



THE
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 EXTRAORDINARY

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THE First Session of the Twenty-eighth Parliament of New Zealand was on the twenty-fourth day of June opened by Commissioners under the authority of Letters Patent, and His Excellency was this day pleased to make the following statement of the causes of the calling of this Session of Parliament together:—

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

It affords me much pleasure to meet you at the opening of the first session of the Twenty-eighth Parliament.

I have been privileged, since I last addressed you, to visit many parts of New Zealand, and I have observed with profound satisfaction the deep spirit of loyalty which animates the people, Maori and pakeha alike.

Among the nations of the world the past year has been marked by great activity directed toward the settlement of post-war problems. Upon these settlements will be based the possibilities of peace and progress for the coming years.

My Government, conscious of the importance to New Zealand of these international understandings, and, in the belief that this country can, and must, contribute towards the establishment of world peace and the welfare of the peoples, have taken advantage of New Zealand's right to join the victorious Allied nations in making the peace settlements and have accepted its responsibilities to participate in the deliberations of the United Nations and its associated bodies. During the past year New Zealand was represented at many international meetings. These will be the subject of report to Parliament by my Minister of External Affairs.

New Zealand has been elected for a three-year term to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, which is responsible for promoting international economic and social co-operation.

This country's election to the Council may be regarded not only as an honour to New Zealand and a recognition of its contribution to international economic and social well-being, but also as a measure of the responsibility which rests upon the Dominion in these matters.