

International markets for our traditional dairy and meat exports are limited and are under constant threat. The Government will maintain its efforts to ensure that access for our butter to the European Community is continued beyond 1983 and that Europe remains an assured and remunerative market for our lamb.

In pursuit of greater market diversification you will be asked this year to consider a Horticulture Export Authority Bill, which will provide for the establishment of an authority to co-ordinate and promote the export of horticultural products. The export drive will also be assisted by a revision of the Plant Varieties Act 1973, which will give more protection to the rights of breeders of new horticultural varieties.

While New Zealand's present timber exports are continuing to play a significant part in the nation's economy, the Government is concerned about the depressed world market. Accordingly, new outlets will be sought for the large quantities of timber which will become available in the 1990s.

There is, nevertheless, a feeling of optimism in this sector. A Forestry Licence Registration Bill will be introduced to facilitate investment in joint venture forestry agreements in order to encourage the private grower.

The Fisheries Bill, now being considered by a select committee, consolidates and revises the Fisheries Act 1908. It affects all aspects of New Zealand's inshore fishery. Among its key measures is provision for the development of fisheries management plans, involving the Government, fishermen and other interested parties.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS, the Housing Corporation will continue to direct the bulk of its finance to first home seekers and into the provision of rental housing generally. In support of the current industrial restructuring process, housing assistance will be provided to unemployed existing home owners of modest income moving to other localities to take up new employment.

Late last year the Government published a discussion document on the reorganisation of our Health Services. On the basis of the response the Government will decide whether to introduce legislation enabling the formation of area health boards.