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## Editorial.

### The Royal Tour.

AS ONE READS the daily papers the world seems full of insoluble difficulties and the threat of war as menacing as ever. But the Royal Tour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh may achieve what statesmen have as yet failed to do.

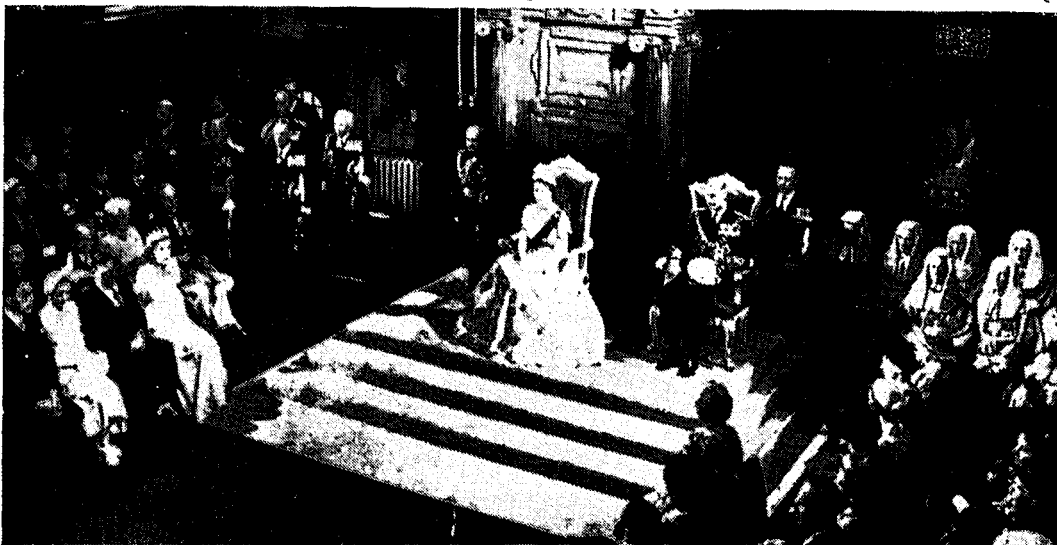
Since the departure from our shores of Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on that November evening of 1953, the people of this country, at home, have followed the story of their triumphant progress unprecedented throughout the Western Hemisphere—with gratitude and profound admiration.

The tour has been a magnificent success in which there is a lasting impression of Her Majesty's personification of the Crown.

To New Zealanders their Dominion, once so remote and intangible, is now for them a living emblem through the simple dignity and radiant presence of Her Majesty.

Thanking the people in her farewell speech, the Queen said:—

“The impression we have received is of a great and united people. We know that in the 113 years which have passed since the treaty of Waitangi the European and Maori peoples have drawn together and that to your united strength is constantly being added the vitality and skill of settlers from many countries of the old world. May this concord of races flourish in the fruitful land



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Opens New Zealand Parliament.

Almost daily how delightful the reading of the joyous welcome which greeted Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh as they journeyed in Bermuda, Jamaica, Panama Canal, Fiji Islands, Tonga and—the third Dominion—New Zealand. The Queen's visit to this most distant Dominion aroused tremendous enthusiasm, where for the first time in History as a reigning monarch, Her Majesty opened Parliament in an atmosphere of simple dignity.

Despite a heavy programme of civic receptions, or public welcomes, garden parties, civic luncheons or dinners, the Maoris of the Waikato Tribe, showed great devotion when the Queen departed from plan to enter the Tribal Meeting House in their village near Hamilton.

and in the splendid and healthy climate which Providence has given you.”

And the words “We have enjoyed every minute” must have echoed in the hearts of New Zealanders who, in their thousands watched the leavetaking of Her Majesty and the Duke as they boarded the *Gothic* to continue their mission, glorious beyond belief, across the Tasman Sea to Australia, ending the five weeks' visit which the nation acclaimed, “they would never forget.”

Can we be grateful enough for the gift of such a Sovereign Lady, who, in the words of a bus conductor, “I reckon she is the greatest Sovereign head ever.”

A. S. B.

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