

Hastings becomes N.Z.'s Fifteenth City

HISTORIC DAY OF PROCLAMATION

Impressive Ceremony

"Now, therefore, pursuant to Section 6 of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1954, I, Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Willoughby Moke Norrie, the Governor-General of New Zealand, hereby proclaim the borough of Hastings to be a city."

It was an impressive moment for the 6000 or more people gathered on Nelson Park on Saturday afternoon as his Excellency solemnly proclaimed that declaration. The thousands of Hastings citizens, with well-wishers from other cities and boroughs were present at the birth of New Zealand's 15th city.

The moment was a culmination of literally generations of effort, dating back to a day 83 years ago when swamp land on the Heretaunga Plains was auctioned for town sections—sowing a seed which was to grow into Hastings of today—Hastings the fruitbowl of New Zealand, and commercial centre of Hawke's Bay.

Over recent weeks, as interest in the city celebrations quickened, that moment on Saturday was a culminating point toward which the town's expectations were directed. Yet when it came scarcely a cheer was raised from the huge assembly. Only when his Excellency turned, and conveyed his personal congratulations to Mr. W. E. Bate, first mayor of the new city, did the crowd appear to realise that a moment of civic history had been reached. There was warm applause.

The proclamation was read almost to the minute of that planned months ago. And as the crowd rose to its feet for the playing of the National Anthem, R.N.Z.A.F. Vampire jet fighters from Ohakea, in impeccable formation, swept low over the crowd in salute to the new city.

Saturday's function developed into something of a gamble with the elements, as several times throughout the afternoon the horizon and Howlock Hills especially, blackened ominously with rain-soaked clouds. Early in the proceedings light rain fell for a comparatively short time, but when it could do little more than wetly mar the colourful proceedings.

The programme was a masterpiece of timing, beginning at 1:30 p.m. when the vice-regal party was welcomed, Maori fashions at the Caroline Road entrance to Nelson Park.

There followed a series of Maori dances, a "haka" by the Maori of the Transport Through the Ages procession, further items, and four speeches and the reading of the proclamation.

Through the meticulous reading of the proclamation within seconds, followed the fly-past of R.N.Z.A.F. aircraft. An upset in timing and the impressive effect would have been marred if the official party were their excitements, Sir Willoughby and Norrie and aides; General Sir

Bate's Friendship of Town and Country

That the spirit of co-operation and friendship between town and country was typified in the new motto of Hastings coat-of-arms, and in its new motto, emphasised by the mayor, Mr. W. E. Bate, in his address at the proclamation ceremony on Nelson Park Saturday.

It was necessary for all, Mr. Bate, to enter the city's inheritance with a sense of responsibility to town and district, their mutual interests, prosperity might be secured, and so that a city be developed which children can appreciate.

Bate briefly traced the history of Hastings from the first land auction. He spoke of the vision and work of early settlers who laid the foundations for what was to become New Zealand's 15th city.

THE MAYOR AND HIS COCKADE

"A sobering experience," was how the mayor of Hastings, Mr. W. E. Bate, described his feelings on wearing a cockade for the first time at the proclamation ceremony on Saturday afternoon.

Whereas a petition has been received from the Mayor, Councillors, and citizens of the Borough of Hastings, praying that the said borough be proclaimed a city under the Municipal Corporations Act, 1954.

And whereas the population of the said borough is not less than 20,000. And whereas it is desirable that the said borough should be given to the said petition.

Now therefore, pursuant to Section 6 of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1954, I, Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Willoughby Moke Norrie, the Governor-General of New Zealand, hereby proclaim the Borough of Hastings to be a city.

Given under the hand of His Excellency the Governor-General, and issued under the seal of New Zealand, this 8th day of September, 1956. Minister of Internal Affairs.

Mr. Goosman Hastings Centre Of Biggest Area Of Rich Land

Hastings district land was described by the Minister of Works, Mr. Goosman, as the biggest area of naturally rich land in New Zealand.

For this, he said, the district was indeed fortunate, and in its urban development, within the boundaries of the new city, the people were fortunate, too, that they lived in one of the lowest-rated cities of New Zealand.

Mr. Goosman was the personal representative of the Prime Minister, Mr. Holland, and the Government. He expressed his pleasure in the visit to Hastings.

He spoke of the development of the town through the years, and commented that it was hard to believe that Hastings had once been a swamp.

"I think it is correct to say that the future Hastings was born in 1864, when the Heretaunga Block was leased from the Maoris, and a few settlers took up land," said his Excellency.

PAST AND FUTURE SURVEILLED

Civic Dinner Speeches

A memorable day in the history of Hastings ended on Saturday with the civic dinner, which even his Excellency the Governor-General was gracious enough to say was "more of a banquet than a dinner."

Opportunity to meet Sir Willoughby and Lady Norrie, as well as Sir Geoffrey and Lady Scoones, United Kingdom High Commissioner, was afforded at an informal "cocktail party" preceding the official dinner, and guests were presented to their Excellencies.

Following the sumptuous dinner, in which appropriate wines were featured with the dishes served, the toast list was honoured. Altogether the gathering lasted some five hours and was on a scale not previously attempted in Hastings.

Touching upon the message conveyed from the mayor of Hastings, England, expressing how welcome had been the food parcels sent from Hastings to Sussex during the war, Sir Geoffrey, proposing a toast of Hastings, said that the expression of thanks and appreciation was no empty sentiment.

Other Hastings Extends Its Congratulations. A message expressing the goodwill of the mayor, aldermen and burgesses of Hastings, England, to the people of Hastings, New Zealand, and expressing their congratulations on the attainment of city status, was delivered to the Nelson Park assembly on Saturday by the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in New Zealand, General Sir Geoffrey Scoones.

Although, in many respects, there was little similarity between the two Hastings, there was a bond between the two cities, and on issues which mattered the two were fundamentally as one, said Sir Geoffrey.

Sir Geoffrey Scoones, representing the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in New Zealand, expressed his pleasure at the opportunity of meeting guests more informally than was possible at the proclamation ceremony earlier in the day.

It was a privilege too, he said, that the Prime Minister had arranged for one of his senior ministers, Mr. Goosman, to be present to represent the Government.

He said that the young people and all the pupils of the schools they represent will remember this day longer than the rest of us.

He said that those who have the opportunity will join in the interest in our progress, and welfare and will visit us again.

