

There is no unemployment among ex-servicemen, or in the community generally. My Government, as in the past, will pursue policies designed to assure the continuance of full employment and the prevention of poverty. They hold firmly that economic stabilization is fundamental to the welfare of the people, and that to depart from their stabilization policy, would damage New Zealand's economy and frustrate the people's efforts to assist Great Britain. It is proposed to introduce a Bill formally constituting the Economic Stabilization Commission as an advisory body and providing for the continuance of functions which have hitherto been exercised under emergency regulations.

The special efforts to increase primary production this year in order to supply more food to Britain have been helped by favourable climatic conditions in most districts, and it is anticipated that there will be an over-all increase in the volume of exportable produce.

During the year the Maori people have made excellent progress under the schemes for the promotion of their welfare. They are entering whole-heartedly into the purposes of the Maori Social and Economic Advancement Act. Tribal executives and committees constituted by the Act have been appointed and tribal districts defined. Constant attention is being given to the needs of the Maori people, especially in matters relating to health, housing, education, and the examination of land claims.

My Ministers have considered the report of the Royal Commission on Licensing. Legislation will be introduced to give effect to certain recommendations of the Commission.

The Royal Commission on Gaming and Racing has completed its inquiries and presented a comprehensive report with recommendations. Members will be afforded an opportunity to examine and discuss the report. My Ministers are considering the recommendations of the Commission which involve legislative action.

The continued increase in the birth-rate necessarily means that plans must be made to ensure that more school rooms and teachers will be ready wherever and whenever they are required. My Minister of Education has initiated the surveys on which such plans must be based.

Legislation will be introduced for the amendment and consolidation of the law relating to British nationality and New Zealand citizenship, the Fair Rents Act, Trustee Savings-banks, Friendly Societies, and the transfer of coal-measures to the Crown. A consolidation of the Acts relating to Land will also be placed before you. Other Bills will provide for the more effective control of tuberculosis, and for new administrative machinery affecting transport.

I pray that you may receive Divine guidance in your deliberations on all these matters for the welfare and happiness of our people.