



THE
NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE
 EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

WELLINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1914.

THE Fourth Session of the Eighteenth Parliament of New Zealand was this day opened by the Governor, when His Excellency was pleased to make the following

S P E E C H .

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

It is with sincere pleasure that I again meet you in Parliament assembled.

During the recess I have visited many parts of the Dominion, and have noticed with pleasure the general contentment which obtains amongst all classes. The settlers engaged in pastoral and agricultural pursuits are prospering, industries are flourishing, and the conditions of labour which exist in the Dominion are in the main sufficient to provide reasonable comfort and happiness for the prudent worker. It is gratifying to be able to congratulate you once more upon the remarkable prosperity of the country. Trade, as evidenced by the Customs returns, has been unexampled. The value of the exports from our shores has reached an unprecedented height, and the imports represent in money's worth an amount never before equalled. On every hand there are signs of advancement. Settlement of the land is progressing rapidly, development is proceeding apace, and the Dominion is steadily becoming a country in which the small holder predominates.

The intercourse which I have enjoyed with the people has served to confirm my confidence in their loyalty to the Throne and devotion to our most gracious Sovereign.

It is fitting that I should mention the loss sustained by Her Royal Highness, the Princess Louise, in the death of her husband, His Grace the Duke of Argyll. I cabled the condolences of my Government and the people of New Zealand, and they have been duly acknowledged.