His Excellency replied. Replying on behalf of the guests, his Excellency said he found himself much impressed by the evidence that the occasion afforded of the links which extend from the British Isles to New Zealand.

There was, perhaps, no place in New Zealand which owed more to the vision and foresight of its early pioneers, he said. That vision and foresight had established them in a favourable position to make possible this fine city today.

Hastings had had its ups and downs. It had suffered disasters from floods and earthquakes, but the people had weathered all the storms with courage.

It is freedom we all cherish. Freedom to choose our work and lives, freedom of speech, and freedom of the Press. We are given freedom to criticize if we wish so. I would like you children to remember that there are many countries where there is not the wonderful freedom which we enjoy.

Civic Service of Thanksgiving At Nelson Park

The first public function after Hastings' elevation to city status was held at Nelson Park yesterday afternoon when a good number of citizens joined in a service of thanksgiving.

An address and prayer in Maori were delivered by the Rev. Tihiti Kaa, and Canon K. P. Buttolo led the gathering in a prayer of thanksgiving and intercession.

An address and prayer in Maori were delivered by the Rev. Tihiti Kaa, and Canon K. P. Buttolo led the gathering in a prayer of thanksgiving and intercession.

There had been a great number of men and women who were well known to whom we owe a tremendous debt. Unfortunately, there were many people who did not seem to realise they owed anything to anybody.

There was a great number of men and women who were well known to whom we owe a tremendous debt.

There was a great number of men and women who were well known to whom we owe a tremendous debt.

There was a great number of men and women who were well known to whom we owe a tremendous debt.

Mr. Goosman Hastings Centre Of Biggest Area Of Rich Land

Hastings district land was described by the Minister of Works, Mr. Goosman, as the biggest area of naturally rich land in New Zealand.

For this, he said, the district was indeed fortunate, and in its urban development, within the boundaries of the new city, the people were fortunate, too, that they lived in one of the lowest-rated cities of New Zealand.

Mr. Goosman was the personal representative of the Prime Minister, Mr. Holland, and the Government. He expressed his pleasure in the visit to Hastings.

He spoke of the development of the town through the years, and commented that it was hard to believe that Hastings had once been a swamp.

"I think it is correct to say that the future Hastings was born in 1864, when the Heretaunga Block was leased from the Maoris, and a few settlers took up land," said his Excellency.

He said that those who have the opportunity will join in the interest in our progress, and welfare and will visit us again.

It is freedom we all cherish. Freedom to choose our work and lives, freedom of speech, and freedom of the Press. We are given freedom to criticize if we wish so. I would like you children to remember that there are many countries where there is not the wonderful freedom which we enjoy.

"This happy link between the two cities of Hastings is"

Sir Geoffrey Scoones Other Hastings Extends Its Congratulations

A message expressing the goodwill of the mayor, aldermen and burgesses of Hastings, England, to the people of Hastings, New Zealand, and expressing their congratulations on the attainment of city status, was delivered to the Nelson Park assembly on Saturday by the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in New Zealand, General Sir Geoffrey Scoones.

Although, in many respects, there was little similarity between the two Hastings, there was a bond between the two cities, and on issues which mattered the two were fundamentally as one, said Sir Geoffrey.

It was a privilege too, he said, that the Prime Minister had arranged for one of his senior ministers, Mr. Goosman, to be present to represent the Government.

He said that the young people and all the pupils of the schools they represent will remember this day longer than the rest of us.

He said that those who have the opportunity will join in the interest in our progress, and welfare and will visit us again.

His Excellency replied. Replying on behalf of the guests, his Excellency said he found himself much impressed by the evidence that the occasion afforded of the links which extend from the British Isles to New Zealand.

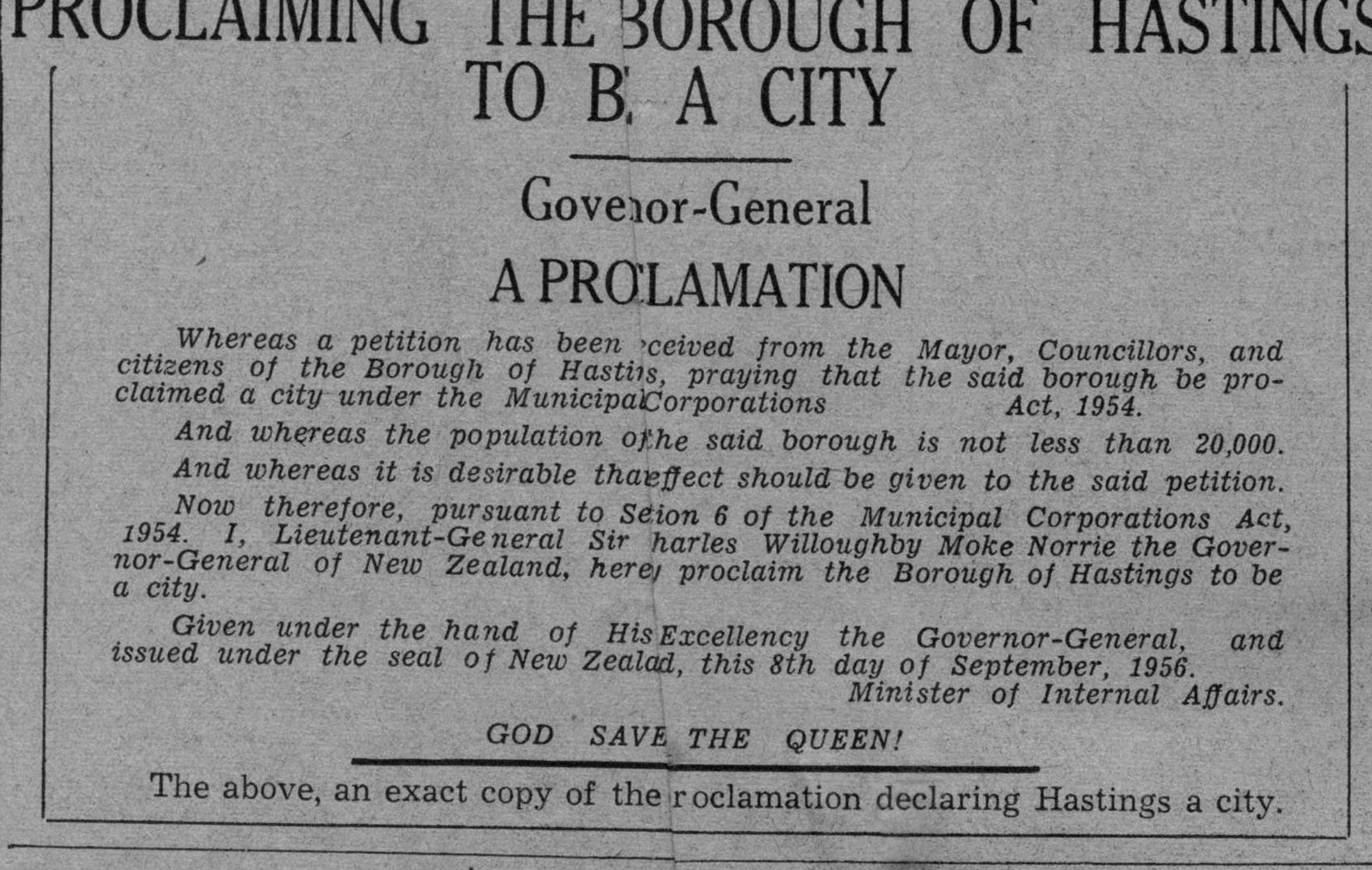
There was, perhaps, no place in New Zealand which owed more to the vision and foresight of its early pioneers, he said. That vision and foresight had established them in a favourable position to make possible this fine city today.

