



THE
NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE
 EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

WELLINGTON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1923.

THE First Session of the Twenty-first Parliament of New Zealand was this day opened by the Governor-General, when His Excellency was pleased to make the following

SPEECH.

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

A general election of members of the House of Representatives having been held in December last, my Ministers have advised that a meeting of the General Assembly should be convened at the earliest convenient opportunity to consider and determine matters concerning the general administration of the affairs of the Dominion, and any subjects which may appear to arise for your immediate deliberation.

Inasmuch as a further session will be convened in ordinary course at the usual period of this year, my Ministers do not propose to submit any legislative measures for your consideration during your present session, with the exception of what may be necessary to postpone the date (31st March, 1923) appointed for the coming into force of the Stamp Duties Act passed during the last session of Parliament.

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

Supply having been already granted for a period expiring on the 30th June next, you will not be called upon during your present session to deal with legislation relating to finance. But you will be glad to know that the improvement in revenue and the reduction in expenditure during the current financial year, of which particulars will be supplied to you, enable my Ministers to anticipate a surplus on the 31st March next. In accordance, therefore, with the promise of my Prime Minister, no further withdrawals of the cost-of-living bonus in connection with the salaries and wages of persons in the employ of the State will be required, although economy in the administration of the different Departments, and in all matters where expenditure is concerned, is still essential.

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

I trust that under Divine Providence your deliberations may promote the progress and welfare of the Dominion.

