



THE NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

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THE Third Session of the Thirty-first 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 was our great pleasure and privilege in December last to welcome His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, in the course of his extensive tour of Commonwealth countries.

In accordance with his expressed wish, the visit was less formal than the Royal tour in 1953-54. His Royal Highness thus had greater opportunities of meeting New Zealanders at work, and of seeing something more of this country's achievements in the fields of agriculture, industry, commerce, science, and education.

The enthusiasm with which our Royal visitor was received was heart-warming evidence of the unswerving loyalty and deep affection which the New Zealand people have for the Crown.

These are among the enduring qualities that will remain uppermost in my memories of this country.

I feel deeply honoured to have been the representative of the Queen during the last four and a half years. It has been the earnest endeavour of my wife and myself to associate ourselves with the New Zealand people in all walks of life, and everywhere we have been welcomed with the warmest friendliness.

This is the last occasion on which I shall have the privilege of addressing you in Parliament assembled, and of acknowledging before you the great courtesy and kindness shown to me, and also to my wife and family, during our stay here.

We extend to you, and through you to those you represent, our grateful thanks, together with our heartfelt wishes for the future well-being of New Zealand and its people.

In the international sphere over the past year there is little that encouraging, and much, indeed, that gives rise to deepening concern.

While it is unlikely that Powers possessing thermo-nuclear weapons would deliberately precipitate a global war, the dangers of miscalculation remain, as do the risks of limited wars fought with conventional weapons. The crises of the past year serve as a stern reminder