Hastings had had its ups and downs. It had suffered disasters from floods and earthquakes, but the people had weathered all the storms with courage.

It is freedom we all cherish. Freedom to choose our work and lives, freedom of speech, and freedom of the Press. We are given freedom to criticize if we wish so. I would like you children to remember that there are many countries where there is not the wonderful freedom which we enjoy.

"This happy link between the two cities of Hastings is"

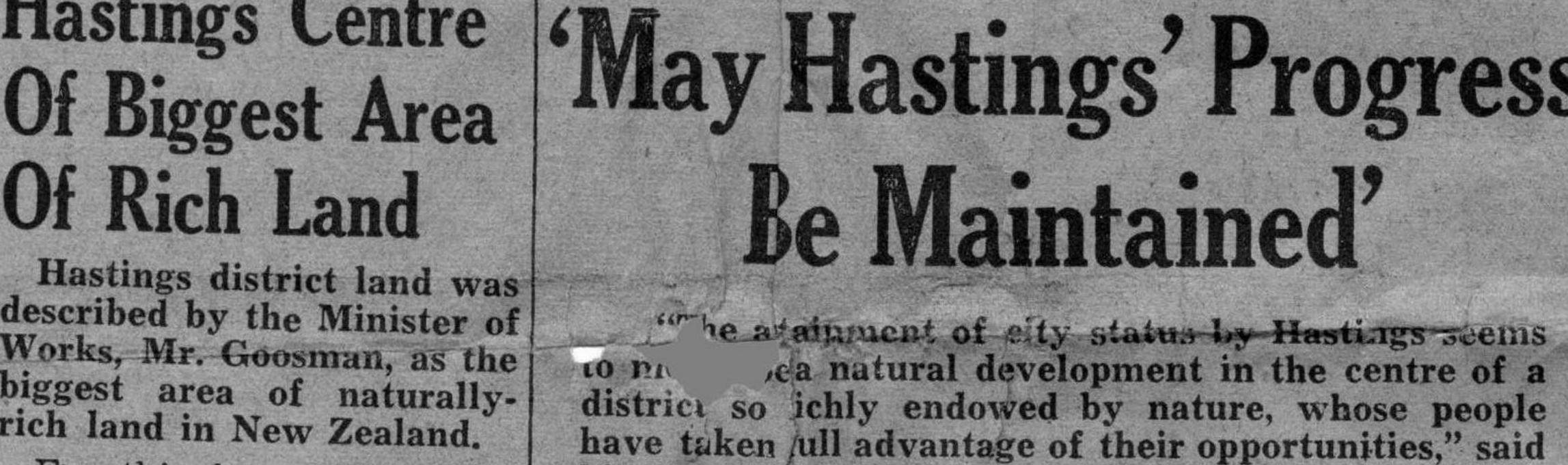
The Governor-General



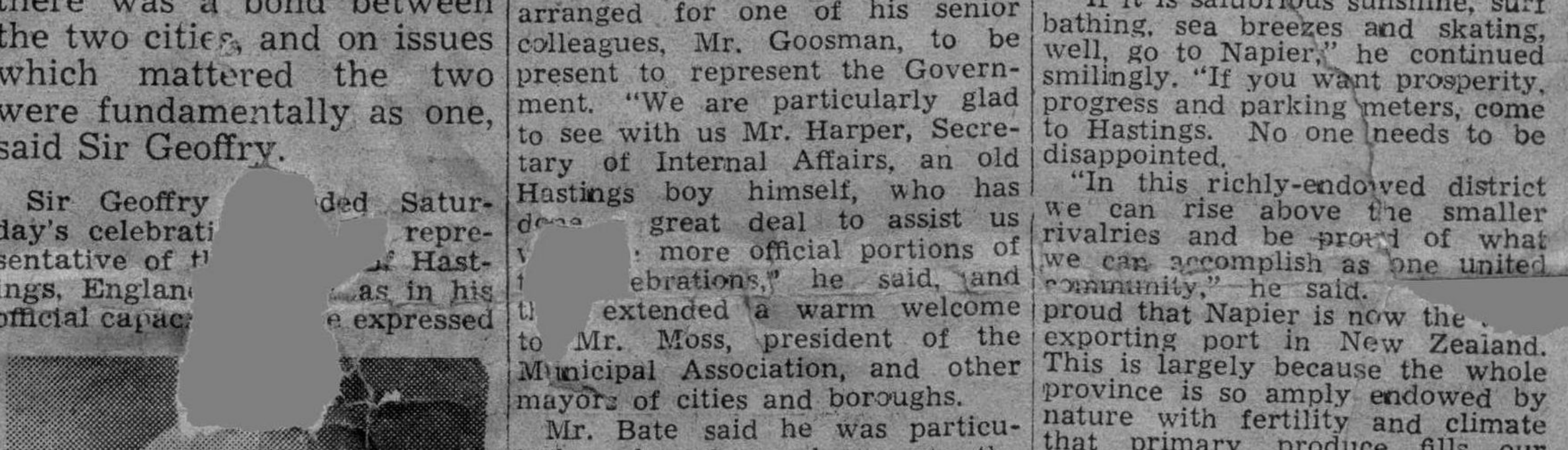
The Mayor



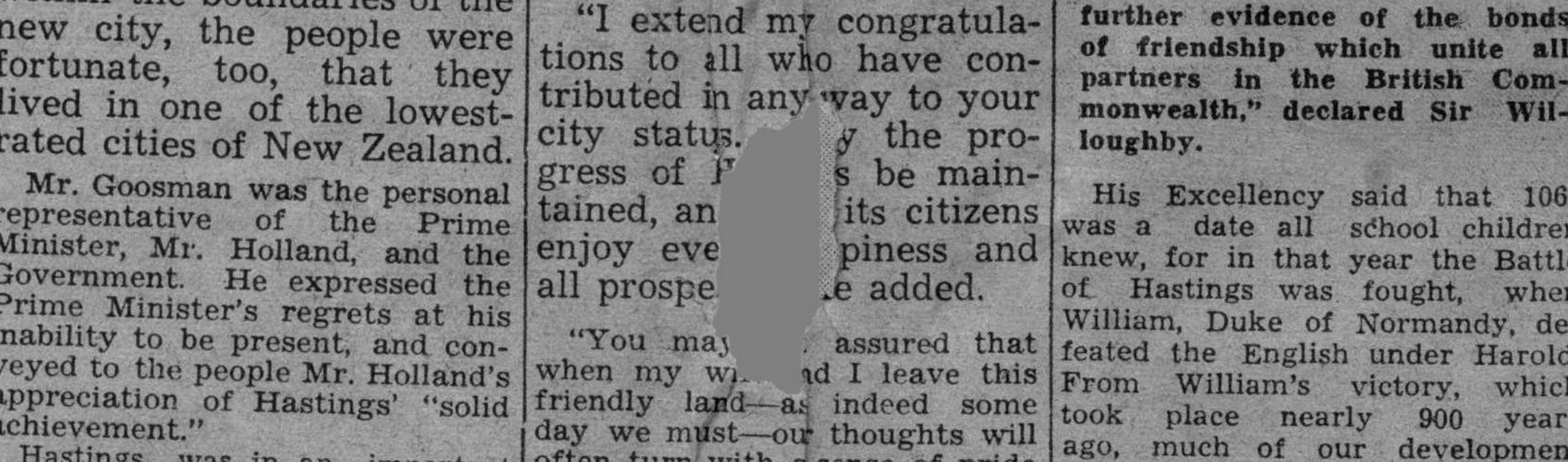
Mr. Goosman



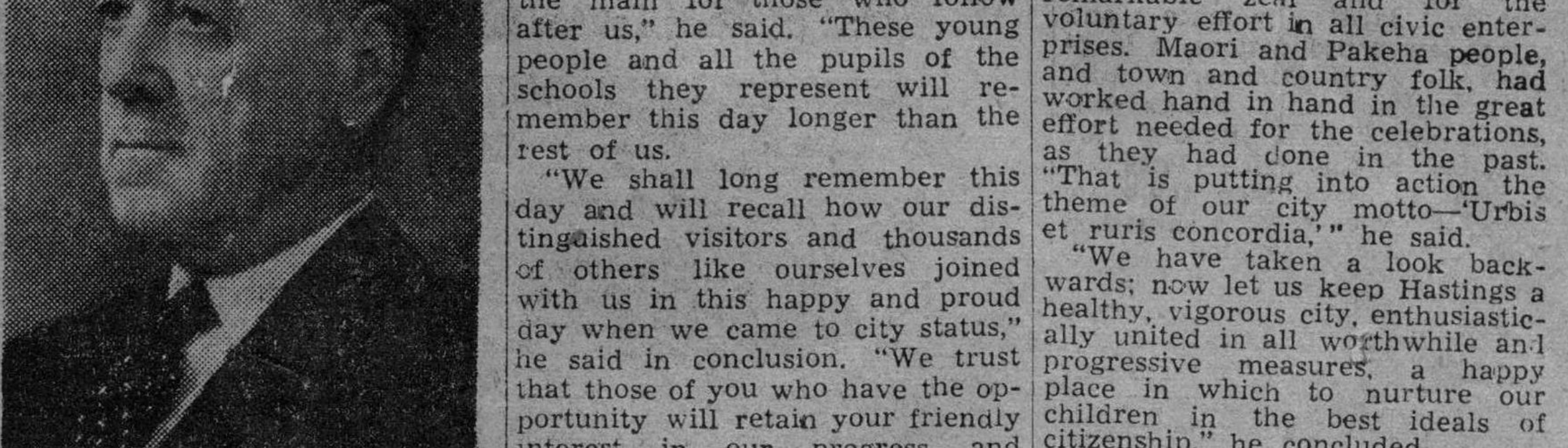
Sir Willaghby Norrie



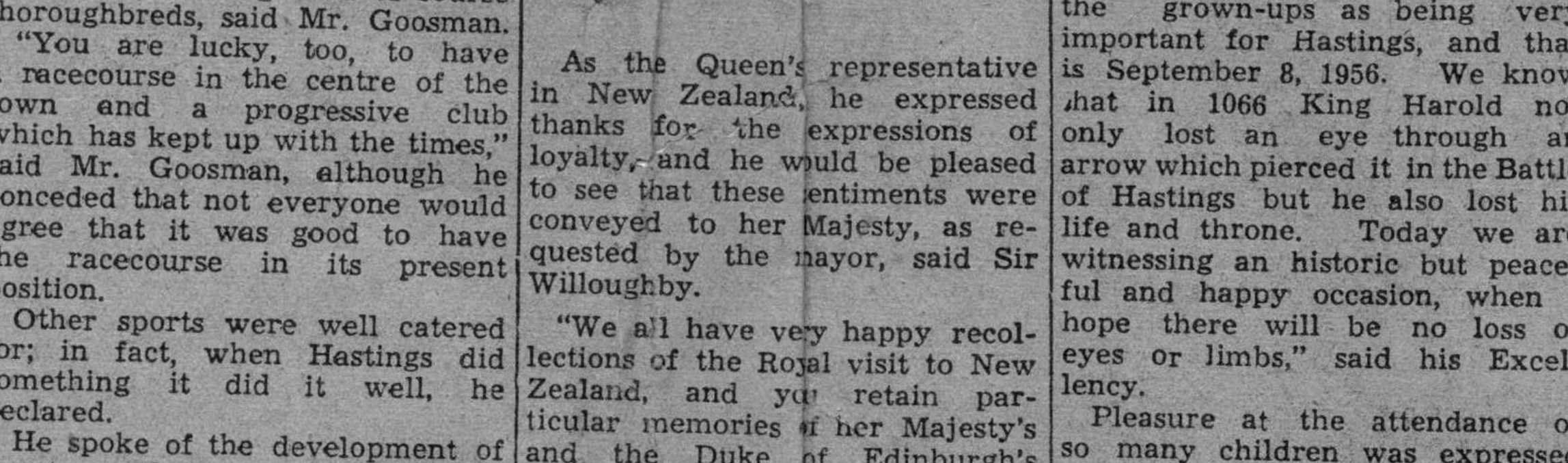
Sir Geoffrey Scoones



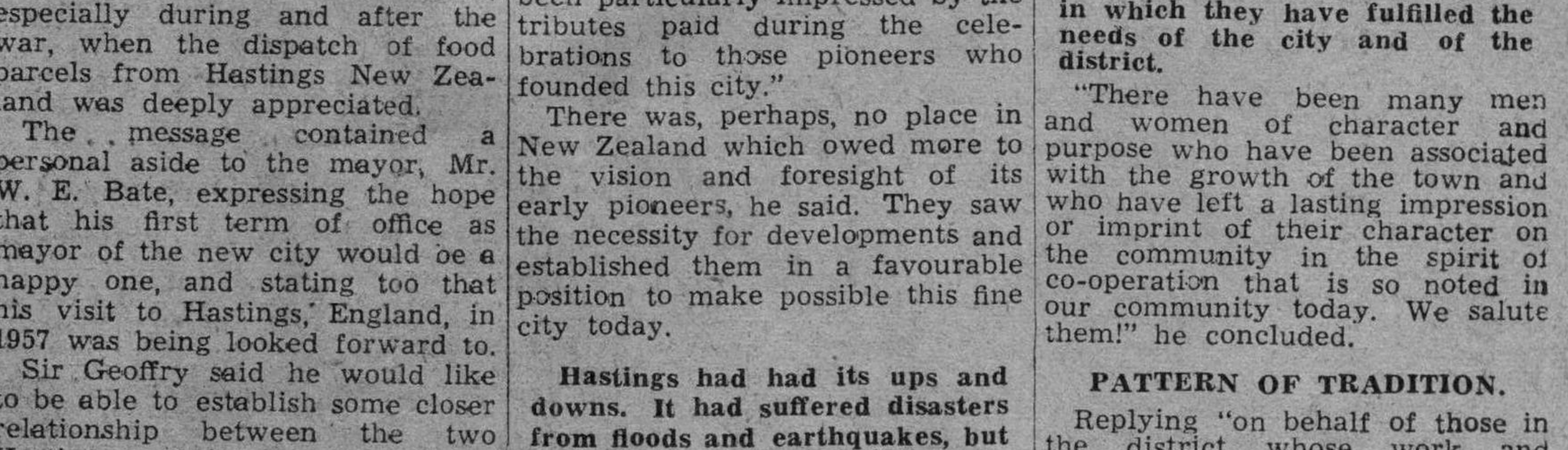
The Governor-General



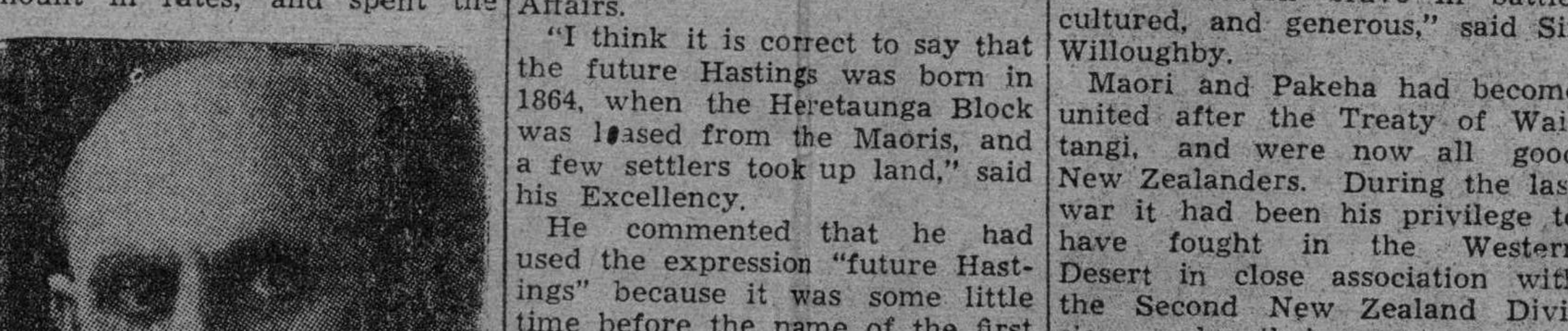
Mr. Goosman



