

Following my Government's decision to establish a Department of Veterinary Science at Massey College, a Bill will be presented to establish a University College in the Manawatu to combine the activities of the Palmerston North branch of the Victoria University of Wellington and Massey College.

My Government affirms the vital importance to the whole community of ensuring that present and future Maori citizens shall be equipped to make their full contribution to the economic and social life of New Zealand. Special attention is therefore being directed to their needs, particularly by way of increased housing and improved education.

The Maori Education Foundation has already assisted young Maoris who can benefit from higher education but are unable to avail themselves of it with the resources normally available. The generous public support to the appeal for funds for the Foundation justifies the hope that much more will be done in future years.

The Maori Council of Tribal Executives, which will facilitate exchanges of information and opinion between the Government and the Maori people, has been set up and should prove of great value in all matters of Maori policy. You will be asked to consider a Bill to consolidate and revise the Maori Social and Economic Advancement Act and proposals to eliminate some of the present legislative distinctions between Maori and non-Maori citizens.

In every city and town the waiting time for homes has been greatly reduced. It is my Government's policy to ensure that all citizens are adequately housed and to this end generous loan facilities and the family benefit capitalisation scheme will be continued. The State rental construction programme, adjusted last year in the light of the reduced demand, will in the present year be maintained at a level to meet the more urgent cases.

My Ministers will give early consideration to the report and recommendations of the Royal Commission on the State Services. They anticipate that a new Public Service Act will be required.

Emphasis continues to be given to industrial welfare and safety. Bills will be introduced to replace the Agricultural Workers' Act and the Shearers' Accommodation Act. You will also be asked to consider legislation to revise the Wages Protection and Contractors' Liens Act and amendments to the Workers' Compensation Act and the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act.

Three Bills introduced last year, the Nature Conservation Council Bill, the Civil Defence Bill, and the Public Bodies Meetings Bill will again be presented for your consideration.

Another Bill will propose the incorporation of the Medical Council and its separation from the Department of Health. Additional legislation to be presented will include a Carriage by Air Bill and amendments to the Government Railways Act, the Carriers Act, the Public Revenues Act, the New Zealand Loans Act, the Superannuation Act, and the Stock Act.

I pray that Divine guidance may attend your deliberations on these and related matters.