

No. 27.

New Zealand, No. 250.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 26th September, 1928.

I have the honour to transmit to you, at the instance of my Prime Minister, the accompanying Warrant authorizing and appointing Mr. F. Strong to be the delegate of the Dominion of New Zealand at the International Telegraph Conference at Brussels, and giving him full powers to discuss, settle, and sign on behalf of His Majesty's Government in New Zealand, subject to the instructions given to him, and subject to confirmation and approval by the Governor-General of this Dominion, any agreement or convention to be drawn up by the said Conference.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES FERGUSSON,

Governor-General.

The Right Hon. L. C. M. S. Amery, M.P.,
Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs.

No. 28.

New Zealand, No. 267.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 15th October, 1928.

With reference to your despatch of the 31st March last, Dominions No. 164, relative to an inquiry from the United States Government as to the form and wording of oaths of allegiance administered in His Majesty's Dominions, and as to the class or classes of persons of whom such an oath is required, I have the honour to inform you, at the instance of my Ministers, that the position in regard to the taking of oaths of allegiance, so far as New Zealand is concerned, is as follows:—

(1) *The Governor-General*.—In Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, dated the 11th May, 1917, constituting the office of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of New Zealand, the third clause directs and enjoins as follows:—

“Every person appointed to fill the office of Governor-General shall, with all due solemnity, before entering on any of the duties of his office, cause the Commission appointing him to be Governor-General to be read and published at the seat of Government, in the presence of the Chief Justice, or some other Judge of the Supreme Court of the Dominion, and of the Members of the Executive Council thereof; which being done, he shall then and there take before them the Oath of Allegiance, in the form provided by an Act passed in the session holden in the thirty-first and thirty-second years of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria intituled, “An Act to amend the Law relating to Promissory Oaths; and likewise the usual oath for the due execution of the office of Governor-General and for the due and impartial administration of justice; which oaths the said Chief Justice or Judge is hereby required to administer.”

The Oath of Allegiance prescribed is as follows:—

“I, —, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, his heirs and successors, according to law. So help me God.”

(2) *Members of the Legislature*.—It is provided in section 46 of the Constitution Act (15 and 16 Vict., c. 72) that no member of the Legislative Council or House of Representatives shall be permitted to sit or vote therein until he shall have taken and subscribed the following oath:—

“I, —, do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth. So help me God.”

Every person authorized by law to make his solemn affirmation or declaration instead of taking an oath, may make such affirmation or declaration in lieu of the said oath as follows:—

“I, —, do truly affirm and declare that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth.”