

The Accident Compensation Bill introduced last Session and referred to a Select Committee for study during the Parliamentary Recess will be proceeded with this Session. The new comprehensive scheme for compensation for injured workers and victims of road accidents will represent a significant advance in social legislation.

Honourable Members, following a comprehensive revaluation of the teaching profession and consequential improvements in salaries and conditions of service, there has been a marked improvement in the recruitment and retention of teachers. This will enable my Minister of Education to make further progress in reducing class sizes.

My Government has approved the holding of an Educational Priorities Conference to commence in August this year. The conference will review existing policies, consider proposals for further development and, taking full account of their financial and other implications, recommend priorities for the next decade. The Advisory Council on Educational Planning has agreed to act as the steering committee for the conference.

It is also proposed to introduce this Session, legislation to provide for the establishment of a new university at Albany, north of Auckland.

My Government has decided that a National Housing Commission should be established as recommended by the Commission of Inquiry into Housing and appropriate legislation will be introduced during the Session. My Ministers will also be giving attention to other recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry.

New legislation to establish a Ministry of Fuel and Power and to define its structure and functions will be introduced during the Session. The new ministry will be responsible for co-ordinating the development of New Zealand's energy resources.

You will be asked to consider a Clean Air Bill which will implement the recommendations of the Board of Health Committee on Air Pollution.

Changes are required in the administrative structure of the Health Camps Federation. Accordingly you will be asked to consider a Bill to revise and consolidate The King George V Memorial Children's Health Camps Act 1953.

My Minister for Local Government is discussing with the local authority associations the future development of the structure of local government. If these discussions are successful and agreement is reached on the reforms needed to make local government stronger and more effective, you will be asked to consider appropriate legislation.

You will also be asked to consider Bills revising and consolidating the Fire Services Act 1949 and the National Art Galleries and Dominion Museum Act 1930.

My Ministers will submit for your consideration a Bill to protect the investor in syndicates. The measure will provide for the supply of more information to potential investors and will clarify the relationship between members and between the syndicate and the manager.

Legislation will also be introduced to put into effect certain of the recommendations contained in the Interim Report of the Special Committee to Review the Companies Act.

A Bill concerning hijacking and other offences relating to aircraft will be submitted for your consideration.