

has not only raised the level of salaries, but has also made possible a greater stability of teaching service and has been designed to attract teachers to country districts. A committee has under consideration the devising of improved salary and staffing scales for post-primary schools.

My Government have continued to give close attention to matters affecting the welfare of the Maori race. The policy of developing Native lands, and thus affording the Maori people the means of becoming self-reliant members of the community, is producing beneficial results, and efforts will be made during the year to expand still further these land-settlement projects. Special attention has been given to the housing of the Maori people, with particular reference to pure water-supplies and sanitation, and good progress has been made in improving their living-conditions.

I am happy to say that the scenic and recreational advantages of New Zealand continue to be a source of attraction to people from overseas, and for the first time in any year more than twenty thousand visitors have been recorded, who are estimated to have brought into the Dominion approximately £1,500,000. The contemplated opening this year of the Trans-Tasman air-service and the Centennial Celebrations and Exhibition must, it is felt, attract still larger numbers of tourists in the near future.

Arrangements are well in hand for the celebration in a fitting manner of the first one hundred years of organized settlement and Government in the Dominion, and my Minister of Internal Affairs has been actively co-operating in this matter with all sections of the community. Adequate provision is being made for national, provincial, and local celebrations, and there is every evidence that this historic event will be celebrated, by pakeha and Maori alike, in a manner worthy of the occasion. An outstanding feature of the celebrations will be the New Zealand Centennial Exhibition, an undertaking the magnitude of which is now apparent in the great buildings now approaching completion at Rongotai in the City of Wellington.

Bills will be placed before you dealing with law reform, with statutes amendment, with workmen's and contractors' liens, with the law of husband and wife, with taxation, with town-planning, with the control of river erosion, and with the reorganization of fire-control; for an amendment to the laws relating to health, to hospitals and charitable institutions, to the training and registration of nurses and midwives, and to the payment of fines; and for a consolidation of the law relating to pharmacies.

All these matters I commend to your careful consideration, and I pray for Divine guidance in your deliberations.