give Parliament an opportunity of fairly considering the question of the carriage of mails between the United States or Canada, the Mother-country, and New Zealand, it is proposed to make temporary arrangements until the 31st day of March next. The Vancouver mail-boats are now calling at Wellington, without, however, any arrangement with or obligation on the part of the Government. The time taken for the carriage of our mails by sea under present services is capable of improvement, and developments that are taking place render it advisable for you to give this important question your earnest attention.

One of the first measures you will be asked to pass is a Bill to provide for the protection of young girls, and for the prevention of an evil which it is painful to admit exists in the larger cities of the colony. You will also be asked to repeal an undesirable Act now on our statute-book relating to a subject which for some time past has caused considerable controversy.

You will also be invited to consider Bills to amend the Constitution by abolishing the life-tenure of members of the Legislative Council under certain conditions, and by providing for the reference of resolutions of both Houses, and rejected Bills, to the direct vote of the people thereupon; to limit the hours of labour of persons engaged in factories or in and about mines to eight hours; to prevent usury; to provide an optional system of Government fire insurance; to amend the law relating to masters and apprentices; to extend the municipal franchise and consolidate and amend the laws relating to municipal corporations; to extend the operation of the Land for Settlements Act; and to insure satisfactory export of products: and other necessary measures will in due course be submitted for your attention.

You are no doubt aware that for some time past litigation has been pending between the Crown and the Cassel Gold-extracting Company (Limited). To end this matter, but without prejudice, an agreement has been made by which the Crown, subject to the approval of Parliament, acquires the rights of the company for the sum of £15,000. You will be asked to consider a Bill to give effect to this proposal.

The principal Mining Act of the colony was passed in 1891. Since that year there have been numerous amending Mining Acts passed, and experience proves that the necessity exists for consolidating and simplifying the laws affecting goldfields and mines, and for provision being made to meet the altered circumstances attendant on the development of our mines which has taken place during late years. It is also necessary to extend the tenure in cases where the proper working of the mines involves large expenditure of capital. For these purposes a Mining Bill will be laid before you. You will be pleased to hear that the mining legislation of last year is working satisfactorily.

During last Parliament an Act was passed for the purpose of ascertaining what number of aged people there were in the colony who, under certain conditions, would claim pensions should the State decide to provide the same for them. The returns will be laid before you, and you will be asked to give your attention to this most important and necessary though complicated social question, and to the means by which provision may be made for aged and deserving persons without casting a stigma on the recipients.

It having been proved that in certain portions of our colony beet-root can be grown with satisfactory results, my Advisers consider that the time has arrived when the production of sugar from New-Zealand-grown beet should be further encouraged. A Bill to amend and extend the present law will be submitted to you for your consideration.

For some time past exception has been taken to the tax imposed upon non-resident commercial travellers; it has been looked upon by the other colonies as unneighbourly, and in the Mother-country it has been stated that the existence of this tax prevented merchants and manufacturers from sending representatives to New Zealand. Under these circumstances, and a healthy exchequer permitting it, the question of repealing the existing law will be submitted to you for your consideration.

The trade and commercial prospects of the colony are good, and the settlement of the people on the land is progressing satisfactorily. During the recess there was a slight falling-off in exports, but this was in value more than in volume. On the other hand, a legitimate increase in imports took place, evidencing comparative prosperity, increased population, and enlarged spending-power on the part of the people. The advance in the price of bank, insurance, gas, shipping, woollen, meat, railway, and building companies' shares shows confidence, and proves that the financial mist which clouded the business horizon three years ago is fast disappearing, and that larger investments are flowing into natural and reproductive channels.

I feel assured you will devote your best energies to the development of the resources of this richly-endowed colony, and to the promoting of the welfare and happiness of its inhabitants. It is my earnest desire to help and assist you.

I now declare this session of Parliament opened, and I trust that, by the blessing of Almighty God, its proceedings may advance the honour of Parliament, and redound to the credit of the Empire and to the good of the people of New Zealand.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem. It is shown that the problem is equivalent to the problem of finding a function $f(x)$ which satisfies the conditions

and which is bounded on the interval $[0, 1]$. It is shown that such a function exists and is unique.

The second part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the properties of the function $f(x)$. It is shown that $f(x)$ is continuous on the interval $[0, 1]$ and that it is differentiable at every point of the interval except at the point $x = \frac{1}{2}$.

It is also shown that $f(x)$ is concave down on the interval $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and concave up on the interval $[\frac{1}{2}, 1]$. The maximum value of $f(x)$ is shown to be $\frac{1}{2}$ and the minimum value is 0 .

The third part of the paper is devoted to a study of the asymptotic behavior of $f(x)$ as x approaches 0 and 1 . It is shown that $f(x) \sim \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}x$ as $x \rightarrow 0$ and $f(x) \sim \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}(1-x)$ as $x \rightarrow 1$.

The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a study of the properties of the function $f(x)$ on the interval $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$. It is shown that $f(x)$ is concave down on this interval and that it has a maximum value of $\frac{1}{2}$ at $x = \frac{1}{2}$.

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