$\begin{array}{cc} & 1946 \\ {\rm N \, E \, W} & {\rm Z \, E \, A \, L \, A \, N \, D} \end{array}$

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

REPORTS OF THE NEW ZEALAND DELEGATION ON THE TWENTY-EIGHTH (MARITIME) SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, 6th TO 29th JUNE, 1946

Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives

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Over the years it has been the practice of the International Labour Organization to convene special Maritime Sessions of the International Labour Conference to discuss problems peculiar to seafaring activities. Such Maritime Sessions of the Conference were held in 1920 (Second Session), 1926 (Ninth Session), and 1936 (Twenty-first and Twenty-second Sessions). In addition, the general Conference of 1921 (Third Session) adopted two conventions affecting maritime activities. New Zealand was not represented at any of these sessions. Hence the delegation sent to the Twenty-eighth (Maritime) Session, which met in Seattle, Washington, United States of America, from 6th to 29th June, 1946, was the first to represent the country at a Maritime Session of the International Labour Conference.

In preparation for this gathering a preparatory technical Conference in Copenhagen in November, 1945, had undertaken a preliminary consideration of a wide range of topics. This Copenhagen meeting was of representatives of Governments, shipowners, and seamen from twenty leading maritime countries. The omission of New Zealand from the list of countries participating was presumably because of its relatively low shipping tonnage. Thus those responsible for convening the gathering had regard only for the interests of the carrying agents of the world and had apparently disregarded the not inconsiderable claims of those paying for such carrying services. To a country