

95 JUN 1963 GISBORNE

## NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

Published by Authority

WELLINGTON: THURSDAY, 20 JUNE 1963

THE Fourth Session of the Thirty-third Parliament of New Zealand was this day opened by the Governor-General, when His Excellency was pleased to make the following statement of the causes of the calling of this session of Parliament together:

## Honourable Members of the House of Representatives:

It is with a deep sense of gratitude and affection that the people of New Zealand recall the visit last February of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. The Royal visitors undertook an intensive and varied programme, including the memorable occasion on which the Queen opened the Third Session of this Parliament. The enthusiasm of the welcome everywhere extended to Her Majesty and His Royal Highness again demonstrated the deep and abiding loyalty in which the Sovereign is held by the New Zealand people, both European and Maori, and the strength of their attachment to the Commonwealth of which She is Head

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the House at the Third Session, my Government will introduce a Bill to establish the Queen Elizabeth the Second Arts Council of New Zealand as the nation's commemoration of the Royal visit.

It was a great privilege for me to welcome Her Majesty to New Zealand so soon after my appointment as Her representative in this country. On this my first opportunity of addressing you in Parliament assembled, I declare how deeply sensible I am of the honour thus conferred upon me. I will endeavour with my whole heart faithfully to serve Her Majesty The Queen, and the people whom you represent. I am already encouraged so to do by the warmth of the welcome which has been extended to my wife and myself by people all over New Zealand, and especially in those parts of the country which we have already been able to visit since our arrival last November. I pray that during my period of office I may be enabled to make some contribution to the further advancement of New Zealand, and to the welfare of its people.

In the international sphere the attention of my Ministers has been particularly engaged on the problems arising from the efforts of the British Government to join the European Economic Community, and their subsequent rejection. The violent events and threats of aggression in Asia have also created serious problems for New Zealand.

The exclusion of Britain from the Community has provided a respite but has in no way lessened the urgency of my Government's efforts to preserve and expand trading opportunities for New Zealand. My Minister for Overseas Trade attended the meeting in London last month of the Commonwealth Economic Consultative Committee and the later Ministerial Meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in Geneva. At these meetings emphasis was placed on the importance of finding a solution to the problems of trade in temperate agricultural products. New Zealand is vitally interested in the expansion of international trade on a basis which will provide improved opportunities of access to world markets for agricultural products, and the agreement by the GATT Conference that this must be an objective of the Kennedy Round of negotiations is an important and most welcome development. It is the firm intention of my Government to pursue this objective at every opportunity in negotiations with other Governments and in the appropriate international organisations.

In Asia, two long-standing problems, the status of West New Guinea and the Laos question, were the subject of international agreements. These were welcomed by my Government as providing a basis for peace in the area. Already, however, the settlement in Laos is under severe strain and existing instability within the area has been intensified. My Government has taken a number of steps to assist the defensive capabilities of friendly countries threatened by aggression or subversion. It has made a gift and extended a line of credit to India to help the preparations of a fellow member of the Commonwealth to withstand any future attacks from Communist China. Last year my Government also maintained forces for some months in Thailand when its security was threatened and in December it made RNZAF planes available during the emergency in Brunei.

The meeting of the ANZUS Council held this month in Wellington, following closely the meeting of the SEATO Council in Paris, has served to emphasise the unity and the common defensive purpose of the partner Governments and the significance to New Zealand of these important alliances. My Government continues to accept the obligations and purposes of these, and of the other defensive arrangements to which it is a party, for the preservation of the peace in South-East Asia and for the economic advancement of the countries of the area. It is maintaining, in close consultation with Britain and Australia, its contributions to the Commonwealth Strategic Reserve in Malaya.

My Government continues to seek the termination of nuclear testing anywhere in the world. It has expressed its most serious concern at the French Government's purported intention to establish a nuclear testing centre in the south Pacific area.

My Ministers have maintained their policy of full support for the United Nations. They are convinced of the imperative need to solve without further delay the Organisation's present financial problems. New Zealand is one of the minority of nations which have paid their contributions in full.

In the field of the national economy a recovery in export prices over the last year yielded a record export income which, with a moderation in the demand for imports, brought about a welcome rise in the level of New Zealand's external assets. Two overseas loans were raised in 1962 to assist further the rebuilding of reserves.

