

## NEW ZEALAND REPORT

### Election October 1990

	Seats	Vote %
National	60	48
Labour	36	39
New Labour	1	6
Green	—	7
	<u>97</u>	<u>100</u> (76% poll)

#### Notes

1. From the outset the Conservatives' landslide majority has been seen as brittle. Backbench dissent was early evident.
2. Since Finance Minister Ruth Richardson's "Mother of All Budgets" on 30th July, dissent has become open revolt by an estimated 12 backbenchers (including ex P.M. Muldoon) and division even in Cabinet is clear.  
The defection from Government (over) will be contagious. McIntyre's father was a senior Minister in Muldoon's Cabinet.  
The privatisation of State monopoly services **and resources** has become crass.

Social Welfare Minister Jenny Shipley's mindless and impracticable assault on Guaranteed Retirement and Income has seen National Party grassroots membership haemorrhage.

3. Two new political parties have been formed in the last two months.

Only the N.L.P. has advocated any increase in L.V.T. All others omit any reference to it. Unemployment nudging 15% is clearly the key issue but the last to be addressed and there are enormous opportunities to be exploited.

The Green Party is quite inarticulate and unable to formulate practical policy on anything.

The N.L.P. is mounting a massive petition calling on the Government to resign and call an election on the grounds that both major parties, despite loud claims of political and personnel integrity, have failed abysmally and flagrantly to honour specific election pledges and that this is bad for democracy itself.

4. As the depression widens and deepens the inadequacies of both the free market philosophy and socialism are daily apparent and bewildering. All 7(?) Parties face the same dilemma – how to do it?
5. Against that background I believe the merits of the Proposal herewith must command serious attention.

R. D. Keall,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Crown Leasehold Association.

Note: The proposal mentioned under point 5 is of course Georgism.