

the year ended 31 March 1970 the industry exceeded the target for overseas exchange earnings set by the National Development Conference.

My Government will continue with its announced intention to remove products from import licensing subject to the need to preserve the legitimate interests of New Zealand producers. My Government will also be proceeding with the strengthening of the Trade Practices Act having regard to any recommendations made by the Parliamentary Select Committee on Commerce.

The Mining Bill which revises and consolidates the Mining Act 1926 was introduced during the last Session. It has been the subject of lengthy study by the Select Committee on Labour and Mining. You will be asked to consider this Bill as amended in the Committee.

My Government is studying the report of the Select Committee on Compensation for Personal Injury in New Zealand. It considers that further consultation with interested parties will be necessary but hopes to be able to introduce a Bill during this Session. Progress continues to be made in the field of industrial welfare and safety and you will be asked to consider amendments to the Factories Act, the Construction Act and the Machinery Act. An amendment to the Annual Holidays Act will be submitted for your consideration prescribing the calculation of holiday pay on the basis of a worker's gross weekly earnings as against the present formula which does not take into account earnings from overtime.

My Government desires to promote good industrial relations in the waterfront industry and to improve cargo handling efficiency and the co-ordination of port activities. You will be asked to consider a Bill to amend the Waterfront Industry Act 1953. This will provide for a New Zealand Waterfront Industry Board and Port Industry Boards representative of all waterfront employers' and workers' organisations to carry out the legislative functions which are the present responsibility of the Waterfront Industry Commission and the Port Conciliation Committees. It will also provide for the legislative and judicial functions of the Waterfront Industry Tribunal to be extended to apply to other employers and workers on the waterfront.

In 1970 my Government set up a Commission of Inquiry into New Zealand Merchant Shipping. This Commission, under its terms of reference is considering submissions which have covered all facets of New Zealand Mercantile Marine. The report of the Commission is to be submitted to my Government shortly, and if appropriate, legislation will be introduced this year to give effect to its recommendations.

Honourable Members, the advancement of the Maori and Polynesian people of New Zealand has continued to be one of the major concerns of my Government. The report of the National Advisory Committee on Maori Education has been published and will serve as a guide to my Government on future developments in this important field. Extension of the special trade training programmes has been possible this year with the introduction of three new courses and increased intakes in existing courses. These programmes have an important role in equipping young Maoris to make a full contribution to the economic development of their country.

In keeping with its policy of giving separate corporate status to the Boards controlling the medical and allied professions my Government proposes to introduce legislation to establish a separate Nursing