Despite this improvement in reserves my Ministers are convinced that every opportunity must be taken to expand and diversify exports and markets. With the backing of the Trade Promotion Council they have accordingly initiated an export trade drive which has already rallied the active support of primary producers, manufacturers, and

traders, and indeed of all sections of the community. They are giving urgent consideration to the steps which can be taken to implement the recommendations adopted by the widely representative Export Development Conference. In support of this drive to increase the sale, in both traditional and new markets, of the products of the primary and secondary industries my Ministers will also sponsor more trade missions, surveys, and displays in trade fairs, and will develop the Trade Commissioner Service further. In these efforts they attach special significance to the current negotiations for the expansion of trade with Australia which were agreed upon at the meeting in Wellington earlier this year of the Australia - New Zealand Consultative Committee on Trade, and which should secure wider and long-term opportunities for trade in forest products and for other exports of mutual interest.

In order to ensure that the tourist industry will have the modern accommodation it needs to make its full contribution to the earning of overseas exchange, my Government has introduced a system of loans and grants to the extent of £4 million which is leading to the building of new hotels and motels at key points. It has also authorised the Tourist Hotel Corporation to construct hotels at Waitangi, Franz Josef Glacier, and Lake Wanaka. You will be asked to consider a Bill to define the responsibilities of the Tourist and Publicity Department, and to acknowledge the advisory functions of the New Zealand Travel and Holidays Association.

My Ministers recognise, however, that the farm remains the foundation of the New Zealand economy and the principal source of overseas income. They are confident that, although problems certainly lie ahead, the diligent pursuit of market opportunities and the forceful presentation of New Zealand's case in forthcoming international negotiations can preserve and secure markets for an expanding volume of primary products at remunerative prices. This confidence is reinforced, moreover, by the international responsibility resting on efficient producers of foodstuffs to prepare to meet the dramatic and impending increase in human needs. My Government will accordingly press forward its policy of developing land for settlement and will otherwise assist farmers to secure the maximum efficiency in production. Agricultural research, experimental work, and extension services are being further developed; and increased attention will be given to problems posed by the use of chemical pesticides.

A Bill to consolidate the Meat Act 1939 and its amendments, as well as a measure to amend the Hydatids Act, will be submitted for your consideration. To provide the basis for the effective planning and coordination of scientific research you will also be asked to enact the National Research Council Bill which was first introduced at the Second Session.

Within New Zealand the restraints imposed in 1961 to deal with the pressure of excess financial demand were relaxed last year as the situation was brought under control. Bank advances have been reduced, imports have been restored to a more normal level, and there has been a marked recovery in savings. The nation-wide employment position continues to be buoyant but a better state of balance has been achieved. These factors, combined with the improvement in the level of overseas reserves, have laid a firm basis for an increase in production in the coming year.

Estimates of expenditure, with related financial proposals, will be submitted to you at an early date. You will be asked to consider amendments to the Public Revenues Act to implement recommendations made by the Committee on the Simplification of the Public Accounts.

It is gratifying that the restoration of the health of the economy has been matched by the growing confidence of industry and commerce. The Tariff and Development Board is actively engaged in the examination of and reporting on proposals for industrial development and the encouragement of local manufacturing. My Government will continue its active encouragement of sound industrial development and will in particular press forward with the establishment of the iron and steel industry as a New Zealand venture to which the public will be invited to subscribe capital.

A Bill will be presented to you to validate an agreement on the development of the power potential of Lakes Manapouri and Te Anau under which power will be supplied to the national electricity system and options for power will be granted to facilitate the establishment of an aluminium industry in Southland.

To ensure the full development and use of the national fishing resources you will be asked to consider amendments to the Fisheries Act to implement recommendations of the Select Committee on the Fishing Industry.

My Ministers are concerned that the transport industry, both public and private, should be in a position to meet the needs of a steadily expanding economy. They will accordingly continue the modernisation of railway facilities, give full support to the work of the National Roads Board, and develop airports and airway facilities to the standards required for the operation of modern commercial aircraft.

Agreement has been reached by the waterfront employers' and workers' organisations and the Federation of Labour for the appointment of a committee to examine the practicability of introducing shift work on the waterfront. The Waterfront Industry Commission and the appropriate Departments are also assisting the comprehensive review of factors affecting the turn-round of overseas shipping, which is being made under the sponsorship of the New Zealand Producer Boards and the British shipping lines.

