



THE
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 EXTRAORDINARY.

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THE First Session of the Twenty-second Parliament of New Zealand was this day opened by the Governor-General, 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,—

In November of last year the people of this Dominion learned with deep sorrow of the death of Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, who during her long life was beloved and revered in all parts of the Empire. On behalf of the people of this Dominion I sent a message of condolence to His Majesty the King.

In view of the fact that an Imperial Conference has been called for October, Parliament has been summoned at an earlier date than usual, to facilitate the departure of my Prime Minister to attend the Conference. It is certain that questions of great importance affecting international and Imperial affairs must arise for discussion and decision. Harmony and co-operation between all parts of the Empire are essential if we are to fulfil our high destiny, and towards that end the Imperial Conference is a potent and vital agency.

Important assemblies of delegates to the League of Nations at Geneva have been attended by my Government's representative, and at the next meeting the Right Hon. Sir Francis Bell, who for some time administered the Department of External Affairs, will represent New Zealand.

I am pleased to have been able this year to make an extended tour in the Cook Islands, Niue, and Western Samoa. Everywhere I was met by warm demonstrations of loyalty and of satisfaction at the efforts which are being made by New Zealand to maintain and improve the welfare of the Native population.