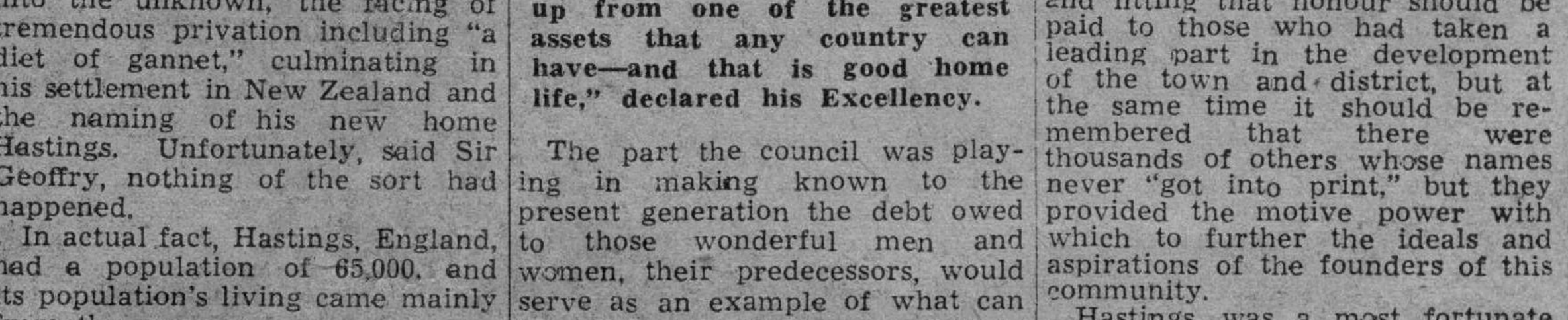
Sir Willaghby Norrie



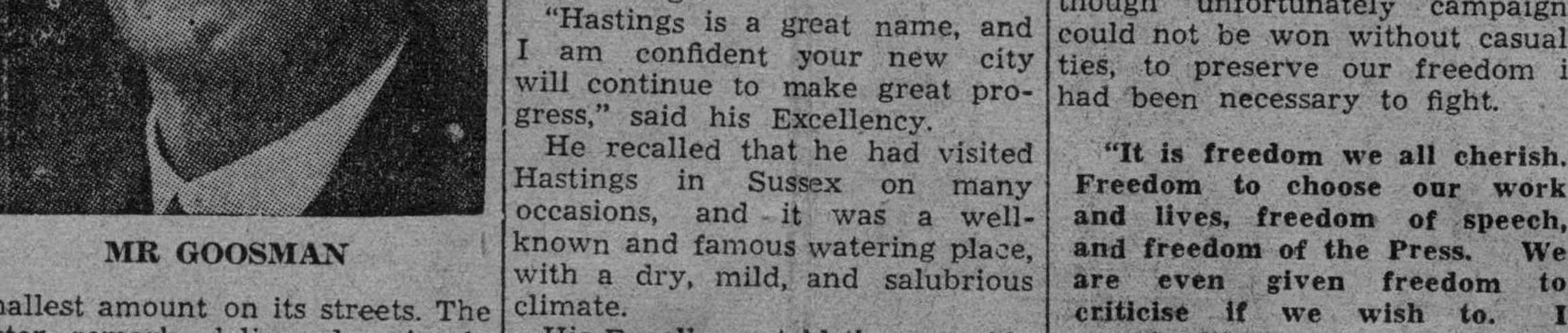
Sir Geoffrey Scoones



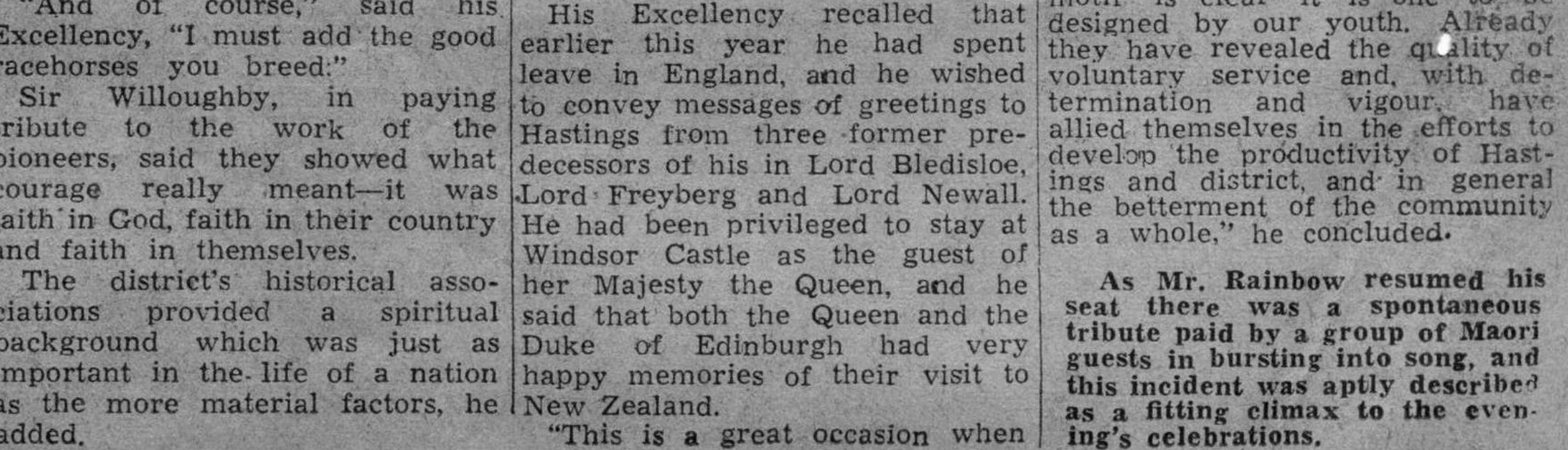
The Mayor



Mr. Goosman



Sir Willaghby Norrie



"This happy link between the two cities of Hastings is"

"This happy link between the two cities of Hastings is"

"This happy link between the two cities of Hastings is"

Long Sittings Ahead Before Session Ends

(From Our Wellington Correspondent.) Many long sittings, stretching far into the early hours of the morning, lie ahead of the House of Representatives. There is now no chance of Parliament completing the 1956 session before Labour week-end, and moreover, it will find itself hard-pressed to complete its work by the end of the following week, October 26.

Usually, Parliament can take its time and sit right up until a few days before Christmas if it so desires. This year, the November local body