In the field of Maori affairs my Ministers continue to attach special importance to measures designed to promote the legal, social, and economic equality of Maori and European citizens. In the execution of this policy they welcome the valuable assistance which can be given by the New Zealand Maori Council established during the past year. Trade-training schemes have been continued and expanded, and promising Maori post-primary pupils are being encouraged and helped to continue their education. In this connection the financial support accorded to the Maori Education Foundation's campaign for funds has been most gratifying. In the vital matter of accommodation, more houses have been provided for Maoris during the last year than in any previous year, with the result that a programme designed to house 4,300 Maori families in four years has been carried out in three.

Over the country as a whole the housing position has continued to improve. More than 5,000 families were allocated State houses last year and the number of applications, both in total and in the urgent classification, has fallen. In the coming year the housing construction programme will continue at the present level but, as housing is now very much a localised problem, special attention will be given to those areas where the need is greatest. In accordance with my Government's policy of emphasising home ownership, half of the serviced sections produced during the last two years by the Housing Division have been made available to the public. There has also been a welcome and considerable increase in the sale of State houses,

Action has been taken on a number of recommendations of the Commission on Education and my Minister of Education is continuing his consultations with local controlling authorities, teachers' organisations, and other interested groups on the action to be taken on the remaining recommendations. Bills to constitute the Massey University of Manawatu and the University of Waikato will mark a further step in the advancement of higher education. Another Bill will be introduced to reconstitute the National Council of Adult Education. You will also be asked to consider measures to clarify the law relating to the enrolment and attendance of school pupils, and to make provision for the establishment, control, and organisation of technical institutes.

My Ministers continue to be concerned with the problems posed by the youthful offender. Pre-release hostels are being established to help in transforming these offenders into useful citizens by bridging the gap between life in the institution and in the community. My Government is mindful also of the need for hostels to accommodate these young people after their release and is prepared to offer financial assistance to church organisations where necessary to encourage their establishment.

Much is being done in replacing old penal institutions and erecting additional buildings. The new maximum-security institution at Paremoremo will be built as soon as possible.

Since its assumption of office my Government has been at all times conscious of the need to remove unnecessary restrictions on the freedom of the individual citizen and to expand the scope for him to enjoy his fundamental rights. Much has been done in this direction. My Ministers have anticipated that the passing of a Bill of Rights on the lines of that adopted a few years ago in Canada would be the best method of ensuring the preservation of the citizen's freedom in the future. Consideration of the difficult issues involved in the drafting of such a Bill in the light of the experience of other countries is continuing, and you will be advised later of the action my Ministers propose to take.

You will be asked to consider a Bill to regulate bids to take over New Zealand companies; this will include provisions requiring full disclosure of information to shareholders and the allowing of adequate time for them to consider this information and obtain advice. Other measures to be submitted for your consideration will include a Bill to establish a tribunal to classify publications with a view to controlling the circulation of indecent material; a Bill to make better provision for the payment of compensation in proper cases to those who have suffered by reason of the commission of an offence; a revision of the law relating to land agents which will provide for the establishment of a fidelity guarantee fund; a Bill to define the professional status of persons engaged in architecture; and a measure to safeguard the employment rights of local government employees affected by the amalgamation of local authorities.

In accordance with my Government's policy of promoting the self-government of the Cook Islands and Niue you will be asked to consider an amendment to the Cook Islands Act to provide for the establishment of an Executive Committee of the Niue Island Assembly, and to place membership of that Assembly on a purely elective basis. An amendment to the Tokelau Islands Act will also be submitted to you.

Further measures to be presented for your consideration include an amendment to the Machinery Act to protect the public in the use of fairground amusement devices; Bills to amend the Shipping and Seamen Act, the Charitable Trusts Act, and the Nurses and Midwives Registration Act; a Customs Acts Amendment Bill to validate a number of Orders in Council amending the Customs tariff; a consolidation of Part III of the Social Security Act; an amendment to the divorce laws to provide greater protection to the wife financially and more adequate safeguards for the children; a revision of the law relating to extradition and fugitive offenders; a Bill to revise the vagrancy laws; and a consolidation of the Secondhand Dealers Act.

I commend these matters to your careful consideration and I pray that Divine guidance will attend your deliberations.