



THE NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

Published by Authority

WELLINGTON: WEDNESDAY, 26 JUNE 1968

THE Second Session of the Thirty-fifth 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

Last month His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh spent 4 crowded days in New Zealand. In that short time he visited industrial, scientific, and youth projects and fulfilled numerous other engagements in both the North Island and the South Island.

The keen personal interest displayed by His Royal Highness in so many phases of our national life, and his informed comment, made the occasion memorable for New Zealand.

The visit has also enabled our people to demonstrate once again their abiding loyalty to Her Majesty The Queen and the esteem in which they hold the Duke of Edinburgh.

Today it is my great privilege for the first time to address you in Parliament assembled.

I am deeply conscious of the honour which Her Majesty The Queen has bestowed on me in appointing me to be Her Representative in the country of my birth. I shall at all times strive faithfully to discharge that trust and, as Her Representative, to serve the people you represent, both European and Maori.

In this task I have already found warm encouragement in the friendship and hospitality extended to me, and to my wife and family, since we arrived in December. The welfare of the people of New Zealand is very close to our hearts and I pray that, during my term of office, I may be able to assist in promoting their progress and happiness.

In the field of international affairs, the issues of peace and security in South-East Asia have continued to demand the constant attention of my Government.

The past year has seen dramatic developments. Among these were the decisions of the British Government, first to withdraw its forces from Malaysia and Singapore by the mid 1970s, and, subsequently, to complete the withdrawal by the end of 1971.