elections and the meeting in Parliament Buildings early in November of the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee lend urgency to its deliberations.

The bulk of Parliament's work for this year has still to be done. The legislative programme, as yet virtually untouched, while not as heavy as in some recent years, is sufficiently voluminous to keep members busy for some weeks. The Departmental Estimates usually occupy the attention of the House for about a month, although they are debated on only two days each week.

If, therefore, the House is to rise by October 26, there will be only eight working days after the last of the Estimates has been passed in which members can give their undivided attention to legislation.

The languishing Budget debate has still to be concluded, but the end of the coming week should see the end of the marathon.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Holland has already had two attempts to speak in this debate and should finally make it tomorrow. His first attempt was belated by the interruption of the Parker case debate, and the second because of the adjournment following the death of the Hon. Angus McLagan.

Mr. J. B. Cotterill, senior Opposition Whip, has also had trouble in making his Budget speech. He had exactly one minute in which to begin his speech before the 10.30 p.m. adjournment interrupted him one night, and he spoke for another eight minutes last Tuesday before the news of the death of Mr. McLagan belated him again. He fully expects to complete his speech tomorrow.

An early opportunity will be given to the recently returned Minister of External Affairs, Mr. Macdonald to report on the Suez conference, but it is not yet known whether a special debate will be provided or whether the Minister will utilise his hour in the Budget debate for this purpose.

