

# The NEW ZEALAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

Published by direction of the Hon. J. G. BARCLAY, Minister of Agriculture.

Vol. 62

WELLINGTON, FEBRUARY 15, 1941.

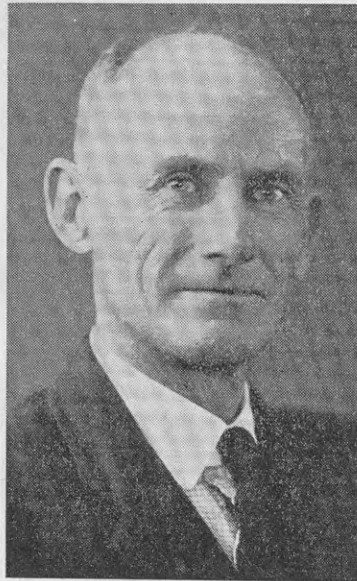
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## Message to Farmers from New Minister of Agriculture

**A**FTER holding the portfolio of Minister of Agriculture for more than five years, the Hon. W. Lee Martin has resigned from the Ministry because of ill-health, and has been succeeded by the Hon. J. G. Barclay, who has been Member of Parliament for Marsden since 1935. Mr. Barclay is also Minister of Marketing. Following are messages written for the "Journal" by the new Minister and the retiring Minister.

**T**HE whole of my working life has been spent in farming. I went on the land straight from school, and with the exception of three years at the war, I farmed continuously until 1932, when I sold my holding and retired to live in Whangarei.

Ever since my entry into public life many years ago, the welfare of the farming community has been prominent in my thoughts and actions, and now that I have been charged with the two Departments of State most concerned with the production and distribution of our agricultural and pastoral products, I can assure the farmers of the



HON. J. G. BARCLAY  
Minister of Agriculture.

Dominion that they will find in me a most sympathetic friend. Their problems will also be mine, and in a spirit of mutual goodwill we should play an ever-increasing part in the economic and social progress of our country.

To-day we are in the second year of a titanic struggle against a brutal and ruthless enemy which threatens not only our democratic way of life, but our very existence, and in these critical days the farmer has a vital part to play. New Zealand is a substantial supplier of foodstuffs and raw materials to the Mother Country, and in time of war every farm becomes a munition factory.