

QUEEN OPENS NEW ZEALAND PARLIAMENT

Her Majesty's visit to Wellington coincided with with centenary of the New Zealand Parliament. It was a most happy occasion, for the Queen opened ~~the~~ a special session. Her Majesty wore her very beautiful Coronation gown - a tribute ^{& event} much appreciated by New Zealand. The small, legislative chamber of the Upper House was dominated by a Throne chair, a replica of the one used at the Coronation, set upon a golden dais.

In all ways it was an historic ~~occasion~~ ^{assembly}; it was the first time that the opening of Parliament, either in London or ~~in~~ overseas, had been filmed. Her Majesty

bade the ~~assembly~~ ^{audience} be seated. The distinguished gathering of legislators, two archbishops and members of the Diplomatic Corps saw the Prime Minister, Mr. Holland, present ^{& speech 3 Maj 52 deliver.} ~~an address of welcome~~. 12 judges of the Court

of Appeal were also present. In all the hundred years of Parliamentary Government in New Zealand this was the proudest moment. With unaffected dignity Her Majesty delivered her speech from the Throne.

142

If the event made Parliamentary history it may also ~~also~~ have established a precedent; for such in this age is the speed of ~~the~~ travel that Her Majesty may in future open other Commonwealth Parliaments, as her vists overseas become perhaps more frequent. ~~The Speaker of the House received a copy of the Queen's speech.~~ There was great enthusiasm as the Royal entourage drove from the Parliament.

Except in a theatre or War

That evening in Wellington Town Hall the Queen conferred knighthood upon three distinguished men of the Commonwealth.

Here again it was the first time that the ceremony of accolade performed by the Sovereign, has been filmed. ~~except in a theatre or War~~ The first

recipient of knighthood was Sir Harold Barrowclough. He

30 is the Chief Justice of New Zealand, but that is by no means his only title to distinction; during the war he commanded the New Zealand third Division, having previously been at the head of a brigade in the Middle East.

In the New Year honours Sir Harold received the K.C.M.G. ^{8 W} He was now invested ~~with that honour by Her Majesty.~~

Another knighthood was conferred upon Sir John Illot. The third recipient Sir Bruce Levy, whose researches in grasslands have earned him world fame. His knowledge has improved pastures all over the globe, adding thereby to the supplies of mutton, beef and milk. Never was a human benefactor more deserving of Royal recognition.

20