



THE NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

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THE Second Session of the Thirty-ninth 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

It is with feelings of gratitude—as well as regret—that I exercise for the last time the prerogative of Her Majesty The Queen in opening this second Session of the thirty-ninth Parliament. I would be less than human if on entering this place today I did not recall 1933 when, as a newly elected Member, I first listened to the Speech from The Throne—delivered by the beloved Lord Bledisloe.

I thank God for the life and health given me to serve my country in public office, and I humbly acknowledge that The Queen in appointing me recently to her Most Noble Order of the Garter thereby honoured New Zealand.

Nor would I be here today without the help and understanding of my wife and family who have given me strength and encouragement.

A historical perspective is important in the office of Governor-General. As in Lord Bledisloe's term we live in an insecure world. While history does not necessarily repeat itself, there is a cycle in human affairs which inevitably causes us to strive for a better world. If New Zealanders can tap their spiritual resources and draw together their common aspirations—as I challenged them to do when I was sworn into office 2½ years ago—they will, as a nation, surely find an authentic sense of direction.