A large number of members who did not go to Christchurch for Mr. McLagan's funeral remained in Wellington during the three-day adjournment and put their free time to a profitable use in catching up with various Ministers, to whom their electors wished all manner of representations to be made. It is one of the private member's most difficult tasks to obtain the ear of a busy Minister and there were many who were quick to take advantage of the opportunity.

Advantage, too, was taken of the break to study legislation already on the order paper. Some 38 bills have already been brought in, many of which are before various select committees. Most of them are worthy of debate.

However, there are still quite a few important measures yet to make their appearance. Among these are a consolidation of the electoral laws, evidence and trustee law consolidations, a large Industries and Commerce Bill, which among other things will contain provisions altering the functions of the Price Tribunal, a measure to tighten the law allowing women to visit ships and a re-enactment of the recent Indecent Publications Act.

Among this group are the more important and debatable measures which are known to be forthcoming. In addition however, there may be a bill to alter the constitution of the Dairy Products Marketing Commission, and there is also a distinct possibility of a bill to order the colouring of petrol destined for use in farm machinery, boats and other places where a petrol-tax rebate is payable.

Lower in the scale of importance, there will be a liquor licensing amendment, which some people hope will include provision for licensing of selected restaurants. The prospect is however, doubtful.

Others include an Agricultural Chemicals Bill to control preparation and sale of powders and sprays, a Pharmacy Bill aimed at stopping apparent loop-holes in the existing anti-monopoly law, a National Archives Bill, an Explosive and Dangerous Goods Bill, and further amendments to atomic energy and shipping and seamen acts.

Further debate can be expected on the four, highly contentious private members' bills already before the House, including the anti-capital punishment bill, the permits and physical welfare trust measures.

And when the legislation has been passed, two "sticky" public petitions will remain to be discussed. These are the plea for the repeal of the Apple and Pear Marketing Act, 1948, and the request for an inquiry into State aid for private schools, sponsored by the Holy Name Society.

Last, but not least, there will be at least two more important debates, on which occasions anything topical, controversial and politically embarrassing to the Government may be discussed. All these things indicate that to finish by October 26, the House must work hard and work extended hours. The 24-hour week must be temporarily suspended.

Blossom Skating Carnival Opens

Although somewhat affected by the cold weather and the many counter-attractions in the new city on Saturday evening the first of the City Celebrations and Blossom Festival open-air skating carnivals at Windsor Park was well patronised. The skaters enjoyed the many novelty events staged.

A practice hockey match was organised to provide the players with some training in view of the tournament next Saturday. There was marked movement in the placings of the candidates for the Queen of the Blossom, the campaign for which will end tomorrow night. The positions of the candidates as at Saturday night's carnival was announced as follows—Betty (Speed) 9470 votes; Ngaire (Hockey) 9432; Janet (Dance) 7200; Olivia (Freestyle) 6492; Jillian (Club) 2952.

PROCLAMATION DAY PAGEANTRY AND CEREMONIAL IN PICTURES



CIVIC DINNER.—From left: Mr. Guy Norrie (son of Sir Willoughby and Lady Norrie), Mrs. Bate (mayoress), The Governor-General, Mr. W. E. Bate (mayor), Lady Norrie, Sir Geoffrey Scoones (United Kingdom High Commissioner in New Zealand), Mrs. A. Kirkpatrick (wife of the deputy-mayor, Mr. A. Kirkpatrick).



MAORI ENTERTAINERS.—An action song by Maori women at Nelson Park prior to the proclamation ceremony.



CAMERA'S STORY OF DAY'S EVENTS

Enthusiastic scenes were witnessed on Saturday when Hastings was declared New Zealand's 15th city by the Governor-General, Sir Willoughby Norrie, on Nelson Park. On this page are shown in pictures events which took place then, and yesterday—the official party, the Transport Through the Ages procession, the civic dinner, the Maoris' part in proceedings and the service of thanksgiving yesterday.

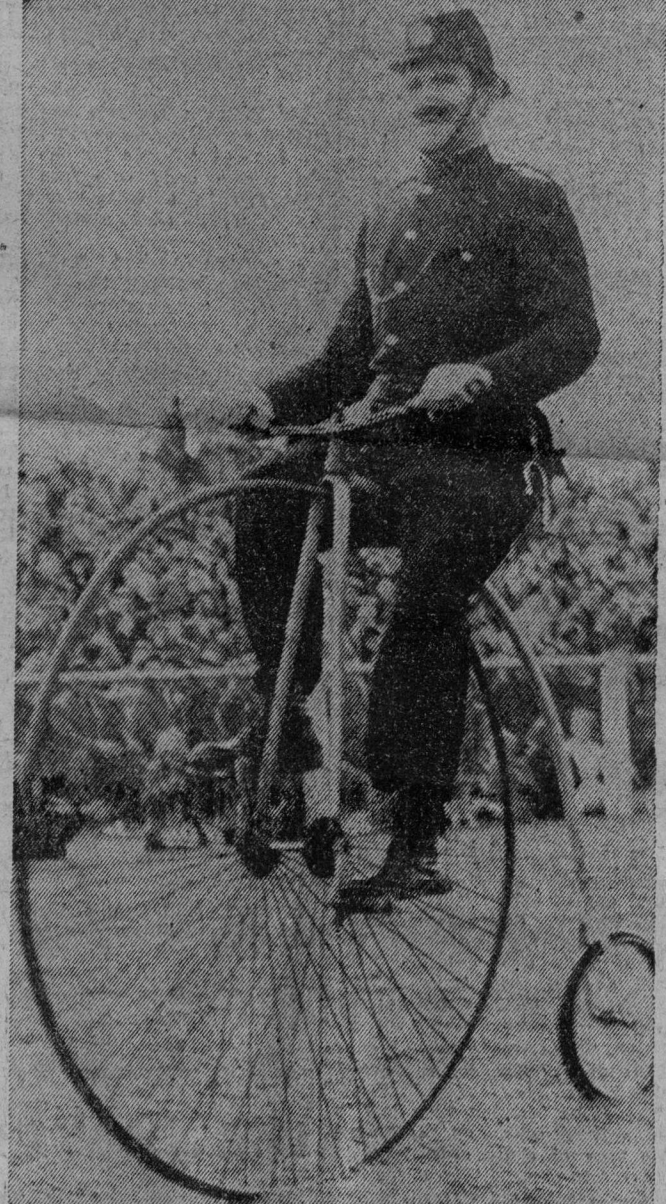
The day was a milestone in Hastings history, and citizens and thousands of visitors witnessed colourful and eventful proceedings.

