



THE
NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE
 EXTRAORDINARY

Published by Authority

WELLINGTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 1949

THE Third Session of the Twenty-eighth 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 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

Since last I addressed you in Parliament assembled His Majesty's New Zealand subjects learned with great distress and disappointment of the disability suffered by the King. The progress made by His Majesty toward restored health has been watched with heart-felt relief, and the day when renewed plans may be considered for Their Majesties to visit New Zealand is eagerly awaited.

It was with great pleasure that I was able, during the past year, to visit the islands of the Southern Cook and the Tokelau Groups. I was deeply impressed by the affectionate welcome accorded to my wife and me, by the loyalty of the people, and by their vigour and progress. It is my intention in the coming year to go to the Northern Cook Group.

My visit to Western Samoa enabled me to observe with deep satisfaction the spirit of co-operation and friendliness exhibited towards New Zealand, and the commendable and effective way in which the Samoan leaders and people have taken up their new responsibilities.

I also welcomed the opportunity of visiting Australia, and of seeing the life and progress of that sister nation, to whom we are bound by so many ties of kinship and common interest.

New Zealand was represented by my Prime Minister at the meetings of British Commonwealth Prime Ministers held in London in October last year and April this year, when important constitutional, political, economic, and defence questions were discussed.

My Government were also associated with the agreement reached at further Commonwealth meetings held in October and November, 1948, under which, in regard to matters of citizenship and trade, the Republic of Ireland is not to be treated as a foreign country.