

honour had been won. My Ministers hope that when the terms of peace are considered it may be possible to reserve for New Zealand and Australia the ground where our men fought, and so many fell, in the service of the Empire.

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

In the estimates prepared for your consideration you will be asked to make full provision for the prosecution of the war in addition to the ordinary expenditure on the public services of the Dominion.

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

Until the warfare in which New Zealand has claimed to take her full part with the Empire is terminated by a peace ensuring for the world freedom from the tyranny of German military methods, all political parties have agreed to abstain from controversy of a party character. You will therefore be invited to direct the whole of your energies to the settlement of some of the difficult problems which have arisen in consequence of the war, and to the consideration of measures which have direct relation to the existing exceptional conditions.

I earnestly commend those matters to your consideration, and I pray that Divine Providence may guide you in your deliberations.