THE MAYOR, MR. W. E. BATE (left).—Wearing for the first time his formal robes and hat, presented by the Hastings Junior Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Bate smilingly moves from the stand to the dais at Nelson Park.



BERT JONES (centre), original driver of the Hastings Fire Brigade horse team, with two of the present-day brigadesmen.

THANKGIVING SERVICE (below).—The combined Hastingschurch choir led the singing at the Nelson Park service yesterday.



PENNY-FARTHING — Constant W. Leppien in appropriate attire to his bicycle made a popular appearance.

Radio Show in Aid of Nelson Park Amenities

Proceeds from the visit to Hastings on Saturday by the radio quiz personality, Jack Maybury, went toward improving amenities at Nelson Park. The "house full" sign was posted outside the Municipal Theatre just prior to the start of the show.

Members of the audience readily responded to the call to take part. As the numbers exceeded those required, a popularity vote was held for the purpose of elimination. Nine men and seven women volunteered for "Number Please", the number required being four of each. There were seven men and five women contestants for "Scoop the Pool", three of each being required.

The honours were divided in the two contests, Mrs. Grace Hunt winning a radio in "Number Please" and Mr. Jack Taylor receiving a carving set after being the most successful contestant in "Scoop the Pool". Questions of local interest predominated.

While the quiz master was auditioning his contestants, variety items were given by local artists. These included: Hastings Orphans Harmonica Band (bracket of numbers), Sadie Brown (songs of the Gracie Fields theme), Hee McDonald (saxophone solos), Vi Aitchison (accordion solos and with her accordianones) and Taanga Tomoana (songs).

Others who received prizes in the "Number Please" contest were Mesdames Vi Aitchison and I. Collins and Mr. Taanga Tomoana. Consolation prizes in the "Scoop the Pool" contest were received by Mrs. W. Briggs and Miss F. Davidson and Mr. R. Wilson. Mr. Taylor defeated Mrs. Briggs after being the first contestant to answer 10 questions correctly.

The master of ceremonies was Mr. J. W. Jones, a member of the Greater Hastings executive, who organised the function.



TRANSPORT THROUGH THE AGES.—A general view of the procession moving along Heretaunga Street.

What Britain Is Doing for the Commonwealth

Britain's contribution to the development of the British Commonwealth was briefly touched upon by General Sir Geoffrey Scoones, United Kingdom High Commissioner, at the civic dinner in Hastings on Saturday night. He was answering a question as to why Britain did not do more for the Commonwealth by stimulating emigration to Commonwealth countries, so as to bring about a better distribution of British stock, and by providing more finance for development.

"Quite apart from the housing and economic difficulties at the receiving end, it must be remembered that it is one thing to shuffle cards, but quite another to shuffle human beings," said Sir Geoffrey. Commonwealth governments were free to take what steps they liked in the United Kingdom to promote immigration to their own countries.

In Britain there were more than 50-million people in a country whose wealth depended on manufactures for export and on technical skill in production. It was a country which, despite all the efforts now being made, would never be able to supply more than 50 per cent. of the food requirements of its present population.

It was a country where the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes was well advanced and which promised to become the atomic workshop of the world. It was spending about £1500-million every year on defence and had little immediate prospect of being able to spend less in view of the cost of research and development, to say nothing of the actual production of modern weapons. "It is therefore vital that its productive powers should be maintained," said the speaker.

Sir Geoffrey pointed out that the Commonwealth countries did not want old people. They wanted young agricultural workers and young skilled technicians. "And Britain has no surplus of either," he declared. "In addition, there is practically full employment, at any rate for those groups, so that their incentive to emigrate is not strong."

This, he suggested, was rather a different picture to the one usually painted by those who say, "You in the United Kingdom can and must get rid of 25-million people if you are going to survive in war, and in peace develop the Commonwealth as it should be developed."

"The truth probably lies between extremes," said Sir Geoffrey. "With our working population of about 22½-million we could, I have no doubt, spare a margin for emigration and still keep going at home. But that margin must be almost as finely drawn as is our balance of payments."

In the realm of finance, continued Sir Geoffrey, the United Kingdom had, in recent years, invested some £270-million annually overseas, most of it in the Commonwealth. New Zealand's share had been about £10-million a year. "This is no small figure," he concluded, "and shows that we are not unmindful of the necessity of doing everything possible in this direction."

More Report Seeing Bright Sky Object

Two additional reports of sightings of the illuminated object seen in the sky over Hastings on Friday evening were received today, one from a Hastings resident and another from an Okawa farmer.

The object for two seconds at about 6-22 p.m. It was a bright orange ball tapering to a long tail, travelling from south to north. He caught a glimpse of it as it crossed a clear patch of sky at a high speed.

HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS

If you are one of those sniffling, sneezing, coughing people, the first thing is to get rid of the apparently perpetual cold. My friends with Baxters Lung Pills. "Baxters" relieves the congestion and quickly gives relief. Always keep a bottle of "Baxters" handy. Baxters Ltd. Chch.

Watch and Clock Repairs to expert tradesmen. Prompt delivery. H. J. Grieve Ltd. Jewellers, Hastings and Napier.

Crossword Puzzle

Grid for a crossword puzzle with numbers 1-28 indicating starting positions for words.

- ACROSS: 1. Conduct one's self (8), 2. Delect (4), 3. Against (Prefix) (4), 4. Bear with patience (8), 5. Generous (7), 6. Dressed (7), 7. Gave way (7), 8. Entrance (6), 9. Disturbance (7), 10. Vehicle on runners (4), 11. Skins (6), 12. Frigid (6), 13. Preferably (6), 14. Pungent plant (4), 15. Man's nickname (5), 16. Pert. to the teeth (6).
- DOWN: 1. Enticement (4), 2. Detest (4), 3. Goods-trucks (4), 4. Bear with patience (8), 5. Generous (7), 6. Dressed (7), 7. Gave way (7), 8. Entrance (6), 9. Disturbance (7), 10. Vehicle on runners (4), 11. Skins (6), 12. Frigid (6), 13. Preferably (6), 14. Pungent plant (4), 15. Man's nickname (5), 16. Pert. to the teeth (6).