

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES - HON. J. R. MARSHALL

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Industries and Commerce, Minister of Customs, Minister of Overseas Trade.

The Honourable John Ross Marshall was born in Wellington in 1912 and received his primary education at Whangarei and Otago boys' schools in New Zealand. He is a graduate of Victoria University College, Wellington, at which University he studied political science and law, receiving a first degree in arts and a Master's degree in law. He began his legal career in Wellington and was admitted to practice as a barrister and solicitor in 1936. He practised law in Wellington before the Second World War and became established independently in that city after the war. He also held appointments on the legal faculties of Victoria University College and the University of New Zealand.

During the Second World War Mr. Marshall served first in the Pacific, rising to the command of an infantry company. In 1943 he attended the United States Marine Corps Staff College in Virginia and later returned to the New Zealand Third Division in the Pacific theatre. Still later he was transferred to the Middle East and participated in the final campaign in Italy.

Mr. Marshall has been an active member of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand and in youth work connected with the Church. He is still a member of the Public Questions Committee of the Presbyterian Church. In 1939 he attended a world youth conference at Amsterdam organized by the World Council of Churches.

Mr. Marshall was first elected as National Party member for Mount Victoria, Wellington, 1946, and since the abolition of that seat in 1954 he has been the member for the Karori constituency. When the National Government took office in 1949, he was, at the age of 37, the youngest member of the Cabinet, being appointed Minister Assistant to the Prime Minister and Minister in Charge of the State Advances Corporation, Census and Statistics Department and Public Trust Office. In 1951 he became also Minister of Health and Minister in Charge of Publicity and Information. After the 1954 election, he became Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, Minister in Charge of the Electoral Department and retained the Publicity and Information portfolio. Upon the recent return of the National Party to power in New Zealand, Mr. Marshall was named Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Industries and Commerce, Minister of Customs, Minister of Overseas Trade and in addition, Chairman of the Cabinet Economic Committee.

In 1953 Mr. Marshall represented New Zealand at the Colombo Plan Conference in New Delhi. He has paid official visits to other countries in Asia. Mr. Marshall attended the recent Ministerial meetings of the GATT in Geneva and upon arrival in Ottawa he will have completed a tour of the capitals of European common market countries, London and Washington.

Mr. Marshall has two sons and two daughters.