



THE NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

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THE First Session of the Thirty-second 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

I feel it a great privilege to have this opportunity of addressing you for the first time in Parliament assembled. I am deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon me by Her Majesty the Queen in enabling me to associate myself, as Her Majesty's representative, with a country unsurpassed in its traditions of loyalty to the Throne and in its unswerving devotion to the British Commonwealth and the principles of democracy. I have been very much moved, and indeed encouraged in the task that lies before me, by the warmth of the welcome everywhere extended to me and to my wife and family. It is my earnest hope that I may, by God's will, be permitted to assist in some measure in promoting the prosperity of New Zealand and the welfare and happiness of her people.

An event eagerly and joyously awaited by us all is the forthcoming visit of Her Majesty the Queen Mother. Her Majesty's selfless devotion to the British peoples and the high example she has set before us in her personal and family life have endeared her to us all. Her visit is necessarily of short duration but my Government has, in cooperation with the local authorities concerned, endeavoured to ensure that there will be the fullest practicable opportunity for Her Majesty to be met and greeted by our people consonant with the necessity for reducing to a minimum the physical strain that Her Majesty will inevitably undergo. Her Majesty will be received with warm and loyal affection by all sections of the New Zealand community.

We were very happy to welcome two days ago the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Lady Dorothy Macmillan. My advisers are particularly glad of the opportunity that this visit will afford of an exchange of views on international problems at a time when there are so many complex issues before us.